

## 2017 Season of Prayer

For State Missions and the Janie Chapman Offering  
For State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living

### Leaders Guide

# Pray, Proclaim, Permeate

**Scripture:** <sup>2</sup>“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup>At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison - <sup>4</sup>that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.” Colossians 4:2-4, ESV

**Music: Congregation:** “Take the Name of Jesus with You,” *The Baptist Hymnal*, 2008, page #313, *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1991, page #576, *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1975, page #473, *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1956, page #305 “Teach Me, Oh Lord, I Pray,” *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1991, page #601, *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1975, page #406

**Contemporary:** “Until the Whole World Hears,” Casting Crowns

**Music for Children:** “When I Pray,” *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1991, page #460

**Kay Rollings, GA Coordinator, St. Andrews Baptist Church, Columbia, South Carolina, Writer**

## INTRODUCTION

In Colossians 4:2-4, Paul is concluding his letter to the church at Colossae. Written from Rome where he is imprisoned, he encourages steadfast prayer, sharing the gospel, and proclaiming Jesus Christ. Just as the Colossians received direction from Paul's words, so are his words a challenge for South Carolina Baptists today as we pray for our state, proclaim the gospel to the lost, and permeate our state with opportunities to know God's love.

The stories shared in this year's Season of Prayer For State Missions and the Janie Chapman Offering For State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living Leaders Guide will help us know how we are sending and sharing, as well as starting and strengthening, churches in our state. With funds from this offering we are reaching immigrants to our state who speak Swahili. We are also partnering with our schools to assist students and teachers. Replanting and merging two churches, revitalizing a church, as well as helping more than one church be effective in the same facility have also been a focus this year. Many needs and many opportunities: how can we help?

## SENDING: REACHING THE NATIONS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

When Charles Kenya left his home in Kenya to come to Iowa in 2001 on a mission trip, he had no idea of the great plans that God had for his future. For twelve years he had been an enthusiastic teacher of his high school students, but God had a new challenge in mind for him. Over the next 15 years, God guided him into a new profession and into a new opportunity to pastor a Swahili language church in Spartanburg.

### DR. KENYA'S JOURNEY

While he and his wife Amilliah were in Iowa, she received care from a chiropractor for a back problem that had limited her quality of life for several years. After a few weeks of chiropractic care, Amilliah was pain free. In 2002, the Kenya family moved to South Carolina, and after several years of study at Greenville Tech and Sherman College, Charles graduated in

2006. After working as an associate doctor, he moved to Spartanburg to open his own practice as a chiropractor.

God had more great plans for Dr. Kenya. In May 2016, discussions began about the growing number of Swahili-speaking refugees who needed a church in the area. Over a period of just a few months the Neema Kiswahili Baptist Church was organized, and on January 15, 2017, Dr. Kenya was ordained as one of its pastors.

### **PASTOR MUTABESHA'S MIRACULOUS EXPERIENCE**

The Swahili congregation is blessed to have two dedicated men as pastors. Augustin Mutabesha sees God at work in his life and in bringing him to Spartanburg to pastor the church. Born in the Congo, he grew up in a rural area of the Kigoma region of Tanzania. During a Christian festival he gave his heart to Jesus at age thirteen. Just three years later, tragedy struck. While he was away from home working with missionaries, his entire family was killed by insurgents. Pastor Mutabesha says, "God saved me from being killed, so I felt his guidance in my life."

After young Augustin finished high school he was one of three chosen for a university scholarship from hundreds of applicants, and he later received a scholarship for graduate school. He had many opportunities to serve God. He worked in children's ministry, preached to students and became a Bible instructor, a deacon, and a college teacher.

In June 2016 he, his wife, and three young children immigrated to the United States. It was not long before he found the Swahili language group that needed an additional leader, and in January 2017, he was ordained as pastor. As Pastor Mutabesha says, "God has worked in my life and kept me alive; now I want to be a living sacrifice for Him."

### **PLANTING THE SWAHILI LANGUAGE CONGREGATION**

The beginning of this church is also amazing. South Carolina Baptist leaders were concerned about a group of eighty Congolese refugees who had no church in the Swahili language. They began working with church planter Samuel Kioko from Kenya. Rev. Kioko started a Bible study in one of their apartments and then it moved to a common area in an apartment complex. When that space became too small, Abner Baptist Church opened their doors for the new church to use. Now as many as 70 people attend Saturday and Sunday services.

Many of the Congolese have been refugees for a long time. They left their country over ten years ago to live in camps in Uganda and Tanzania to escape the war that devastated their homes. Now many of this group have been in the United States for a little over a year. They are learning English and looking for jobs.

Rev. Kioko said that it was a very special day for the church when Bibles and hymnals in the Swahili language arrived from Kenya. Dr. Kenya's son is now leading a Sunday School for the children using materials purchased with Janie Chapman funds, which also help to pay the rent for the church.

### **PRAY:**

- that all Swahili speakers will be found and invited to the church;
- that the church can gain financial stability;
- that the Congolese can learn English and find jobs;
- that they will have a continued strong relationship with Abner Baptist Church;
- that the pastors will have time to do the work of the Lord and that Pastor Augustin will find a daytime job that enables him to use his education and experience.

