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| **Office Address**:  705 Chatham Street  Sanford, NC 27330  919-776-8474  sanfordomi@gmail.com  **Board Members**:  Claire Hunt  Hamer Carter  Jayne Holland  Jenny Cabrera  Jimmy Walton  Laura Spivey  Mandy Moss  Marcia Johnson  Neil Coggins  Sam Parker  Steven Hill  Tim Burriss  **Ambassador**:  Earl Murphy  **Ex-Officio**:  Ken Smith  ***Question***  ***of the Quarter***  Do you know what *PIT Count* means?  **Answer**:  The Point in Time Count (PIT Count) is mandated by HUD and is conducted the last week of January each year. This is when volunteers from various agencies and community go to all and any places where the homeless may be spending the night. This includes the sheltered and unsheltered person. Each person seen is counted and reported. The total count determines money amounts designated for each region based on these numbers.  **OMI Client Services**  **Summary – 2019**  Totals:  Clients Served 249  Men 120  Women &  Children 129  Veterans 17  Men 11  Women 6  Exits w/Employment  89  Men 53  Women 36  Exits w/Housing 89  Men 44  Women 45    Matthew 25:35, 40 (AMP)  vs.3. For I was hungry and you gave Me food. I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink. I was a stranger and you brought Me together with yourselves and welcomed and entertained and lodged Me.  vs.40. And the King will reply to them, Truly I tell you, in so far as you did it for one of the least of these My brethren, you did it for Me. | ***Message from the President – Hamer Carter***  Welcome to the first edition of OMI’s Newsletter. First of all, let me thank each of you for your support during our recent Business Breakfast Fundraiser. Your generosity provided over $26,000 in donations. This will support 1,713 nights of OMI shelter and services for those experiencing homelessness in Lee County. As a “Friend of the Mission”, we want to keep you informed of our successes, our challenges and some facts about homelessness in Lee County.  As we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, our first concern is for the health and safety of our staff and clients. Our current intake policy is that only Lee County clients are eligible to enter our shelters. This allows us to know more about the recent history of potential clients while protecting the current clients in our shelters. We continue to provide our clients with medical/mental health referrals, benefit assistance and job/housing searches. Our Rehousing/ Saving Plan program continues to show great success in preparing our clients for moving into their own stable housing.  OMI welcomes your volunteering, donations and questions. Please visit our website to view volunteer and donation opportunities. God bless you and remember Matthew 25:35-36,40.  ***Note from the Treasurer: Laura Spivey***  Greetings,  Hope you are all positively navigating the financial impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. Outreach Mission is working through this tough time with you and working to keep our clients safe. In spite of the COVID 19 issues, we still have to raise funds to serve our clients. Therefore, we just finished up our first ever “*Virtual Business Breakfast Fundraiser*”. We are so appreciative of those that were able to donate to this fundraiser to help us work towards a more sustainable future. With your help we raised $26,775.55 in funding for sustainability.  If you would like to view the Fundraiser Presentation just go to [www.sanfordoutreachmission.com/breakfast](http://www.sanfordoutreachmission.com/breakfast)  **BECOME A FRIEND**  To become a Friend of the Mission, simply make a monthly donation of $15 or more to Outreach Mission, Inc. Your donation will help us become more financially stable and continue our mission of helping others help themselves. Just $15 per month will keep one person off of the street for one night.  Go to the link below to donate or visit our website:  <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/FriendoftheMission>    In February OMI submitted a grant application to Central Electric Membership Corporation and received $3,000 for operating expenses. OMI was also blessed to be chosen as one of the local charities promoted by Ammons Chiropractic to receive funding from their generous customers, and in March we received $1,600 from that event. We are so appreciative of these organizations for helping us continue to serve those in need in this community. We couldn’t operate without wonderful local organization like CEMC and Ammon’s.  ***Employee Recognition – Paul Tate***  Elder Tate was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut. At an early age his family moved to Greensboro, North Carolina where he spent the majority of his life. As a Child he was raised in the church. He joined the New Light Missionary Baptist church where the Dr. Cardes H. Brown Jr. is his Pastor. Under Pastor Brown, Elder Tate served as a member of the C. H. Brown fellowship choir, the male chorus, and is a Sunday school teacher.  