

Salem Presbytery – **Results of Best Practices Survey** from 4/25/2015 meeting

We received 3 responses to our Best Practices survey. I've recorded them below in no particular order:

- ***Alternative Giving Fair***

Each year right after Thanksgiving we hold an alternative giving fair. A variety of displays (for giving in honor of someone) are available as well as a booth from 10,000 villages (Heifer, Presbyterian Medical Benevolence, Allied Churches of Alamance, Presbyterian Mission Projects, Local Springwood benevolences, etc.). We serve a cup of soup and crackers to encourage folks to stay after worship. This provides people a chance to give “gifts that give twice” and benefits missions as well as giving us some community visibility.

Submitted by: Cindy Ingle, inglecyn@aol.com
Springwood PC, Whitsett

- ***Lenten Challenges***

For Lent we set up a series of weekly challenges meant to engage the congregation as a whole in their reflection and Lenten discipline. Each challenge had its own accompanying scripture passage, prayers, and activities. For example, based on the story of Jesus' Gethsemane experience, one week was set aside to replace 30 minutes of TV time with prayer and devotion.

For another week, James proved an inspiration for taking the week not to gossip for talk bad about anyone even in small ways.

For reasons we're yet unpacking, the congregation really got into this and openly and wantonly shared this with each other and beyond the congregation.

Submitted by: David Ealy, david@hawfieldschurch.org
Hawfields PC, Mebane

- ***Food Drives***

For food drives we “expand” the ACC adding Davidson & ASU, but only NC teams and invite people to put food in the box of the team that they support.

Submitted by: Debbie Layman, dlayman@highlandpres.org
Highland PC, WS