### **SHARING: HEART4SCHOOLS**

"Jane" was a little girl living in a chaotic home where Mom and Dad were continually fighting. When Mom moved out, the situation was not greatly improved as Dad struggled to make enough money to keep food on the table. Jane did not like school and her reading score showed it; she was reading at the 26th percentile for students in her grade.

Homelessness, poverty, imprisonment: these are big issues that affect people in South Carolina. How can these be eliminated? These big problems are often the result of a lack of education. If a child cannot read, he is at-risk to become a

statistic as an adult. Research has shown, however, that getting a child on reading level by third grade is often an indication of success. South Carolina Baptist churches are reaching out to schools in their communities to help the children become successful.

The Heart4Schools initiative, a part of the South Carolina Baptist Convention Evangelism Team and a recipient of Janie Chapman Offering funds, encourages churches to reach their communities through partnerships with schools.

### **MENTORS AT MYRTLE BEACH FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

So, what happened to Jane? She got a reading buddy, a mentor to read with her from nearby Myrtle Beach First Baptist Church. By the time she was tested again, her score had zoomed by more than two years in grade level. Don Hansen, minister of music at the church, tells about this little girl's success with the same enthusiasm he would use for his own child. The principal commented, "One important thing the mentors give to the children is confidence."

The high rise hotels and expensive restaurants in this tourist area overshadow the citizens of Myrtle Beach and the surrounding area who experience an 84% poverty rate. Jobs in the service areas in which many are employed do not pay high salaries, and many young parents are working hard to survive with little time left to spend with their children.

Benefits go both ways in the mentoring program with the volunteers finding satisfaction as well. "Mr. Tony," a widower in his seventies, was skeptical when he became a second grade reading buddy. It was not long, however, before he developed a special relationship with the entire class. When he had to take a leave of absence from the program, the children in the class simultaneously rushed forward to tell him goodbye.

The Janie Chapman Offering has been instrumental in providing training and publicity for reaching out in this ministry. Rev. Hansen, a frequent visitor to other churches in his desire to enlist new mentors for the program, said, "The Reading Buddies video segment included in the 2016 Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions materials has been shown constantly in my presentations since last September."

### **FROM MENTORING TO MISSION OUTPOST AT CHARLESTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

One church that has taken mentoring in a different direction is Charleston First Baptist Church. Instead of working on reading, the principal asked the mentors to work with the children in science. Since they began, 100% of the students have raised their scores to grade level or higher.

Success cannot be measured in test scores alone, however. On the first day that mentors were meeting with their students, the children were asked to write about one person they wanted to meet to use as a conversation starter with their mentors. One little boy wrote, "I want to meet you," and explained to his new friend that he wanted to have an adult who would listen just to him, a luxury that he had rarely experienced before.

Sometimes one of the children asks his Science Buddy why the volunteers come to help them, and this opens the opportunity to tell him that they came from church. Further questions are about God, and mentors have an opportunity to share their faith.

Charleston First has also set up a Mission Outpost near the school where parents, children and teens can play games and hear stories every Wednesday night. "Nathan" and his family began coming to the Outpost not long after the father had been released from prison. They have been active in attending and bringing others. About a year after he started working with a mentor, Nathan accepted Jesus as his Savior.

### **SUPPORTING TEACHERS AT CEDAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH, AIKEN**

Ask a teacher what school supply is critically needed and most will answer, "Paper!" Pastor Phillip Lee at Cedar Creek Church felt God's leading to serve the community, and, after discussions with local schools, learned that paper was as valuable as gold there. Pastor Lee challenged his congregation to bring in paper. And bring it, they did! It came in by the ream, the box, and the pallet until more than 12 million sheets of paper had been collected. Each school in the area received an abundance of paper.

What else do schools need? The church reached out to each school's guidance counselors and found out the needs

were different for each school. They have provided emergency clothing, reading buddies, and nets for basketball goals. As Pastor Lee says, "Whenever a door opens, we walk through."

One group serves teachers by remembering them on their birthdays. This has opened doors for relationships and an opportunity to pray for needs that the teachers have. Due to the fact that ninety per cent of a community is connected in some way to a school, it makes sense to serve schools and reach students and their families.

#### **PRAY:**

- that God will lead churches to establish Reading Buddy programs and to adopt local schools;
- that God will open doors with families that lead to spiritual conversations.

### **STARTING: REPLANTING A CHURCH**

What happens when a church's membership becomes too small? The people want to do great things for the Lord, but not enough money or hands are available to accomplish those worthy goals. This was the dilemma for Oak Grove Church in Spartanburg in 2015. They were down to 40 members, most of whom were senior adults. Finding themselves without a pastor, they called church planting strategist James Nugent to serve as interim.

He and the congregation studied the problem and weighed their options. Continue to try to revitalize the church with a bi-vocational pastor, close the church, or merge with another congregation: these were among the possibilities they considered. After much prayer, the members believed God truly wanted a church in their growing community and a continued partnership with the nearby Child Development Center.

#### **PLANTING HUB CITY CHURCH**

Not far away, Hub City Church was meeting in a movie theater on Sunday mornings. Pastor Jonathan Everette had felt God's leadership in planting a church, and in 2008 Hub City was launched.

Hub City Church was growing. In addition to their Sunday service, they reached out to the community by offering movies in the park during the summer. One limitation on the church, however, was the lack of a facility in which small groups could meet.

