

C.C.O.M.



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FROM THE HEART OF THE DIRECTOR...



Hello friends, supporters, and prayer partners of Christian Community Outreach Ministries. Things have been very busy around CCOM since our last newsletter. We have been sprucing up the house and grounds, generally giving the building and grounds a much needed 'facelift'.

Special thanks to each one who came from one of our supporting churches and gave up a Saturday to clean windows, paint, sweep and clean floors, sort through books, clean the kitchen and restroom, hang new blinds, and many other things. Also, a very special thank you to some generous donors who helped us financially with a new roof, vinyl siding, several new windows, exterior paint, a new heat/air system and a new CCOM sign. These are all things that we have been praying about for a long time and as one brother said, "God's timing is perfect"!

Even with all the visible changes, we continue to stick to our call of pointing every person to Christ in what He has done for us at the cross! Either for the 1st time or the 100th time, the Gospel always provides fresh hope! **THANK YOU** for your support and desire to see our community changed for the better through the Good News of Jesus! We are grateful to you all, and humbled by the GOD who makes every day a gift. He is truly "The Gift" that keeps on giving! *Sincerely in Christ, Steve Workman*



**From Doctor Iris Barrett,
founder of The Word is My Life Training Ministry...**

The Purity of the Gospel: Relationship with Jesus Christ

On Sunday, October 8, my pastor (Pastor Mark Ivey) at Christ Alive Church preached a message entitled "The Gospel." I was deeply moved by this message because of my work at CCOM. God has used me as a vessel to share the gospel and lead many to Christ for His glory. Many come through our doors **knowing about** Christ but **not knowing Him** personally. Some think they have relationship with Christ because they attend church, have relatives in ministry, or attempt to do good works. The Barna research group declares that 73% of Americans say they are Christian. Though the majority of Americans say **they know Christ**, God will make the final determination of **who He knows** (Matt. 7:22-23).

In Pastor Mark's message, he spoke of the power of the gospel message: All have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23); therefore, we stand guilty and condemned before God. Hallelujah that **God has made a way** for the guilty to be cleansed and come to know Him. Jesus died on the cross for all, and those who choose to **reject sin and self-will** to take up their cross daily and follow Christ (Luke 9:23) will encounter Jesus as "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). Given these truths, we must individually ask ourselves: Have I renounced my own will and way? Have I asked Jesus to come into my life and lead me on the path of truth and righteousness? Do I believe with my heart and have I confessed with my mouth that Jesus is the Son of God (Rom. 10:9-10)? Have I asked God to work out His plans for my life (Jer. 29:11)?

I pray the answer to each question is yes. I also pray that you have a personal, life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ, that you allow the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) to lead you, and that you grow in Christ (2 Peter 3:18). God desires that no one perish and that all receive eternal life, but we each have a choice. If you would like to talk with us about this article or have either Steve or I pray with you for salvation, please call us at 828-328-1803. Praise God – **He whom the Son sets free is free indeed!** Peace, Dr. Iris K. Barrett

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We hope this newsletter has helped you understand clearly our mission here at CCOM. We desire to make Christ known to everyone with whom we meet. We are here because of you...your prayers, your interest, and your support.

If you have questions, or if you or someone you know would like an appointment to meet with us, call us: **828.328.1803

**If you would like to support us, our mailing address is:
CCOM, PO Box 3324, Hickory, NC 28603

If you need directions, our physical address is: **870 8th Street NE, HICKORY NC

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR...

- Love Bags, (for children) donated by Hickory Christian Academy
 - May Golf Fundraiser, Guest speaker Pastor Kurtis Massey
- Public reading of the Bible downtown as part of the National Day of Prayer
 - Various speaking opportunities for Steve and Iris
- Formation of Brother Night, which meets monthly! Check out the website: www.brothernight.org
 - “Serve Hickory” cleanup day
- Continued men’s and women’s Bible studies at CCOM and off campus
 - Salvations and rededications
 - Watching God work through our volunteers
 - More and more community networking with other agencies, groups, and churches
 - Meetings with churches who want to support CCOM or know more about us
 - Christmas Care boxes donated by Harvest Bible Chapel
 - Major renovations on the CCOM house, inside and out



Our new sign!

CHILDREN COME THROUGH OUR DOORS TOO!

