

# Canton Presbyterian Gives Back to Community

The members of Canton Presbyterian Church have been raising funds and assisting local service agencies in this time of economic stress. The church's Mission and Outreach Committee and the congregation have decided to enrich the community by giving back in several different areas.



Canton Presbyterian church member and GSC volunteer Edi Cole presents a check to Donda Bennett, executive director of the Good Samaritan Clinic.

On March 14<sup>th</sup> Canton Presbyterian teamed up with First Presbyterian of Waynesville to host a covered dish mission lunch to benefit the new hospice facility. Hospice representatives, Rev. Riley Covin and Craig Summers educated the church about the services that Hospice provides and introduced the layout and photos of the new "Homestead" building.

Hospice offers compassionate care for the terminally ill, their families, and the caregivers. Anyone with a life expectancy of less than six months can benefit from Hospice services, whether at home or in a nursing facility.

In addition to adding the Good Samaritan Clinic to their yearly budget, Canton Presbyterian Church held a yard sale with \$500 of the proceeds going to benefit the clinic. Church member Edi Cole (photographed above) volunteers weekly at the clinic and is happy that her church is able to support the clinic financially.

"It is a joy to work with the patients and staff at GSC. I volunteer during the hours that the clinic hosts a narcotic addiction program. It is good to see patients who are in recovery and making progress." Cole explained.

"Canton Presbyterian Church has been a long-time supporter of the Good Samaritan Clinic." said Donda Bennett, executive director for GSC. "Right now, more than ever before, GSC depends on local churches to add our clinic to their budget. Like any mission the clinic needs funds that they can depend on receiving monthly."

The church was also instrumental in starting the Canton Community Kitchen and remains actively involved with this mission as well. Meals are served 7 days a week from 5:00pm – 6:00pm and food boxes are distributed on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am – 3:00pm.

"Haywood County has come a long way in providing services for its residents. We are very proud to be a part of these services. Everyone can make a difference through donations and teamwork!" said Cole.

Canton Presbyterian Church is located at 190 Main Street and holds Sunday morning services at 11:00am. For more information about the church please call 648-2833.

Additional information about supported services as follows: Hospice Services- 452-8847, the Good Samaritan Clinic of Haywood County – 828-454-5287, [www.gscharwood.org](http://www.gscharwood.org), and the Canton Community Kitchen – 828-648-0014, [www.haywood-coalition.org](http://www.haywood-coalition.org).