Since the pastors of both churches were friends, Nugent found it completely natural to ask Everette and his congregation to join Oak Grove in prayer as they looked for a church with which they could merge. Soon the answer came: God wanted these two churches to become one congregation.

#### **MOVING FORWARD WITH THE MERGE**

Change is not easy, and some in both congregations were uncomfortable with the merge, but God continued to prepare the hearts of the people. As Pastor Nugent said, "Every time the move stalled, God did something to keep it going."

A true encourager in the process was 86 year old John Sharpe. He spoke up to his Oak Grove friends, saying, "We've got to do this." He later called the merge "the most rewarding experience of my spiritual life."

New members are coming in as the church focuses outward in the community. Hub City Church has made it their mission to reach out beyond the walls of the church.

The partnership with the Child Development Center has continued to grow. Ms. Betty, a senior adult, led her small group to provide diapers, underwear and other emergency clothing for the children. Some small groups provide breakfast for Teacher Appreciation Day and help with Fun Day.

It is not unusual for the school to have meetings and banquets at the church. A group of senior adult ladies have written notes to all the teachers to show their support. The PTA president visited and later joined the church.

#### **MISSIONS WORK IN HAITI**

While Hub City wants to permeate the community, they have a mission outreach that goes beyond Spartanburg and

travels down to Alex's House, an orphanage in Haiti. Thirty-three children who had been living on the street now have a home, food, clothing, and an education. This ministry has now expanded to a village in the mountains of Haiti. Hub City supports the work of Pastor Job in the village with individual sponsorships and mission teams. Their giving has also provided a church and a school for the 98 children who live there.

God is continuing to call out leaders for the church. Ms. Jamie and Mr. Allen were at Hub City on the very first Sunday it was launched, and this couple has been strong in the support of it ever since. A small group meets in their home, and they have seen God at work in transforming lives. Ms. Jamie has been very passionate about the discipleship process and has answered God's call to lead a course in making disciples.

This church, like so many others in South Carolina, owes a great deal to the Janie Chapman offering, which provides funds for church planters to establish new churches.

#### **PRAY:**

- for unity in the church as two congregations merge and welcome new members;
- for new families to become a part of the church;
- for steadfastness in looking outward to the community and the world to win the lost for Christ.

### **STRENGTHENING CHURCHES**

#### **CITADEL SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH**

"What a beautiful historic church!" That may be the first comment of a visitor to Charleston who sees Citadel Square Baptist Church. In 1854 the members of First Baptist Church saw the need for a church out on the edge of the city and planted Citadel Square on Meeting Street. No longer on the "edge" but in the heart of Charleston, the church has had a vital ministry for more than 160 years.

Pastor David Walker leads this congregation as they "glorify God by worshiping Him and making disciples." They also seek "to care for those around us and celebrate what God is doing in and through our lives."

One way that Citadel Square reaches out to share the gospel is the Cooper River Bridge Run. Held each year in early April, this event draws thousands of runners to the city. Since the finish line is near the church, volunteers take photos of the runners. When the photo is presented, along with it comes a gospel message with an athletic theme.

#### **CITADEL SQUARE WELCOMES A CHINESE CONGREGATION**

Citadel Square is a large facility, and its members want to honor God with its building's use. Several years ago, Pastor Walker learned of a Chinese congregation of about 100 people that needed a place to meet. They offered the chapel for the Chinese service. Since a number of Chinese work at the Medical University and live close by, this has been a perfect place for them.

#### **CENTERPOINT CHURCH FINDS A HOME**

About four years ago, another congregation needed a place to worship, so yet another church began using the facility. Pastor Craig Tuck had previously built a relationship with Dr. Walker, and this friendship led to Centerpoint's move to Citadel Square.

A commitment to "making disciples who make disciples" to reach the community for Christ is at the heart of Centerpoint's mission outreach. With the Citadel, College of Charleston, and the Medical University of South Carolina all close by, students are a target group of Centerpoint.

This isn't, however, a church just for young people. The Grandmothers' Group meets on Friday morning to pray. Begun by Ms. Jean Hamilton, this group is made up of prayer warriors who love their city and want to see the lost reached. Pastor Tuck calls Ms. Hamilton a "faithful person who gives her life serving cross culturally" in the kids' ministry and in the community.

## REACHING ALL CULTURES

Pastor Tuck sees many needs in Charleston and encourages his church and others to take responsibility for reaching all groups in the city. One effort to bring people together has been the Holy City Brunch, a cross cultural experience that includes whites and African Americans.

Pastors of some of the churches on the east side lack theological and pastoral training, and the Janie Chapman offering has been able to provide them that help through the Urban Institute. This has been a blessing to churches and their pastors in that area.

Five years ago leaders from both black and white churches saw the great need for understanding the difficulties both groups face. To help them gain perspective, "One Charleston" was formed.

## TRAGEDY AT EMANUEL AME CHURCH

Most South Carolinians vividly remember the events of June 17, 2015, when a gunman entered Emanuel AME Church and killed nine people who were studying the Bible. A map of Charleston shows that the Citadel Square facility and Emanuel AME church are next door neighbors. As neighbors do when tragedy strikes, Emanuel's neighbors were there to lend support. "One Charleston" held a prayer meeting for the families of the victims, and many other kindnesses were extended.

