



Connie Maxwell
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Greenwood | Mauldin | Florence | Chesterfield | Charleston (future site)
www.ConnieMaxwell.com



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Matthew 19:14

But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

CROSSING *The* THRESHOLD



Happy New Year, Connie Maxwell Dreamers!!

As Connie Maxwell dives boldly into 2024, we pause after completing the third year of our Decade of Dreams strategic plan to recount all the many blessings God has bestowed upon our ministry. 2023 was a time of "**Crossing the Threshold**" into deeper waters and new territory filled with challenges, dreams, and great expectations. Beyond a shadow of a doubt, God once again fulfilled His faithful promise to "do something new" in our midst and give hope and healing to our children and families.

As we glance over our shoulders, we are struck with awe-inspiring wonder at how He intimately orchestrated, with perfect timing, the steps of our journey so much that our only response is to fall on our knees and give thanks. Our hearts are completely filled with gratitude, leading to praise and worship! It's hard to put into words...

This year featured the beginning of **A Campaign: For the Dreams of Children**, a fundraising effort to help fund the many God-sized dreams of our ten-year plan. (You will notice on the chart that a large portion of our revenues are designated Restricted Capital Gifts generated from our campaign activities.) The highlight is announcing a 2.6 million dollar gift to name our new state-of-the-art Healing Center facility — **The McCall Center at Connie Maxwell**. This announcement coincides with our continued work on developing the "inner workings" of this comprehensive, sustainable, holistic trauma program developed by national experts. This is a definitive step in realizing our vision to be "**a national leader in healing and ministry for vulnerable children and families.**"

We also progressed in developing our second priority project — Maxwell Farms. We hosted our 2nd Annual Corn Maze and Bluegrass Concert, which was very successful and created an alternative revenue source to strengthen our budget. Plans continue to construct a brand new amphitheater to host larger-scale concerts and events. Our third priority project, the Charleston Campus, will unveil major announcements in the not-too-distant future. Stay tuned...



Besides these projects in the campaign, we made excellent progress with our Foster Care program, which featured "Thrive" events that hosted hundreds of saints from churches across South Carolina. Our new Director of Church Engagement, Philip Turner, led these stirring and compassionate activities. We are also enjoying the gift of our new pastor, Ed Gidewall, and V.P. of Finance, Steve Edwards. We shared a few tears as we said goodbye to several long-time employees. The Randy and Sandy McManus Walk, recently dedicated, will hold our deepest respect and love from now through eternity.

Beyond these many blessings, several renovations promise to open doors to a brighter and even more promising future. Dunbarton Cottage's renovation by Lowe's (top 100 projects in the nation) and Larry and Jerry Anne Faulkenberry's gracious gifts promise to create a state-of-the-art Visitors Center to house working volunteers and special guests to garner additional support to fuel our dreams further. The MaxFit renovation spotlights yet another sign of the Healing Center's mission to minister to our children's bodies, minds, and spirits. It has become an incredible space of inspiration, and we would love everyone to plan to visit it in the future!!

As we reflect on 2023, let us not forget that all these dreams center around one singular purpose. This year, 12 children chose to follow Christ in baptism, and others on a daily basis are learning from God's Word about the saving power of Christ. Indeed, that is what Connie Maxwell is all about!!

Overall, 2023 has been a "crossing of the threshold" that will surely lead to Watershed moments in the New Year. As always, thank you for your prayers, gifts, and support as we minister to our children and families and make their dreams come true in Jesus' name.

For the Dreams of Children,

DANNY NICHOLSON, PH.D.

PRESIDENT

Our Purpose

Our purpose is to make a child's brightest future possible again.

The kids who come to Connie Maxwell are in the midst of the most painful and confusing times of their lives through no fault of their own. Out of that comes a lack of hope, trust, and faith. We work to restore their faith in family, themselves, and God and all that He can do to make their hopes, dreams, and aspirations for their future possible again.

Our Vision

Our vision is to become a national leader in healing and ministry for vulnerable children and families.

Connie Maxwell has a long history of caring for children and their families and has continued to develop new programs with individualized services that provide stability and Christ-centered support during their time of need.



The Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO) unites more than 200 respected organizations and 850+ church members. CAFO's initiatives inspire and equip Christians to effectively live out the Bible's call to care for orphans and vulnerable children. Member Organizations are required to embody the highest commitment to financial integrity, good governance, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Leadership



DR. DANNY NICHOLSON, II
President



STEVE SHIFLET
Executive Vice President



JAY BOYD
Senior Vice President for
Strategy and Engagement



STEVE EDWARDS
Vice President for
Business Operations



ED GIDEWALL
Senior Pastor of
Connie Maxwell Baptist Church



DEBBIE MCDOWELL
Chief of Staff



SHEILA PRICE
Vice President for Marketing
and Communications



BRAD SETZLER
Vice President for
Human Resources



ERIC TAYLOR
Vice President for Advancement
and Campaign Director

BOARD of TRUSTEES

TERM EXPIRES 2024

Mr. Frank Boulineau III
Mr. Derrick Davenport
Mrs. Dena C. Lucy
Mr. Dan Walters

TERM EXPIRES 2025

Rev. Michael DeCosta
Rev. Mike Moody
Mrs. Roma Muller
Mrs. Pam Sanders
Mr. James Wright

TERM EXPIRES 2026

Mr. Ladson Berry
Rev. David Cline Jr.
Mrs. Janet Cofield
Dr. Ernest Mackins
Mrs. Carol Whitfield

TERM EXPIRES 2027

Mr. Bunyan Cave
Mr. Stewart Cooner
Mr. Phillip C. Rine
Mrs. Sarah F. Traynum
Mr. Brian Whitaker

TERM EXPIRES 2028

Rev. David J. Bennet
Mr. Clark McCrary, III
Mr. Jerry Rentz
Mr. Eddie Thomas



SPIRITUAL *milestones*

Your prayers and gifts allowed several children and Family Care moms at Connie Maxwell to make public displays to follow Christ by being baptized and also allowed our students to attend Christ-centered events.

Thank you for making these stories possible by giving to make our children's dreams come true! Your kindness and generosity allow our children to become the people God created them to be.



15 children and 2 Family Care moms **made the decision to follow Jesus** and were baptized this year.

Sabrina recently reached Phase 3 in our Family Care program and bought a car.

She was also baptized! She shared about her relationship with Christ, her struggles, and Christ's persistence in pursuing her.



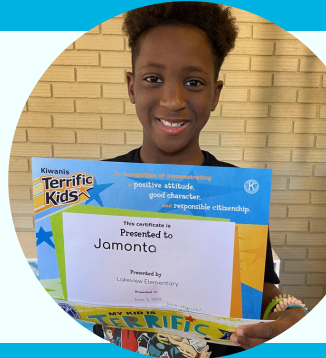
Forty-three of our students, staff, and volunteers attended Fuge Camps, a summer camp organized by LifeWay Christian Ministries.

2023 highlights



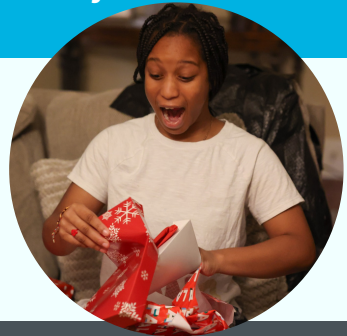
The Waddell family has been fostering in the Upstate for over seven years. Hendrix, "Hank," came into their care at three days old. After almost two years of the adoption process and 707 days of foster care for Hank, **he was adopted by the Waddells.**

Jamonta excelled in school and won the Terrific Kids Award! To achieve the award, students make goals with their teacher on improving their relationships, schoolwork, behavior, and attendance.



Several of our students participated and excelled in school athletics, **including Coco in cross country.**

Makiah couldn't believe she received **the one gift she wanted for Christmas.**



CONNIE MAXWELL CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES EXISTS TO RESTORE THE FAITH, FAMILY, AND FUTURE OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES THROUGH CHRISTIAN SERVICES THAT EMPHASIZE

ministry and healing.



