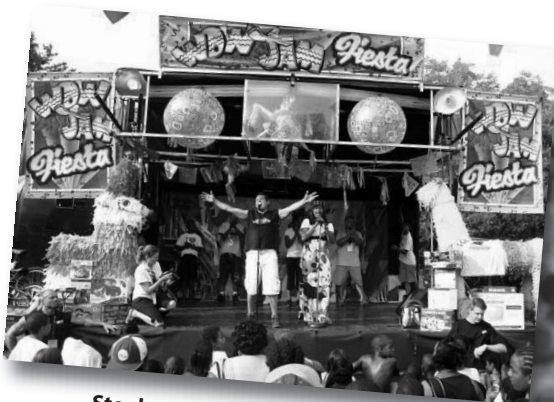


# “WE COULD FEEL THE JOY IN THE AIR!” ...

Those were the words spoken by a man who came to Jesus on Wednesday, and brought his family back on Friday! We just finished an outstanding week of WOW JAMS in Charlotte, NC, with 8,790 people in attendance! The numbers are amazing—78 churches participated, 4,094 hot meals were served, 436 bikes were repaired, 1,000 people had their feet washed, anointed with oil and received new shoes, 35,000 lbs. of groceries were handed out, 2,727 snow cones served, and much more.



Stephen & Linda hitting it hard at the WOW JAM.



Hundreds received Jesus each day.



A new tent called the Book Nook was where little children were read to and then given the book.



The children were reaching out to God with hope and belief in their hearts.



Sierra Tavani spends time with a little baby.



The healing power of the love of Jesus was all over the place.



A little boy who just got saved reads his brand new Bible.



This tent came in handy for the older saints, especially when the temperature hit over 100°.



**Pastor Michelle ministers to the crowd.**

This effort took a lot of hard work. The 78 churches brought out 900 volunteer workers in the hot sun, sometimes reaching over 100° for 4 days. It took a lot of finances—\$166,000 was raised by the local churches, businesses, Foursquare Grants, and people like you who support WOW. It took a lot of

concentrated prayer by intercessory prayer warriors, a lot of planning by City Coordinator, Pastor Michelle Hoverson, Host Pastor Ferrell Lemings, the Steering Committee and others. It takes a lot of follow-up with discipleship classes already set up, phone calls, and visits.

In other words, reaching the lost requires great effort, and *“faith without works is dead.”* (See James 2:26) So what was the result of all of this hard work, prayer, finances and planning? Well, there is another important aspect and that is the supernatural, the mystery of our great God who takes our efforts and transforms lives for eternity. The combination of obedience demonstrated by the Christian community along with the love and power of Jesus resulted in 1,293 people receiving Jesus, and 121 being baptized in the waters of Lake Norman. I received the following report soon after the WOW week from Pastor Michelle:



*“God’s grace was surely upon us and His presence was evident. I wish you could hear all of the testimonies that have been shared with me, such as...*

*... the uniformed airport worker at Charlotte Airport on Monday who saw Stephen going through security and came over and shared how attending the WOW JAM had encouraged his hope.*

*... the mother, who doesn’t let her children out to play in the local neighborhood because of the crime, but did on Thursday, and they all received Christ as their Savior.*

*... the father and husband (mentioned at the beginning of the newsletter) who took a very long walk from the back of the field, hand-in-hand, with a volunteer to the altar to give his life to Christ on Wednesday and then brought his family on Friday so they could all “feel the joy in the air.”*

*... the 10-year-old boy whose mom died when he was 2, and on Friday he not only accepted Christ but “forgave God for taking my mom.”*

*... the man who came up out of the waters of baptism with both arms held high shouting, “I’m free, I’m free!”*

*The stories of how God’s grace and love infected the hearts of thousands keep coming into the church.”*

I would like to, once again, ask for your help in a very needy and desperate area of our country, and that is New Orleans. The need is so great and the window of opportunity is so open for ministry. This quote from the latest People magazine in an article about families trying to get back there, reads: *“Even before Katrina, New Orleans was a city with plenty of rough edges. In the Lower Ninth, more than a third of the children lived below the poverty line, and the crime rate was 10 times higher than New York City.*

*But with all the homes and lives, the roads and jobs, that washed away with the storm, something else crucial was lost: Over half of the cities’ 120 public schools—already ranked among the worst-performing in the nation—were damaged or destroyed.”* I just returned from speaking and meeting with a growing number of pastors and government officials who are working together towards the WOW JAMS there in September.

We are developing a multi-year, comprehensive strategy for reaching the people in that area with the Gospel. This not only includes WOW JAMS where people are fed, given haircuts, offered career counseling and other holistic care but also school assemblies, rallies, meetings to bring together churches, corporations, community organizations, and government officials to help build the city on a solid foundation. We are getting into areas where nobody is going, bringing hope!

The local churches are eager to have WOW JAMS. We have already seen 4,975 people come to Jesus since we started after the hurricane. We need your help now. In a few weeks we will be doing WOW JAMS in New Orleans where thousands will come out, and hundreds will

come to Jesus. The cost will be \$150,000. The local churches have committed to raise \$50,000 towards the next series of WOW JAMS. The owner of the NBA basketball team, the Hornets, has given \$50,000 towards the WOW JAMS. WOW still needs to raise \$50,000. I am asking if you—who have read the great reports and supported us in the past—will consider supporting this great effort to help rebuild a part of our nation on a foundation of Jesus.

This report would not be possible without your prayers, participation, and financial help. Please write to me this month and invest financially in WOW JAM Katrina at the end of September. We can complain about the headlines or we can make the headlines. I say we make them to the Glory of God. Thank you!

Your Urban Missionaries,



**A great ministry, Samaritans Feet, came and washed 1,000 people’s feet, anointed them with oil, and then gave them new shoes. It was a very moving tent with 89 getting saved right there.**

PS: We are going to begin sending the newsletter, and my brief email updates, to those who’d like to receive it online. Join that list by sending in your email address to **info@wowjam.com**. This is much more convenient; it saves money for the ministry; and it keeps you up to date on where your investment is going.