God can bring good from a tragic situation. The entire nation was able to see the spirit of Christian love when the families offered forgiveness to the gunman. During an open-air service, many heard the gospel preached as the city remembered the victims.

## THREE CHURCHES, ONE FACILITY, ONE PURPOSE

Centerpoint Church, Citadel Square Baptist Church, and the Charleston Chinese Church all share the same goal, and sometimes they share the same service. The congregations gather monthly for a Wednesday prayer meeting and often have combined services. They are united in their mission to reach the lost for Christ.

## MAKING DISCIPLES AT CENTRAL BAPTIST IN GAFFNEY

Stephen Prinz can testify how God is at work in his life and in Central Baptist in Gaffney. After he and his family became a part of the church about a year ago, he committed to going on a mission trip to Honduras with other members of his church. After this trip he felt God's call to missions. As he waits further direction from God, he now works as an intern at the church, and both he and his wife Brittany plan to go to Honduras this year.

It was not many years ago that Central Baptist had been struggling, but, after they went through a revitalization process that was funded by the Janie Chapman offering, they realized that most of the church focus was inward whereas God wanted them to look beyond themselves. As they began to look outside church walls and partner with a church in Honduras and with a church planter in Atlanta, Central became the church God was calling them to be.

Pastor Johnny Bridges says, "God has given us a vision, and that is to make disciples. It's not about a particular program, but it's about God's calling."

## PRAY:

- for all the churches as they make disciples;
- for Craig Tuck as he transitions to Director of Missions in the Charleston area
- for Steve Herron as he serves as the new pastor of Centerpoint.

## CONCLUSION

As we look at all the information, we see a common thread: all of the churches are reaching out to make disciples in the world around them. The Apostle Paul would remind us as he did the Colossians that we cannot simply focus inward and sit comfortably in our sanctuary pews. The world - which includes Spartanburg, Simpsonville, Walterboro, every community, town, city, large and small needs the gospel. Can we do less than *Pray? Give? Proclaim? Permeate?* South Carolina is waiting.

# Procedures for All Ages

1. Read **Pray, Proclaim, Permeate**
2. Pray for guidance as you prepare and lead this season of prayer. Pray for those who will participate.
3. Obtain resource items needed. If your church has none of the materials listed on page 16, contact state WMU at the phone number or email address found in the section entitled “For more information . . .,” item #C, page 16.
4. Study the plan for your age-level.
5. Gather resources and materials for each activity.
6. Enlist others to assist you.



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## **ADULTS - Robin McCartha, Women on Mission Consultant, Lexington Association, Writer**

**Items Needed:** DVD player, card stock, printer/ marker, hole punch, yarn or string, copies of *Leaders Guide*, music, and display items.

**Before the Meeting:** As you prepare, pray. As you study the information on this year’s theme and emphasis, pray that you and other participants in the session will indeed be permeated with a focus on God’s hand in missions across South Carolina. Review media presentations from the DVD for State Missions. Consider which might complement your presentation during the session. Ask God for wisdom to draw those who listen to understand and be changed. Pray that those who hear will leave the session determined to follow through in prayer for each focal emphasis.

**Read the *Leaders Guide*:** Decide which of the stories you will show on DVD and/or the ones you will have presented by volunteers from your church. Prepare a placard from card stock of the name for each focus area. You can also prepare placards with the name of each person in the stories from the *Leaders Guide*. Placards would then read:

Dr. Charles Kenya  
Pastor Mutabesha  
Samuel Kioko  
“Jane”  
Nathan  
Pastor Phillip Lee  
James Nugent  
Pastor Jonathan Everette  
John Sharpe  
Ms. Jamie and Mr. Allen  
Pastor David Walker  
Member of the Chinese Congregation  
Pastor Craig Tuck  
Stephen Prinz

You may make these placards using a hole punch and yarn. Provide bulleted statements or a copy of the material in

advance to volunteers who will share the story. Volunteers will wear the placards around their neck as they share the information.

**Meal:** If your church will provide a meal before the session, consider offering a meal with food connections to Kenya, Haiti, or China. Be sure to identify the food items and include the significance for their country of origin. If you will not be serving a full meal, consider providing some of the foods that are typical school foods in your area such as apples or bananas, carrot and celery slices, cartons of juice or milk, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

**Display:** Gather information about the Swahili language, Haitian and Chinese cultures from the internet or library. Provide posters with brief descriptions of these cultures. Near each information poster provide another poster or a globe with a map that includes Kenya, Haiti, and China. Display a map of South Carolina along with a city map of Charleston, each mounted on poster board. Mark specific locations for reference in the missions session. If unable to print or find printed maps, you may provide the information and maps on PowerPoint slides. Use the posters with each of the four focus areas as titles for your display (listed below). Use these to introduce each section of the presentations.

**Focus Areas:**

1. **Sending:** *Reaching the Nations in South Carolina*
2. **Sharing:** *Heart4Schools*
3. **Starting:** *Replant: Oak Grove Baptist Church and Hub City Church, Spartanburg*
4. **Strengthening:** *Citadel Square Baptist, Centerpoint and Chinese Congregation, Charleston Central Baptist, Gaffney*

Provide a stack(s) of paper and stand several birthday cards nearby. You can also use additional items that relate to focal areas that you want to reinforce during your presentation. Provide prayer guides, offering envelopes, the Family Missions Page and use the state missions facts sheet to create handouts to use as reminders in the coming days.

