

## MISSIONS

Although Mission Season at BMPC is all year long, 2010 began with an emphasis on Missions from Jan 10-Feb 14. Flags were displayed in the Sanctuary from 6 countries where we actively support Missionary families or Missionary work and a brief description of our connection to each was given during the worship services each week: Malawi (Jessi Stitt, Ebenezer School, The Crisis Nursery), Lesotho (Nancy and Frank Dimmock), Madagascar (Dan & Elizabeth Turk), Guatemala (our partnership with Eben Ezer Church), Peru (Debbie and Harry Horne) and USA (the many local, regional and national agencies where we contribute money and volunteer hours).

Throughout the year the Mission Committee invited speakers to keep our congregation informed about things going on around the world: Dr. Barbara Nagy and Dr. Olson Huff talked about their work in Malawi, Eric Nichols shared his experiences in Haiti and his



connection with a school in Bayonnaise, Sarah Junkin Woodard told us about “Partnering with the Poor” in Nicaragua, Nancy Dimmock met with a group to tell more about their work and life in Lesotho, and Audrey Scott and Daniel Noll presented a fascinating slide show and talk about their lives traveling around the world.

We offered hospitality to 12 homeless women in our **Room in The Inn** for a week this October and helped the Methodist Church when they hosted in April and July.

BMPC helped with money and volunteers in the construction of the 2010 Presbyterian Build for **Habitat for Humanity in Asheville**.

We walked in the **Swannanoa Valley Walk for Hunger** and raised \$1,685+ for SVCM.

We participated once again in a letter writing campaign for Bread for the World to urge our NC politicians to work for ending hunger in our nation and the world.

The Domestic Violence Task Force held three training sessions for the BMPC staff and have plans to present programs for the congregation during the coming year. October was Domestic Violence Awareness month and Oct 17<sup>th</sup> Shannon addressed the issue in her sermon and in our prayers. Information about local resources and BMPC DV policy was (and is) available at the church.



#### Our Alternative

Christmas tables give our congregation the opportunity to give Christmas gifts to friends and families by donating money to a variety of local and international mission projects: **SVCM, Habitat for Humanity, BMPC Weekday School, Guatemala Scholarships, The Malawi Crisis Nursery, the Moringa Trees for Medical Benevolence Foundation.**

Many of our members are joining with SVCM and other congregations in the Valley to open a Homeless Shelter at the Baptist Church when temperatures drop below 38\*.

The Mission Committee budget this year was 12% of the total church budget (\$82,020)

which we distributed to many local agencies, five Missionaries, several International Mission projects, as well as to our General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery of WNC. Specifics may be found by looking at the church budget available from the church office.

