



The Message

VOLUME VI

SUMMER 2008

Rowan
One Church
One Child
Ministry



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The Director's Pen

As we closed out our fiscal year on June 30, we looked back at the ROCOC activities over the past twelve months. We thought of all the prayers, donations, and time that our member churches provided. We thought of the car washes and hot dog sales you sponsored, the clothing drives, the school tool collections, and the Christmas Star trees you hosted. We thought of the money you gave and how it was used to pay for summer camp, a family's rent, a bicycle, and other things. We thought of the prom dresses you gave and the birthday parties you hosted. The children in foster care, separated from their families because of abuse or neglect, have received a great blessing from the generous spirit that moves among our

ROCOC partners. You have been and continue to be a blessing not only to these children but also to the DSS staff who work to find permanent and loving homes for them.

During the year, we welcomed eight new churches to the program.

As we begin fiscal year 2008 – 2009, we welcome new ROCOC Advisory Board members: Mrs. Martha Baker, Rev. Regina Dancy, Mrs. Marion Melton, Mrs. Darlene Murphy, and Mr. William Peoples. They join current board members attorney Jeff Morris and Rev. John Tucker, along with several DSS staff members.

With a grateful heart, we look forward to working together,

churches and DSS, to enrich the lives of children who need our care.

Rowan County Department of Social Services

Sandra Wilkes—Director

Tom Brewer— Children's Services Program Administrator



ROCOC Coordinator

I am thankful for God's blessings and gifts that you are sharing with our children and families. The families and children that we serve are blessed because of your bounteous generosity. It is a joy to work with each of you in this ministry. God takes the smallest mustard seed of service and makes it multiply. That has surely happened as we now have thirty-one churches in this ministry with four joining since the last newsletter. Our newest members are listed on page two.

Our Advisory Board has worked very hard this year. Thank you for the leadership, service and direction that you give to this program. Our thanks also goes to Stanley Price and Kevin Williams who are RCDSS Foster Care Social Workers for moving and loading furniture and other items and delivering these items to the families that we serve. Way to Go!!! Kevin and Stan.

Beverly Mobley and I were honored to represent the Rowan

One Church One Child Ministry at a National Conference in Richmond, Virginia from July 9-11, 2008. The National Network of Adoption Advocacy Programs sponsored the Conference.

People attended the Conference from One Church One Child Programs throughout the United States. Rowan One Church One Child Ministry was one of eight programs nationally to receive an award for "Best Practices." It was my honor to receive this award on your behalf.



**Together We Are
Making a Difference
in Children's Lives!**

Together we grow.

*Since the last
newsletter we are
happy to welcome
the following new
member churches:*

- *Bethel Lutheran*
- *Dorsett Chapel*
UCC
- *Soldiers*
Memorial AME
- *Zion*
- *St. Matthew's*
Lutheran

ROCOC COORDINATOR

The recognition would not have been possible without your time, dedication, generosity, and love for our children. WE ALL should be proud of this honor. The ROCOC Ministry is also one of twelve ministries featured in a document entitled "Best Practices for One Church One Child Model Programs" compiled by Mrs. Jane C. Talley which was submitted to the National Network of Adoption Advocacy Programs in March 2008.

Again, this recognition was due to what each of you is doing here in Rowan County. Finally, I was honored to represent our ministry on a National Speakers Panel entitled

"OCOC Best Practices in Recruitment and Services" at the conference.

On behalf of our Advisory Board, DSS Staff, foster parents, relative caretakers, and the children and families that we serve, I want to express our deepest praise and gratitude for the difference that you are making here in Rowan County. Our prayer is that God will continue to richly bless all of you.

Please call if I can assist you in any way. I look forward to speaking at some of your churches in the fall. Continue to share this blessing and ministry with your sister churches.

Let us keep multiplying God's mustard seed in Rowan County.

We look forward to meeting with you at our next Church Coordinators Meeting on Monday, October 13, 2008 at the Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church.

Jon



Christmas Star Tree



Last year was the first year that One Church One Child took on the challenge of providing Christmas presents for the children, not only in foster care, but also those children that we are serving in protective services or in-home services. The response on your part was overwhelming. Thank you so much for that.

We are getting started earlier this year so you have more time to plan and let your congregations know about this opportunity. Please follow the steps below if your church is interested in participating.

- Let Jon Hunter know if your church is interested and the number

of children you could take on. After we get this number we will divide the children among the churches. Please do this by 9-30-08.

- We will pass out the list of children and the stars at the meeting on 10-13-08. This will give your church two months to get your stars passed out and the gifts back to us.
- Peggy will pass out a set of guidelines with the stars so everyone is doing the same thing and there is uniformity.
- At the time you receive your stars you may also

receive a list of suggested items to purchase for children that will be coming into foster care or will be involved in one of the other service areas between 9-30-08 when we make out the list and Christmas day, so that those children will not be left out.

We hope beginning the process earlier and having more guidelines in place will help those who wish to participate. Bring any questions to the coordinators meeting on 10-13-08.