**Music:** Choose one of the following for the group to join in singing: "Take the Name of Jesus with You," *Baptist Hymnal*, 2008, page #313; *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1991, page #576; *Baptist Hymnal*, 1975, page #473; *Baptist Hymnal*, 1956, page #305; or "Teach Me, Oh Lord, I Pray," *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1991, page #601, *Baptist Hymnal*, 1975, page #406. If you are unable to lead the song, enlist someone to lead the singing for the session.

In the final minutes before you begin the session, play *Until the Whole World Hears* by Casting Crowns. This song is available on CD and also from iTunes. If possible, provide the words on the screen and allow those who know the song to sing this song of commitment. Before the song begins, ask for quiet time with silent prayer so all hearts have opportunity to prepare to receive and respond to the missions message.

**During the Meeting:** Welcome everyone to the Season of Prayer for State Missions presentation. Share that there are several persons who will share about how the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions has impacted their lives and/or ministry. Introduce each focus area and invite those you enlisted to share 'their' story or show the DVDs. At the conclusion of each area's presentation, have additional enlisted volunteers present the prayer requests for that particular focus area. Pause for silent prayer for these requests or allow sentence prayers before moving on to the next focus area.

**Wrap Up:** When the presentation ends for all focal areas, stress to the group that this time begins the time of prayer focus. Now the commitment is needed from each of them to continue the prayers for these focus areas and other areas that benefit from the Janie Chapman State Missions Offering. Encourage them to make time to pray and to give to the Janie Chapman Offering. Encourage them to also share the need for prayer and giving with others.

Dismiss with prayer for each focus area mentioned in the session. Distribute Janie Chapman offering envelopes and the 2017 prayer guides for State Missions from the display table.



**STUDENTS – Becka Moore, WMU Associate – Students, South Carolina WMU**  
**Donna Britt, WMU Associate – Adults, South Carolina WMU, Writers**

**Teaching Aims:** Youth will 1) learn about missions work occurring throughout South Carolina, 2) be encouraged to pray for missions, and 3) be asked to commit to supporting missions work in South Carolina through the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living.

**Special Supplies:**

- Map of Africa
- Map of the USA
- Internet directions for how to make a plastic football (soccer ball). Directions may be found at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gyg0d\\_yTXhl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gyg0d_yTXhl) and / or <https://vimeo.com/39763894>. Items needed will be paper, plastic/plastic bags and string.
- Internet connection
- DVD player
- State Missions DVD
- Bottled water
- Make Mandazi (East African donuts)

**Before the Session:**

- Read the *Leaders Guide* and Students Procedures. Determine the leaning activities that will meet the needs of your students and plan to share those activities. You may need to plan to have more than one session depending on your choices.
- Enlist two persons to portray the stories of Charles Kenya and Augustin Mutabesha. They should read the story enough for it to become familiar so they can tell it in their own words. Make sure to include how the children now have Sunday School materials because of funds from the Janie Chapman offering, which also help to pay the rent for the church.
- Prepare Mandazi - East African donuts.

**Recipe for Mandazi (East African donuts)**

1 egg, beaten  
½ cup sugar  
½ cup milk  
2 tbsp. butter, melted  
2 cups white flour  
2 tsp. baking powder

Bring ingredients to room temperature and mix them together. If needed, add more flour. Dough should be soft but not sticky. Roll it out on a lightly floured dough board until ¼ inch thick. Cut into triangles and fry in hot oil until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Serve warm if possible.

- Make a plastic football (soccer ball). This is a popular game in Africa. You can find directions to make the ball on the Internet.
- Enlist a student to read the introduction to Sharing: Heart 4 Schools from the *Leaders Guide*.
- Set up a DVD player and preview the DVD. Select clips to show as time permits during your session.

## During the Session:

### Spark

- Welcome members as they arrive using the Swahili greeting “Jambo, habari gani” (jam-bo ha-ba-ri ga-ni) (Hello, how are you?). Have students locate the countries of Tanzania, Kenya and The Congo on a map of Africa, and Iowa and Spartanburg, South Carolina on a map of the USA. Ask what these places might have to do with the Janie Chapman State Missions Offering?

