



## Nursing Home Ministry **intergenerational connections.**

Scripture places a high value on caring for the elderly, urging believers to honor, respect, and serve older adults as a reflection of godly character and obedience to His Word.

### Supporting Scripture

"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to **visit orphans and widows** in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world." – James 1:27

"You shall **rise before the gray headed and honor the presence of an old man**, and fear your God: I am the LORD." – *Leviticus 19:32*

"I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; **I was sick and you visited Me**; I was in prison and you came to Me."  
– *Matthew 25:35-36*

"If you extend your soul to the hungry and **satisfy the afflicted soul**, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday." – *Isaiah 58:10*

**North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry**

877.506.2226 | [ncbam.org](http://ncbam.org)

A ministry of Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina





*This Passport features monthly activities that children, youth, and adults can use to bring joy, comfort, and spiritual encouragement to residents in skilled nursing facilities.*

## Additional Online Resources

Enhance your nursing home ministry outreach with free quarterly Bible lesson plans for three age groups: PreK–5, Grades 6–12, and Adults. Designed to complement the monthly activity tips, these lessons explore the biblical call to **honor the aged, minister to the aged, learn from the aged, and witness to the aged.**



### Scan the code

to download free quarterly lesson plans to enhance your nursing home ministry.

As we engage **all generations in honoring and serving older adults**, we not only bless those we minister to—we also **gain wisdom from their experiences** and open the door to **sharing the love of Jesus.**



**TERA MELBER,**  
Baptist Children's  
Homes Advocate  
*Tera is married to  
David Melber, Chief  
Executive Officer of  
Baptist Children's  
Homes of North  
Carolina.*

"When I homeschooled my children, **we regularly visited residents** in a local nursing home. My favorite **memory is of "Miss Camille."** She had **Alzheimer's disease**, and even though she couldn't tell you the date or where she was, **she was always first to remember** a Bible verse or a hymn. It was such a **gift for my kids to see** that because Miss Camille had hidden God's Word in her heart as a child, that **her faith was still there and important** to her.

Another precious memory is of a **lady in a wheelchair** who was **attempting to dance** to some music. **She had tears in her eyes.** We later learned this lady had been a dancer.

These experiences **taught my kids to value life** and realize that no matter a person's age or disability, **they had wisdom, stories, and laughter to share.** Today, as adults, they still place a **high value on intergenerational relationships** in church and in all aspects of their lives."

## New Beginnings JANUARY

### Winter Art

Assist residents to make snow globes (jars, glitter, figurines). End with a devotion on fresh starts (2 Cor. 5:17). *Tip: Encourage gentle interaction!*

### Get-to-Know-You Bingo

Make Bingo cards with fun facts ("Loves apples"). Mingle to match facts. *Tip: Pair with residents for fun communication.*

### Puzzle Party

Complete puzzles with residents. Ask, "Does this remind you of anything?" or "What's your favorite season?" *Tip: Nostalgic scenes spark storytelling.*

## Love in Action FEBRUARY

### Valentines for Residents

Make valentines with uplifting messages; decorate with lace. Deliver with smiles. *Sensitivity Tip: Practice saying "Happy Valentine's Day!" warmly but gently.*

### Love Story Hour

Read love stories or poems aloud. Share heart-shaped bookmarks. *Tip: Invite residents to share their own love stories.*

### Valentine's Dance

Dance with residents or help them enjoy the music. Include a photo booth for memories. *Tip: Teach gentle ways to interact.*

## Growing in Faith MARCH

### Plant & Chat

Plant marigold seeds with residents. Ask about favorite flowers or gardens. Decorate the pots. *Tip: Offer stickers for flair!*

### Youth-Led Worship

Lead familiar hymns or praise songs. Share a simple scripture and help with a watercolor Easter craft. *Tip: Practice projecting voices clearly and cheerfully.*

### St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Teach the Trinity using the shamrock. Make shamrock crafts and offer green snacks. *Tip: Include a small shamrock plant as a take-home.*

## New Life APRIL

### Name That Hymn / Verse Game

Read partial scripture verses or play hymn snippets. Residents guess the rest! *Tip: Cheer for every answer to keep energy high.*

### Prayer & Popcorn

Share prayer requests with residents. Pop popcorn and converse how God answers prayer. *Tip: Provide prayer journals as keepsakes.*