Peggy Thorneburg

Contributions Made by One Church One Child Churches



- End of school party for foster children and families at Dan Nicholas Park.
- \$100 gift card for Josey and Stormi.
- Chest of drawers and dresser for Alivia and Caleb.
- New girls outfits size 4T
- Four bags of clothes, business suits and dresses for teens.
- \$45 gift card to Sears to purchase new-born clothes.
- Birthday Party for teenagers in the Links program, eleven \$20 gift cards for teens with birthdays, fifty-eight \$5 gift cards for all teens who attended, cakes, drinks, and ice-cream.
- \$360.17 for the ROCOC Account.
- One bag of clothes.
- \$100 for the ROCOC Account.
- \$25 gift card to Toys R US for Stormi and Josey.
- Six box springs and mattresses, twin bed frame, sleeper sofa, love seat, two chairs.
- Two pairs of girls shoes and two bags of girls socks.
- Two boxes of boys clothes, woman's shoes and sweaters, two leather coats, prom shoes, pocket book, and bag of clothes.
- New Alpine Extreme Green Bike, new pair of Nike tennis shoes, 2 pairs of shorts and four shirts for Ja'Darrius.
- Crib, mattress, crib sheet and child protector.
- \$50 for Betty to buy school clothes.
- Pink book bag, markers, crayons, colored pencils and Kleenex for Stormi.
- Shoes, suits, ties, cups and plates for teenagers.
- Two boxes of women's and girl's clothes.
- School Supplies, children's clothes, shoes, baby blankets and food.
- 2 small children's bikes and two tri-cycles.
- Kitchen table with six chairs, six plastic chairs, twin cot and mattress, full size mattress, end table, patio chair, clothes and school supplies.
- Two book bags, three ring binder notebooks, and report folders.
- Little Tikes Rocking Horse.
- Notebook paper, crayons, glue, glue sticks, pencils, three ring binder notebooks, report folders and notebook dividers.
- Notebook paper, composition books, notebooks, ten book bags, packages of socks and report folders.
- Sixteen book bags
- Notebooks, composition books, pencil holders, book covers, packs of pencils, crayons, bags of erasers, glue, pencil sharpeners, packs of index cards, packs of note book paper, report folders, rulers, scissors, and glue sticks.
- Notebook paper, packs of pencils, rulers, packs of erasers, crayons.

ROCOC



Advisory Board Meeting Friday

September 12
2008
12 P.M.

Conference Room
Rowan DSS
Children's Services Building
165 Mahaley Avenue
Salisbury, NC

Important DATE!

Church Coordinators Meeting

F.Y.I.



Monday, October 13, 2008
Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
4520 Old Mocksville Road, Salisbury, NC 28144
Salisbury, NC
12—1 p.m. (Lunch provided)
Or
5:30—6:30 p.m. (Dinner provided)

**Rowan
One Church—One Child
Ministry**

Rev. Jon Hunter
Coordinator
310 N. Main Street (office)
165 Mahaley Avenue (mailing address)
Salisbury, NC 28144
Phone: 704 - 216 - 7914
E-mail: jon.hunter@rowancountync.org

For a free Ministry Portfolio Packet or to schedule Jon Hunter to speak, please telephone or email Jon.

The Rowan County One Church—One Child program is a mission/outreach program between Rowan County Department of Social Services and local churches that is designed to make a difference in the lives of children and families by:

- Identifying families in congregations who may be interested in becoming foster or adoptive parents.
- Helping to meet the needs of children and families served by DSS.
- Supporting families who are caretakers for Rowan County's children in foster care.
- Educating worshippers about the needs of Rowan County children and families who need assistance and support.

Member Churches and Advisory Board Members

Bethel Lutheran
Cedar Grove AME Zion
Church of the Word of God
Coburn Memorial UMC
Dorsett Chapel UCC
First Presbyterian—Salisbury
First UMC – Salisbury
Freedom United Church of God
Gethsemane Missionary Baptist
Grace UMC
Grace Worship Center International
Lebanon Lutheran
Main Street UMC - Salisbury
Maranatha Bible Church

Milford Hills UMC
Mount Olive Full Gospel Baptist
Mount Tabor UMC
Mount Zion Missionary Baptist
New Life In Christ
Oak Grove UMC
Park Avenue UMC
Providence AME Zion
Providence UMC
Refreshing Springs Christian Ministry
San Mateo – **St Matthew's Episcopal**
Second Presbyterian
Shiloh UMC
Soldiers Memorial AME Zion

St. Matthew's Lutheran

The Tower of Power United Holy Church

Thyatira Presbyterian

ROCOC Advisory Board Members

Jon Hunter
Sandra Wilkes
Tom Brewer
Beverly Mobley
Frances Gallimore
Micah Melton
Peggy Thorneburg
Stanley Price
Kris Sapper
Johna Wiseman
Jefferson Morris
John Tucker
Martha Baker
Regina Dancy
Marion Melton
Darlene Murphy
William Peoples