### Explore

- Serve the Mandazi (East African donuts).
- Introduce Charles Kenya and Pastor Augustin and let them share the stories from Sending: Reaching the Nations in South Carolina.
- If times permits have youth watch the video and make a plastic football. After the session play a short game of ‘football’ (soccer).
- Ask a student to read the introduction for Sharing: Heart4Schools. Talk about the importance of reading and ask students how many things they read every day (text messages, road signs, instructions, etc.) Share information from the *Mentors at Myrtle Beach First Baptist Church* article. Even though Myrtle Beach is a resort area, everyone who works there is not rich. There is an 84% poverty rate in the area. Therefore, many parents have to work hard to survive and have little time left to spend reading with their children.
- Have students share the types of jobs that would be available at the hotels, restaurants, and other businesses at the beach. List these on white or poster board. Then have them look up the salaries for those types of jobs in South Carolina: [https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_sc.htm](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_sc.htm)
- Allow them to figure how much it would cost to raise two children. Help them to remember to include housing, (including utilities, etc.) transportation, food, phone, clothes, etc. Ask the students how the cost of living might affect family life. Help them to see that sometimes parents might have two jobs in order to have enough money to pay the bills. Then parents will not have as much time to spend with their children. Also discuss that if the parents did not do well in school that it would be more difficult for them to help their children with their school work. It can become a cycle which we can help break by having a Heart4Schools and the children in our schools.
- Give each student a sheet of paper and ask them to draw a picture of the community where their church is located, making sure to place other worship centers that are in or near the neighborhood. The Janie Chapman offering helps new churches and churches that are replanted. Sometimes communities change and people who attended a local church move. The people who move into the community don’t attend the church and the membership declines. We are going to see how the state missions offering can help these churches.
- Play the DVD *Hub City, Spartanburg*.
- Ask youth to consider if there are those in their community that are not being reached by their church. Discuss ideas to help reach out to those who do not know Christ that live near them or their church.
- Give out water bottles and ask if any of the students have participated in a 5K, 10K, etc. Tell them that in Charleston one church is near the site of the Cooper River Bridge Run. One of the ways the church reaches out is to volunteer to take pictures of the runners near the finish line. When they present the photo they also share the gospel message with an athletic theme. **Say:** “People have to train and do strength training to be in a race.” Ask students what they would do to strengthen churches. Share what churches in the leaders guide are doing to help strengthen their churches.

### Transform

- Show other clip(s) you chose from the Janie Chapman Season of Prayer DVD.
- Share with the group how the Janie Chapman offering is used to carry out missions work throughout South Carolina, including the work featured in the DVD.

## Prayertime

- Invite youth to pray for the requests presented in the material.
- Use the conclusion in the study guide as your closing.



## CHILDREN'S PROCEDURES – Cindy Skelton, WMU Associate – Children, South Carolina WMU, Writer

**Overview:** Children will learn about the Season of Prayer For State Missions and the Janie Chapman Offering For State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living and how they can pray for and give to support missions throughout South Carolina.

**Bible Verse:** “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison - that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.” Colossians 4:2-4, ESV

### Supplies:

Paper  
Printer  
Markers  
Tape  
Paper bags or containers  
Bottle of water  
Chopsticks  
Backpack  
Box  
Internet  
Prayer Guide for Janie Chapman Offering  
Envelopes for Janie Chapman Offering

### Before the Session:

Read “Sending: Reaching the Nations in South Carolina” in the *Leaders Guide*. Be prepared to tell the story.

Set up your room in a different manner than it would normally be used: turn a chair over so it cannot be used, rearrange the furniture, etc.

Prepare another language to greet the children as they enter the room. Use something instead of English to help the children experience what it's like to be in a culture different than their own.

Print the following words and phrases on separate sheets of paper.

<b><u>English</u></b>	<b><u>Swahili</u></b>
Danger	Hatari (Ha-ta-ri)
Bathroom	Choo (Choo - with long "o" sound)
Enter	Kuingia (Ku-in-ga)
Exit	Toka (Toe-ka)
Grocery store	Dukani (du-ka-ni – long "a")
School	Shule (Shu-le – long "e")
Doctor office	Ofisi ya daktari (o-fi-si ya dak-ta-ri)
Police	Polisi (Po-li-si)

Place the Swahili set of words around the room. You will distribute the English words among the children and ask them to match the words or phrases during the activity.

Read "Sharing: Heart4Schools" in the *Leaders Guide*. Be prepared to tell the story.

Use six sheets of paper on which to write the story of Jane:

1. Jane has trouble reading.
2. She was at risk of falling behind if she didn't get help.
3. A volunteer from First Baptist Church Myrtle Beach became Jane's reading buddy through Heart4Schools.
4. After taking her next test, Jane's test scores improved by two grade levels.
5. The Janie Chapman Offering helps provide training and publicity for Heart4Schools.
6. Pray for Heart4Schools.

Make a layered paper ball using these six sheets. Starting with the sixth statement, form a ball. Take the next statement (five) and wrap it around the ball to make it larger. Continue wrapping the papers around the ball. As you work your way out you will form a ball with the first statement being on the outside.

Simplify the prayer requests located at the end of each story in the *Leaders Guide*. Write the prayer requests on slips of paper and place in three paper bags or containers – one for each story. Children will draw requests and read them aloud after each story.

Read "Strengthening Churches" in the *Leaders Guide*. Be prepared to tell the story.

Place a bottle of water, a pair of chopsticks and a backpack in a box with a lid for students to open and remove items. These three items represent the three churches in this story. Encourage them to guess what these may have in common with each church.

Prepare to sing Jesus Loves Me in three different ways: traditional, contemporary style and Mandarin. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80Ue0w45oGs>) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDf7JSFTbKI>)

YESU AI WO, WAN BU CUO  
 YIN YU SHENG SHU GAOSU WO  
 FAN XIAO HAIZI ZHU MU YANG  
 WO SUIRAN RUO ZHU QIANG ZHU

ZHU YESU AI WO  
ZHU YESU AI WO  
ZHU YESU AU WO  
YOU SHENG SHU GAOSU WO

### **During the Session:**

**Opening** (5 minutes): Greet the children in a language other than English and have them sit on the floor. Ask the children what is different about the room set up. In another language, instruct the children to take an English word that corresponds to a Swahili word posted around the room and match it to the appropriate Swahili word. If there are more than 8 children form groups and give each group a word to match. After a few minutes explain the activity in English and discuss how the children felt when they did not understand the language and the confusion of the room set up. Explain and discuss how refugees must feel when they enter a new country where they do not understand the language or culture.