### Butterfly Devotion & Craft

Teach transformation in Christ using the butterfly (2 Cor. 5:17). Create coffee-filter butterflies. *Tip: Decorate a window or hallway with the butterflies.*

## Remembering & Honoring MAY

### Memorial Day Tribute

Honor veterans by singing patriotic songs and recognizing residents' service. *Tip: Share handmade red popples.*

### Photo Memories

Show images from the 1960s–70s and ask residents what they remember about those times. *Tip: Play a "Then & Now" game—match older items to newer versions.*

### Birdwatching Fun

Hang bird feeders near windows. Share bird fun facts. *Tip: Install a video camera on the birdfeeder; connect it to a TV screen in a common area.*

## Playful Fellowship JUNE

### Bubble Fun

Enjoy giant bubble wands outdoors. Provide bubble bottles to residents. *Tip: Pair residents and children for fun and laughter.*

### Game Day

Create stations for games like Balloon Volleyball, Bible Trivia, and Jenga. Residents rotate at their own pace. *Tip: Encourage cheering each other on.*

### Staff Appreciation Bags

Decorate treat bags for staff. Share a devotion on kindness and service (Matt. 25:40). *Tip: Include a "Thank You" poster signed by the group.*

## Freedom & Faith **JULY**

### Scoops & Scriptures

Youth scoop ice cream and share short verses about freedom in Christ. *Tip: Offer a toppings bar—let residents choose!*

### Let Freedom Ring

Help residents create patriotic crafts like flags and stars. Youth offer encouragement and hands-on help. *Tip: Include a short devotion on Galatians 5:1.*

### Patriotic Party

Play classic patriotic songs. Children pass out kazoos and flags. End with a group singalong and watermelon slices. *Tip: Have kids lead a "mini parade" around the room!*

## Songs & Smiles **AUGUST**

### Summer Sing-Along

Lead hymns or oldies. Shake tambourines; wave scarves. *Tip: Let residents request songs.*

### Guess the Baby Pic

Collect famous baby photos (or childhood pics of staff). Children and residents guess who's who. *Tip: Create a "Guess Who" board.*

### Prayer Shawls

Present no-sew fleece lap blankets. Teach the meaning of comfort and God's love (2 Cor. 1:4). *Tip: Include a prayer card with each blanket.*

## Legacy Month **SEPTEMBER**

### Leave a Legacy

Youth interview residents using prompts like "What was your favorite job?" or "What advice would you give your younger self?" *Tip: Write "Legacy Letters" to their families.*

### Christian Coloring

Provide faith-based coloring books and pencils. Share why you love Jesus. *Tip: Display finished pages.*

### Game Time with Youth

Play dominoes, checkers, and other simple games. Focus on fellowship, not winning. *Tip: Prepare Icebreaker questions.*

## Fall Fellowship **OCTOBER**

### World Communion Day

Plan a Communion service with worship music and prayer. *Tip: Provide keepsake communion crosses.*

### Faith-Filled Fall Fest

Host a fall-themed "trunk-or-treat." Decorate stations around Bible stories; dress up and hand out treats. *Tip: Include simple games like "Pin the Fruit on the Tree" (Garden of Eden).*

### Movie Night

Serve popcorn and help residents enjoy a classic film together. *Tip: Let children introduce the movie or share a memory about it.*

## Gratitude & Praise **NOVEMBER**

### Thanksgiving Devotion and Gratitude Tree

Lead a short Thanksgiving devotion. Create a tree with paper leaves—each leaf filled with something a resident is thankful for. *Tip: Hang the "tree" in a hallway.*

### Pumpkin Gospel

Clean out small pumpkins, carve a face for light to shine through, and share how the pumpkin teaches transformation. *Tip: Let youth lead a devotion.*

### People Scavenger Hunt

Prepare "fact cards" ("Find someone who once played an instrument"); mingle to match residents. *Tip: Ask follow-up questions.*

## Christmas Joy **DECEMBER**

### Cards & Carols

Make Christmas cards; sing carols while delivering them. *Tip: Bring small bells or instruments.*

### Cookie Decorating

Decorate cookies with residents. Some will prefer to watch and chat—others may love to create. *Tip: Provide to-go boxes for residents to gift cookies to others.*

### Live Nativity

Reenact the Christmas story in costume. Share the joy of Christ's birth. *Tip: Invite residents to read lines or participate as "witnesses to the manger."*