



**Harrison Church**  
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY



# HIS...

## Harrison in Service

**January/February 2021**

Happy New Year! Our 2021 Harrison Church Missions Council will be chaired by Larry Robinson and co-chairs Patsy Sheppard and Becky Kelly. This past year created many obstacles due to the impact of COVID-19. We had to find new ways to operate many of our missions and still stay safe. It's a new year, but 2021 will still be challenging due to the pandemic. Here are some of our main objectives for 2021.

- \* We will evaluate all of our missions and make sure they follow Harrison's Vision Statement. If they don't, we will identify new ones that do.
- \* We will engage our entire congregation and ask what is important to them. Please watch for a survey in the very near future.
- \* We will reach out to our entire church, including new members, our youth group and anyone wanting to be a part of our missions program. We will do everything possible to make this happen on a personal level. We need new people and new ideas.
- \* We will embrace change and encourage participation from everyone.

### OUR MINISTRIES



Harrison's English as a Second Language program conducted a successful Fall semester with four levels of classes taught during the day and two levels in the evening, providing English language instruction and American culture guidance for 45 registered students. All classes are being taught online using Zoom, supported by several other online resources provided through Cambridge, our ESL book source.

As we start our Spring semester a few additional students have already registered, and we fully expect to maintain an "online only" approach throughout the semester, which ends in May. We are still in need of additional teachers, especially for the evening classes, so if you are interested please contact Betsy Harrington at [bharrington803@gmail.com](mailto:bharrington803@gmail.com). No previous experience is necessary, and a love of helping others is the only requirement!

## Loaves & Fishes Pantry

Thank you, Harrison Church, for your donations to the December Food Drive! Your generous contributions were then delivered to the Loaves & Fishes warehouse in Charlotte, where they are used to make boxes of food brought back to mobile pantries (such as ours) for distribution. In addition, several Harrison pantry volunteers held a neighborhood fundraising “Christmas Lights Tour” event in December, and raised \$3500 for Loaves & Fishes to support their purchases! Due to our current process during the pandemic, we are not asking for any food donations at the church until our next food drive. Instead, please consider the following:

- *Take your food donations directly to the Loaves & Fishes warehouse: [www.loavesandfishes.org/donate-food/](http://www.loavesandfishes.org/donate-food/)*
- *Make a financial donation to Loaves & Fishes, where their buying power will likely provide more food per dollar spent: [www.loavesandfishes.org/donate-today/](http://www.loavesandfishes.org/donate-today/)*
- *Make a financial donation to Harrison Church Food Ministries, which helps support our purchases of extra items for our mobile pantry, such as detergent and toiletries.*

Loaves & Fishes is also delivering food directly to guests who can't make it to mobile pantries, and is looking for additional drivers, as well as volunteers to pack boxes in the warehouse:

<https://loavesandfishes.org/get-involved/>



Staging of Produce & Non Perishables



Mobile Pantry Fresh Food Set-Up

## Beds Equal Dreams

We are still doing God's work as Beds Equal Dreams, with our masks on. During January we will be delivering 12 beds to children in the inner-city ministry - A Better World. Our normal distribution is done through the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System but since they are living through the complications of COVID we have reached out to A Better World. We still had bed frames and mattresses from our Fall, 2019 bed building event in the warehouse. Additionally, we have been able to help the children in a family escaping life on the streets with the aid of Charlotte Cares. God is alive and well and using BED as a beacon of support for the unserved children of Charlotte, sleeping on floors and sharing beds. As the country returns to more normalcy, we will ramp back up to reach our goal of “Giving every child a chance to dream”.



## Roof Above



Due to COVID, **ROOM IN THE INN** has a different look this 2020-2021 season!

**Urban Ministry & the Men's Shelter** merged into one organization that is called **ROOF ABOVE**. They have worked diligently since the outbreak of COVID, to find a way to safely house homeless men, women, and children, during the cold winter months. This season instead of being served through churches in the ROOM IN THE INN program, those without homes, have an opportunity to seek social distancing shelter at several **ROOF ABOVE** supervised sites.

To help meet the needs this season, Harrison's Missions Committee approved funds, from our ROOM IN THE INN budget, to purchase items on the "Winter Sheltering Wish List". The following new items from the list were purchased and shipped to Beth Trotter at Urban Ministry; 14 blankets, 14 towels, and 24 wash clothes for a total of \$401.32.

Harrison has also set up a Sign-up Genius site where you can get specific details and guidelines on how to help by providing Bag Lunches or Cookie Donations on specific dates. Please consider how you could help and sign up!

Bag Lunches: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094ba9a82da13-lunch>

Cookie Donations: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094ba9a82da13-cookies>

Questions? Contact: Becky Kelly at [kellyrb@bellsouth.net](mailto:kellyrb@bellsouth.net)

## Angel Tree Update

Thank you, Harrison, for your amazing support of our 2020 Christmas Angel Tree Program! In spite of COVID-19, our congregation and preschool families shopped online for toys for children. In addition to the many items you ordered online for the Magical Toy Drive, the Missions team used \$500 out of the budget, supported by your tithes and offerings, to purchase even more toys! Our congregation also contributed thirty-six \$25 gift cards for the Angel Tree Senior Ministry. Your generosity is always amazing and very appreciated!

## Harrison Youth

Hats off to our Harrison Youth for giving of their time and energy to sponsor a winter clothing drive for the residents of the Charlotte Rescue Mission. They collected new or gently used adult winter clothing, including coats, hats, gloves, socks, etc. and then delivered the items to the Rescue Mission so that people in need received these gifts before Thanksgiving. Thanks to our Youth for being the hands and feet of Jesus and to our congregation for your generous donations!

**HATS OFF TO HARRISON!!**



Did you know that Harrison Church supports the following local ministries? Please visit our church website ([www.harrisonchurch.org](http://www.harrisonchurch.org)) to learn more about how you can be involved!! You can also contact us at [missions@harrisonchurch.org](mailto:missions@harrisonchurch.org).

Bed Equal Dreams  
Dove's Nest  
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry  
Backpack Ministry  
A Roof Above

Charlotte Rescue Mission  
English as a Second Language  
A Roof Above  
Pineville Neighbors' Place

**Missions Leadership Team:** Larry Robinson (Missions Chair), Becky Kelly and Patsy Sheppard (Co vice chairs), Bob Gourlay and Ron Sheppard (Financial advisors), and Pastor Kyle McCain (Staff Liaison).

ALL are invited to join us at our next Zoom meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85707623920?pwd=RWh6amVkZytNUU9Db0lK0xsN003Zz09>

Meeting ID: 857 0762 3920

Passcode: 084658

***When God's People are in need, be ready to help them; always practice hospitality.....Romans 13:4***