**Say:** Tonight we are going to study ministries that are supported through prayer and giving through the state missions offering named for Janie Chapman. You will hear stories, participate in activities, and pray for these ministries that are supported by the Janie Chapman Offering.

### **Story** (15 minutes):

Briefly share in your own words “Dr. Kenya’s Journey,” “Pastor Mutabesha’s Miraculous Experience,” and “Planting the Swahili Language Congregation.”

**Prayer Activity:** Lead the children to select and read a prayer request from the paper bag and pray.

### **Missions Activity** (10-15 minutes): “Heart4Schools”

Use the paper ball you have prepared to tell the story of “Jane.” Pass the ball around the room four times and have the fourth child catching the ball to unwrap the outer layer, place ball in front of them, straighten the paper, and read the sentence. Leaders may assist children as needed. Repeat until the ball is gone and the story has been told.

**Prayer Activity:** Have children share a prayer request from the paper bag for “Heart4Schools.”

### **Missions Activity** (10-15 minutes): “Strengthening Churches”

Place the box with the water, chop sticks and backpack in front of the children. Remove each item, have the children identify the objects, and their use. Ask: “What do these things have in common?” “How might they connect with a church?” Allow time for children to answer. Explain that the three items are used by three different congregations that meet at the same location. Tell the stories of the Citadel Square Baptist Church, Chinese congregation, and Centerpoint Church. Say: “On a typical week, we might hear “Jesus Loves Me” three different ways. Citadel Square might sing it the traditional way.” Sing “Jesus Loves Me.” Say: “The Chinese Congregation sings it in Mandarin. Let’s try to sing “Jesus Loves Me” in Chinese.” Using YouTube link, lead children in Chinese version of “Jesus Loves Me.” Say: “Centerpoint Church is a more contemporary type of church and may sing a contemporary version of “Jesus Loves Me”. Let’s sing a contemporary version of “Jesus Loves Me.”” You can find the song, Jesus Loves Me, by Chris Tomlin at (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80Ue0w45oGs>). This is a song with different lyrics than “Jesus Loves Me.”

**Prayer Activity:** Pass the prayer requests around the group and have children pray for the three churches that meet in one location.

Share that the theme for the Janie Chapman Offering is **Pray, Proclaim, Permeate**. Ask them what proclaim means. It is to tell something, to share something. Tell them that when you add seasoning to meat and you can taste the seasoning, it has what permeated the meat. It soaks it up, it fills it up, it saturates the item. Then have the children repeat after you, **Pray, Proclaim, Permeate**. Ask them to use their outdoor voices so the noise will permeate the room. Repeat it together.

Remind children that they will have a chance to give to the Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions and there is also a prayer guide that they can use with their families to pray for other requests.



### **PRESCHOOL – Sandra Tapp, Associate Executive Director – Preschool, South Carolina WMU, Writer**

**Teaching Aims:** Preschoolers will learn that (1) God wants people around them to work together, (2) people around them are important to God, and (3) God wants them to give to and pray for state missions.

**Christian Concept Area:** Community

**Bible Thoughts:** “Be kind to each other.” (Ephesians 4:32), “Do not forget to do good and to share with others.” (Hebrews 13:16), “Love one another.” (1 John 4:7) .

#### **Preparation:**

- (1) Pray for God's guidance as you prepare this material and for the preschoolers who will attend.
- (2) Read the 2017 Season of Prayer *Leaders Guide*. Become familiar with the information related to *Sharing: Heart 4 Schools* and in particular, with the story, *Supporting Teachers at Cedar Creek Baptist Church, Aiken*.
- (3) Gather materials needed for interest areas:

- Two school desks or small tables with two small chairs
- Crayons
- Plain white paper
- Rulers
- School books (math, English, etc.)
- Wipes or moistened paper towels for cleaning preschoolers hands
- Musical instruments - these may be some that you already have in the preschool division of your church or you may want to make your own - taped or sealed empty boxes with dry beans as shakers; rice, plastic spoons, plastic Easter eggs and tape as maracas, etc.
- Bible
- Colored strips of construction paper with Bible Thoughts written on them. The Bible Thoughts are: “Be kind to each other.” (Ephesians 4:32), “Do not forget to do good and to share with others.” (Hebrews 13:16), “Love one another.” (1 John 4:7). Place the strips in the Bible in the respective places
- Blocks
- White paint paper
- Various colors of finger paint
- Tin pans or paper plates to contain paint
- Smocks or old shirts to protect preschoolers clothing

- Piece of white paper with the number, “12,000,000,000” printed boldly on it
- Janie Chapman Offering Envelopes
- Colored strips of construction paper with the following words printed on them: teachers, helpers, community, parents, children, and schools
- Glue stick
- Simple snack

**Greeting:** Greet each preschooler at their eye level as they enter the room and welcome them.

**Homeliving:** At this Interest Area, have two school desks or small tables with small chairs so that the preschoolers can sit at the desks. Place the following items in the area: crayons, plain white paper, rulers, and several school books. Supervise the area and encourage the children to play as if they are in school. One preschooler may want to be the teacher while the others are students and sit in the desks.

