

## 2025 SOTH Director's Yearly Report

Wow! 2025 was a busy year full of ups and downs. I leaned on my faith to weather the challenges and successes. Here we are, looking back on a year at Shepherd of the Hills.

We had several projects that we worked on. Our furnace was replaced in February (being it quit working), central air was installed, new lights/fans in the thrift store, cementing in a few areas outside and the bathroom is in the process of a remodel. Your donations have made all of these repairs/upgrades possible.

Ascension Day service was held at Ceres Church on May 29<sup>th</sup> with 43 people in attendance.

The Back to School event was held August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025. We filled 311 backpacks full of supplies for the area students with referrals. 13 volunteers helped with this event. It is so much fun to see the young kids smile and excited to go back to school. Teenagers, not so much! We held a Dollar General Event that generated a large amount of donations for supplies.

Our Annual Hog Roast was held October 5, 2025. We served 222 people and had 228 take-out meals for a total of 450 meals. We were able to raise just over \$15,000 from that event. Those funds went into the crisis fund that helps people in need with shelter and utilities. That need has increased dramatically this year.

Christmas for Kids was held on December 17 & 18. We had 466 children registered for this event (173 families). 31 various volunteers throughout the days of Dec. 11- 21 dedicated their time in setting up, organizing, taking families through to shop and clean up. There was well over 5,000 items for the families to choose from this year. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, we had 9 youth groups (16 students, 3 pastors and 9 volunteers) from our conference that helped sort and bring down the items from the balcony. All together we had 59 volunteers that made Christmas bright for those families that are less fortunate. Our Dollar General event provided toys to so many people!

Our Crisis Program has aided 81 families with housing and utilities payments. We have distributed just over \$16,000.00 in crisis funds. This has been a very difficult year for so many people and we have tried to help with the needs as much as we could.

The thrift store has had a fascinating year. We have introduced the ½ off sales to the public. I advertise mainly on the radio and Facebook for these events. People are excited and eager to shop. We are now recognized as a thrift store for everyone to shop, not just those in need.

We have partnered with a local organization (RSVP) back in October to help retirees find volunteering opportunities in the area. So far, our volunteers have 876.5 hours at the store and Christmas for Kids. We are proud to be a part of something wonderful in our area and the volunteers are amazing!

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support throughout the year. Your generous donations made all of this possible all year long! We can do great things when we unite together in our mission to help others.

Blessings to you- *Heather Hageman*  
Shepherd of the Hills Director