Elder Tate has always known that his life would be in ministry, even outside the church. In 1983 Elder Tate began working at the Greensboro Urban Ministry where he provided shelter for homeless men and women. While working with Urban Ministry, he worked with the Episcopal Servant Center to help the disabled and less fortunate men and women apply for SSI benefits.  God called Elder Tate in 2006 to preach the gospel. After fasting and praying, God led him to John Wesley College where he received a bachelor degree in Bible Theology and a minor in Christian Counseling. Elder Tate has a love and passion for teaching and preaching God’s Word.  “For a little over a year I have been a case manager for OMI and the Pastor of Mt Pisgah Lee Original Free Will Baptist Church. In both capacities I have only one goal and that’s the ministry to Serve! I recognize that we are all broken, and we all have a common need. We must not go into ministry thinking we are people with our lives together seeking to fix broken people. Rather, we minister from a place of brokenness, knowing it is the gospel of Jesus Christ that leads to a lasting hope for restoration and recovery.  When I have free time, I love to read and bowl.”  Elder Tate is continually grateful for his wife, Effie, his two daughters, two sons and 7 grandchildren. His prayer for his family and church family is that we always remember and live by Psalm 20:7 **Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.** Currently Elder Tate is the Pastor of Mt. Pisgah Lee Original Freewill Baptist Church in Sanford.  ***Facts about Homelessness***  **Homelessness in America: Overview of Data and Causes**  The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty currently estimates that each year at least 2.5 to 3.5 million Americans sleep in shelters, transitional housing, and public places not meant for human habitation. At least an additional 7.4 million have lost their own homes and are doubled-up with others due to economic necessity. But data related to homelessness are far from exact. Part of the difficulty is that there are different definitions of homelessness now in use. For example, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban development (HUD) uses a narrow definition largely limited to people living in shelters, in transitional housing and in public places. The U.S. Department of Education (DoE) uses a broader definition that includes families who are doubled-up with others due to economic necessity. Another difficulty concerns methodology. HUD reports annual “Point-in-Time” counts of the “unsheltered” homeless population; however, the methodology used to collect those numbers varies by community and is often deeply flawed. HUD also reports annual counts of the sheltered population; this number varies with shelter capacity, which depends on variables such as available funding.  (information taken <https://nlchp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Homeless_Stats_Fact_Sheet.pdf>)  **CLIENT SUCCESS STORY**  Success for Outreach Mission is for a client to come through our doors, follow the process and end with housing. Success came in another way to a client. I will call him Daniel. Daniel came to the shelter with a lot of medical issues. Due to a major accident Daniel lost a leg. As his case manager, I set Daniel up with appointment at the wound center. Also set him at Limbotics, watching the frustration turn to a smile on Daniel as he realizes he was about to receive a prosthetic leg. With this new leg Daniel stated that he feels human again. That’s is more than successful to me.  **Memorial Day** (previously but now seldom called **Decoration Day**) is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the military personnel who had died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The holiday is now observed on the last Monday of May, having been observed on May 30 from 1868 to 1970.  Many people visit cemeteries and memorials on Memorial Day to honor and mourn those who had died in military service. Many volunteers place an American flag on each grave in national cemeteries.  Memorial Day is considered the unofficial start of summer in the United States,while [Labor Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labor_Day) marks the unofficial start of Autumn on the first Monday of September.  In Flanders fields the poppies blowBetween the crosses, row on row,That mark our place; and in the skyThe larks, still bravely singing, flyScarce heard amid the guns below.  We are the Dead. Short days agoWe lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,Loved and were loved, and now we lieIn Flanders fields.  Take up our quarrel with the foe:To you from failing hands we throwThe torch; be yours to hold it high.If ye break faith with us who dieWe shall not sleep, though poppies grow  In Flanders fields.  by John McCrae, May 1915 |

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| *Disclaimer*: Any omissions or errors can be reported to the Editors. | ***Editors: Marcia Johnson & Claire Hunt*** |