**Music and Movement:** At this Interest Area, have musical instruments for the children to play. Encourage them to listen for different sounds that the instruments make and to play all of the instruments that are in the area. If your church does not have musical instruments, use homemade instruments.

**Books:** At this Interest Area, use colored strips of paper to mark a Bible with the three Bible thoughts. Have preschoolers find the verses and help them in saying the verses: “Be kind to each other.” (Ephesians 4:32), “Do not forget to do good and to share with others.” (Hebrews 13:16), “Love one another.” (1 John 4:7).

**Blocks:** Use blocks to build a school. Instruct the preschoolers to build a school with classrooms, a library, cafeteria, etc. Talk about how all of these things are important parts of the school.

**Art:** In advance, write Bible Thoughts on the large pieces of paint paper and place them on the tables in the art area, so that preschoolers can stand in front of each piece. Write the names of the preschoolers on the bottom front corner of their paper. Instruct preschoolers to place each of their hands in the finger paint that has been provided in tin pans or paper plates and place their hands on the paper so that they have a right and left handprint on their paper. Say: “God has given you hands to use to work together with others. During our group time, we will hear a story about how people in their community work together to help the children who are going to the school in their community.” Place the pictures in a drying area. Use wipes or wet paper towels to clean the hands of the preschoolers after they have completed their art work.

**Snack:** Serve a snack that will be quick and easy for clean up since there is much to be done. Remember to post your snack outside of your class room door so that parents are aware of what you are serving. A sample allergy alert message chart can be found at [www.missionfriends.com](http://www.missionfriends.com).

**Group Time:** Gather the preschoolers in a circle and have them form a circle sitting close to one another on the floor.  
**Share:** “One of the churches in our state wanted to help out in their community. The pastor of the church wanted to do something and he wanted his church members to help. He found out from one of the teachers in a school near their church that the school always needed paper. The pastor asked his church members to bring paper that they could give to the school. And, they did! They brought in packages of paper and boxes of paper. They had so much paper they had to use large pieces of board called pallets to put under all of the packages and boxes, so that it could be taken to the schools. They collected more than 12 billion sheets of paper (hold up piece of paper with the number 12,000,000,000 largely written on it and explain to the preschoolers that if you wrote that number it would be a “1”, “2”, and nine zeros)! There was so much paper collected that all of the schools in the area got many packages of paper!”

## Stop Here for Threes and Fours

**Ask:** “How were the schools able to get so much paper?” (everyone worked together). Why did the church want to do this?” (we are to love one another and do good and share with one another).

## Continue for Kindergarten

**Share:** “One church is kind to teachers and remembers them on their birthdays. This has been a great way for them to show love to the teachers and to pray for them. Since all communities have children in them and those children go to school, working with schools seems like a very good idea! The Janie Chapman Offering helps churches learn how they can help schools.”

**Prayer time:** Gather the preschoolers in a circle and have them sit on the floor. As you prepare for prayertime, give each preschooler a colored strip of paper with a word on it. As you give the strip to the preschoolers, read the words that are printed. **Say:** We are going to pray for the things that are written on your strips of paper. Lead the preschoolers in praying for the schools in their community – for the teachers, the helpers, the children that go to those schools, and the parents of those children. After the conclusion of the prayer, lead the preschoolers to “loop” their strip, making a circle and glue their loop to the loop of the preschooler sitting beside them. Make a prayer chain in your circle with the preschoolers. **Say:** We just prayed together for many things. Now, look what we have done – we have joined our prayers together. We are going to place our prayer chain in a place where we can see it throughout this month so that we can be reminded of how important it is for us to pray and the good that we can do when we pray for one another!

Give each preschooler a Janie Chapman Offering envelope to take with them and encourage them to save their money for the offering.

## For more information . . .

- A) Invite a state missions speaker to your church. See the 2017 State Missions Speakers Bureau (sent to pastors and WMU directors) or contact Woman’s Missionary Union, South Carolina Baptist Convention; for assistance in enlisting a speaker (in South Carolina, at 800.723.7242, ext. 8524; or 803.227.6200).
- B) Have members read **Pray, Proclaim, Permeate**. The information can also be found on the South Carolina WMU website at [www.scwmu.org](http://www.scwmu.org) and the South Carolina Baptist Convention website at [www.scbaptist.org](http://www.scbaptist.org).
- C) Obtain resources. Order forms for free resources: posters, prayer guides, Family Missions Pages and Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions, Missions Education, and Great Commission Living envelopes, were sent to WMU directors. The Season of Prayer DVD was mailed to pastors, ministry assistants and WMU leaders on the South Carolina WMU mailing list. In addition to the state missions video segments, the DVD contains printable copies of the prayer guide, Sermon Outline, Churchwide Observance, Children’s Sermons, Clip Art Sheet, Family Missions Page, South Carolina State Missions Facts, Clip Art, Allocations Sheet, and History of Janie Chapman. If you do not have these resources, ask your WMU director to contact state WMU; in South Carolina 800.723.7242, ext. 8500; or 803.765.0030 or email: [wmu@scbaptist.org](mailto:wmu@scbaptist.org). If your church does not have a WMU director, call the state WMU office directly.