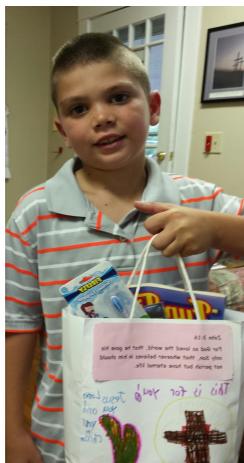
Often, parents cannot get a babysitter for their young children, so they bring them to CCOM. While the adults are meeting for Biblical counsel and encouragement, the children get to select a bag of 'love' made by other children from a local Christian school. As you might expect, they are thrilled with their surprises. You can see the looks of joy on these cutie patooties' faces during their mom's appointment time!



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***One day recently, a young boy with special needs came in with his mother and grandmother, and sat with them during their entire appointment. He never said one word. At the very end, as they were leaving, he loudly uttered the words "THANK YOU JESUS". ...through the eyes of a child...may we all see through his eyes...
Yes, thank You, JESUS! Amen.

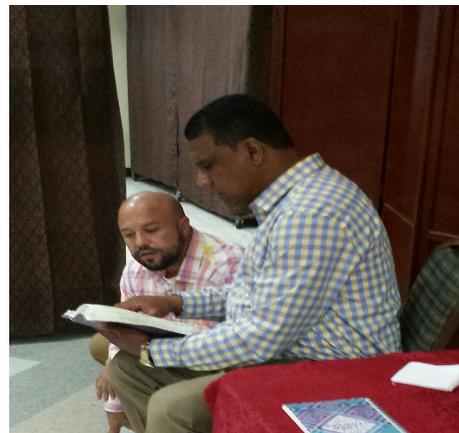
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WHAT IS BROTHER NIGHT?



- A community group of men, young to old, who meet once a month
 - Great meal at low cost
 - Testimonies of what God is doing in the lives of men
 - Lots of fellowship, music, and fresh perspective
 - Prayer for those who request it, and group prayer
- Sincere speakers who've been through tough times and learned lessons
 - CHECK US OUT AT www.brothernight.org



VOLUNTEERS AT CCOM

At CCOM, we don't have 'set' jobs for volunteers, because every day is a new day, with new needs. We rarely know what the need will be on any given day.

Thanks to our faithful volunteers, and friends behind the scenes, ready to help...
God sees your kindnesses to those in need, and us!

Below are a few pictures from a recent workday, in which we were blessed WAY beyond our expectations for the day!!!





The CCOM Board of Directors was asked to answer the following question: **What have you seen GOD do at CCOM in 2017 that has encouraged you?**

Larry Ferguson, Chairman of the Board: It is hard to pick one thing, so I have three: #1 is the salvation for this world's lost people and see their hope. #2 The new Brother Night inspired by GOD and led by Steve. Seeing men seeking to be more like Jesus. #3 The CCOM staff and people associated with CCOM's support and prayer for Deedy and myself through health trials.

Woody Buchanan, Secretary: According to Romans 1:16, the gospel is the power of God for salvation to all who believe. It has been so encouraging to see the Lord continue to use His servants, Steve and Iris, to reach the lost with the gospel. God is faithfully drawing people to Himself! Praise the Lord for using humble servants to testify about Him!

Tim Blanchat, Treasurer: I have watched CCOM remain faithful to its mission to offer encouragement, meet physical and financial help when appropriate and possible, and most importantly, offer spiritual guidance to everyone who walks through our doors. By their faithfulness, God has changed lives through salvation and brought many into His kingdom. Hallelujah!

Ron Hughes: Steve and Iris make sure that God's Word is central to every discussion, counseling session, and phone conversation. With the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit, physical and spiritual needs are being met and souls saved.

Mark Maier: Apart from the eternal soul work that the Lord continues to do through Steve and Iris, He is also showing his faithfulness in meeting the physical needs of the facility. Reminding us that God meets all our needs according to His riches in glory, the exterior of the building received some serious renovation! Thank you to all who are continuing to support the work at CCOM!

Ken Neuwulis: CCOM... I continue to see the faithfulness of God thru the ministry of CCOM.. The commitment of staff to the serving of others for the glory of God... and the giving that not only flows thru CCOM, but also the faithful giving of others to aid in the work of ministering the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.

