

*Thank you for giving to the Mother's Day Offering and sharing the compassion of Christ with patients in times of great need. Your gift makes a lasting difference in their lives — lifting burdens, giving hope, and drawing people closer to Christ in gratitude.*

Please share this Mission Program with any group in your church.

### *How is the Mother's Day Offering used?*

Every dollar of every gift to this benevolent ministry helps pay hospital bills for patients at Baptist Hospital in the name of Jesus Christ.

### *How are patients selected?*

Serious financial need determines who receives help. Financial counselors carefully screen every patient. These patients "fall between the cracks," having too much to qualify for government assistance but not enough to pay their hospital bills.

### *Who decides how much to give?*

A committee of Baptist ministers and laypersons prayerfully evaluates how much assistance to provide. With far more needs than money available, the amount averages from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars per patient.

### *An added gift*

A small portion of the Offering, around 5% as needed, helps support a subsidy for Baptist ministers and their families for care received at Baptist Hospital.

# MISSION PROGRAM

## OPENING THE MEETING

"The compassion of Christ makes all the difference in the world to people living in a world of hurt." Discuss that truth and share examples of how Christ's compassion has made a difference for others — and even in your own life.

## STUDYING THE BIBLE (Luke 13:10-17)

- Ask someone to read Luke 13:10-17. Please see [www.mothersdayoffering.org](http://www.mothersdayoffering.org) for helpful information.
- Imagine yourself as the crippled person. What do you think life was like for this "bent over" woman?
- When Jesus saw her, what do you imagine he was feeling? Contrast his attitude with the ruler of the synagogue. What does Luke teach us about the heart of Jesus toward hurting people?
- What was the woman's response to being healed?

## MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING APPLICATION

The patients and families you touch through the Mother's Day Offering are "bent over" by the burdens of illness and serious financial need. They feel overwhelmed by the pressure and often fear losing everything. They are grateful beyond words when you help pay their hospital bill in the name of Christ's love.

- Put yourself in the shoes of patients and families like the Lancasters and Guys. What would the pressure and fears be like?
- What would you feel if you received the letter they did saying, "Your hospital bill has been paid by compassionate and mission-minded North Carolina Baptists in the name of Jesus Christ and His love"?
- Please show the 2010 Mother's Day Offering video. Free copies can be ordered by contacting Rev. Paul Mullen at Baptist Hospital.

## SHARING THE STORY

- Discuss creative ways to encourage church members to support the Mother's Day Offering. Please see the website for ideas.
- Invite a speaker to share the heartfelt, life-changing gratitude of recipients.

## PRAYING WITH GRATITUDE

- Give thanks to God for His compassion in our times of need. Ask God to bless those who will be helped by the Mother's Day Offering, leading them closer to Christ in gratitude. Pray that people will give generously, knowing that God will bring lasting hope to hurting people through their gifts.



Rev. Paul Mullen  
336-716-3027  
[pmmullen@ufubmc.edu](mailto:pmmullen@ufubmc.edu)