

## **Packets for Prisoners**

The Christmas Packets for Prisoners project, co-sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and the South Carolina Women's Missionary Union (WMU), was held for the 39<sup>th</sup> consecutive year during the second week of December.

Since 1976, the SBC and WMU have joined together with churches all across the state to make sure the men and women incarcerated in the South Carolina Department of Corrections and the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice get something for Christmas. Many inmates get few visits during the year and very little in the way of gift packages during the holidays.

Volunteers gathered with staff and inmates from SCDC at St. Andrews Baptist Church in Columbia on Monday, December 7, 2015 to unload trucks filled with donations from Baptist Associations from throughout South Carolina. Churches in these associations have been collecting gift donations since early fall. A pre-approved list of items like a pen, a writing tablet and envelopes, tooth brushes and toothpaste, a bar of soap, two rolls of candy and a Christmas card are put in plastic zipper bags and sent to every adult inmate in SCDC's 25 institutions and to all the juveniles in DJJ.

The more than 21,500 gift bags were filled, inspected and shipped on December 8th to prisons throughout South Carolina.





**Thanks again to all those who volunteered and made sure that each inmate gets at least one gift this holiday season!**