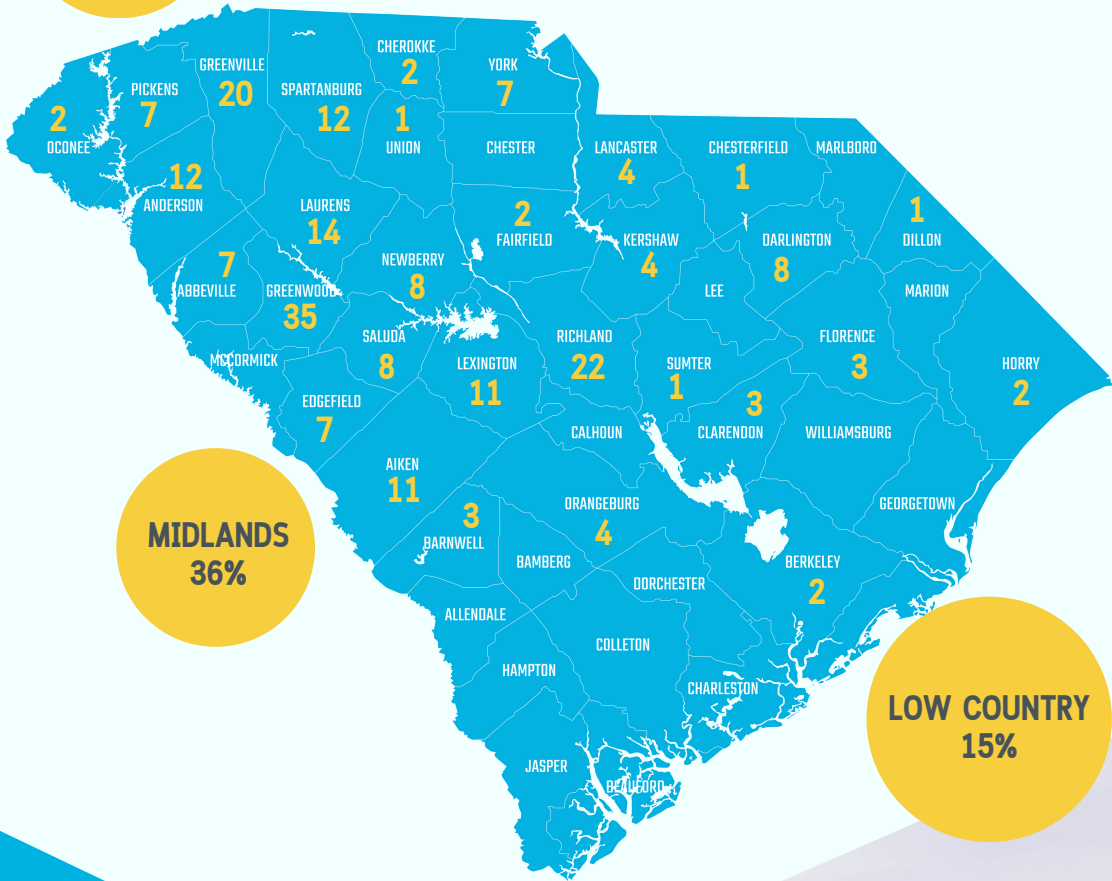
2023

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES *served*

UPSTATE
49%

MIDLANDS
36%

LOW COUNTRY
15%



RACE

- 42% White
- 34% African American
- 1% American Indian
- 1% Asian
- 10% Hispanic
- 12% Multi-Racial



42%
MALE

58%
FEMALE

RESIDENTIAL**103**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVED

27,089

DAYS OF CARE

12,764

HOURS OF ENRICHMENT PROVIDED

761HOURS OF TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT
LIVING TRAINING PROVIDED**CRISIS CARE****35**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVED

2,975

DAYS OF CARE

5,193

HOURS OF ENRICHMENT PROVIDED

FOSTER CARE**42**

LICENSED FOSTER HOMES

58

CHILDREN SERVED

8,120

DAYS OF CARE

FAMILY CARE**34**

SINGLE MOTHERS AND CHILDREN SERVED

5,408

DAYS OF CARE

300VOLUNTEER HOURS BY MOTHERS
IN PROGRAM**7,174**

HOURS OF SCHOOL

TOTAL**230**

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES SERVED

43,592

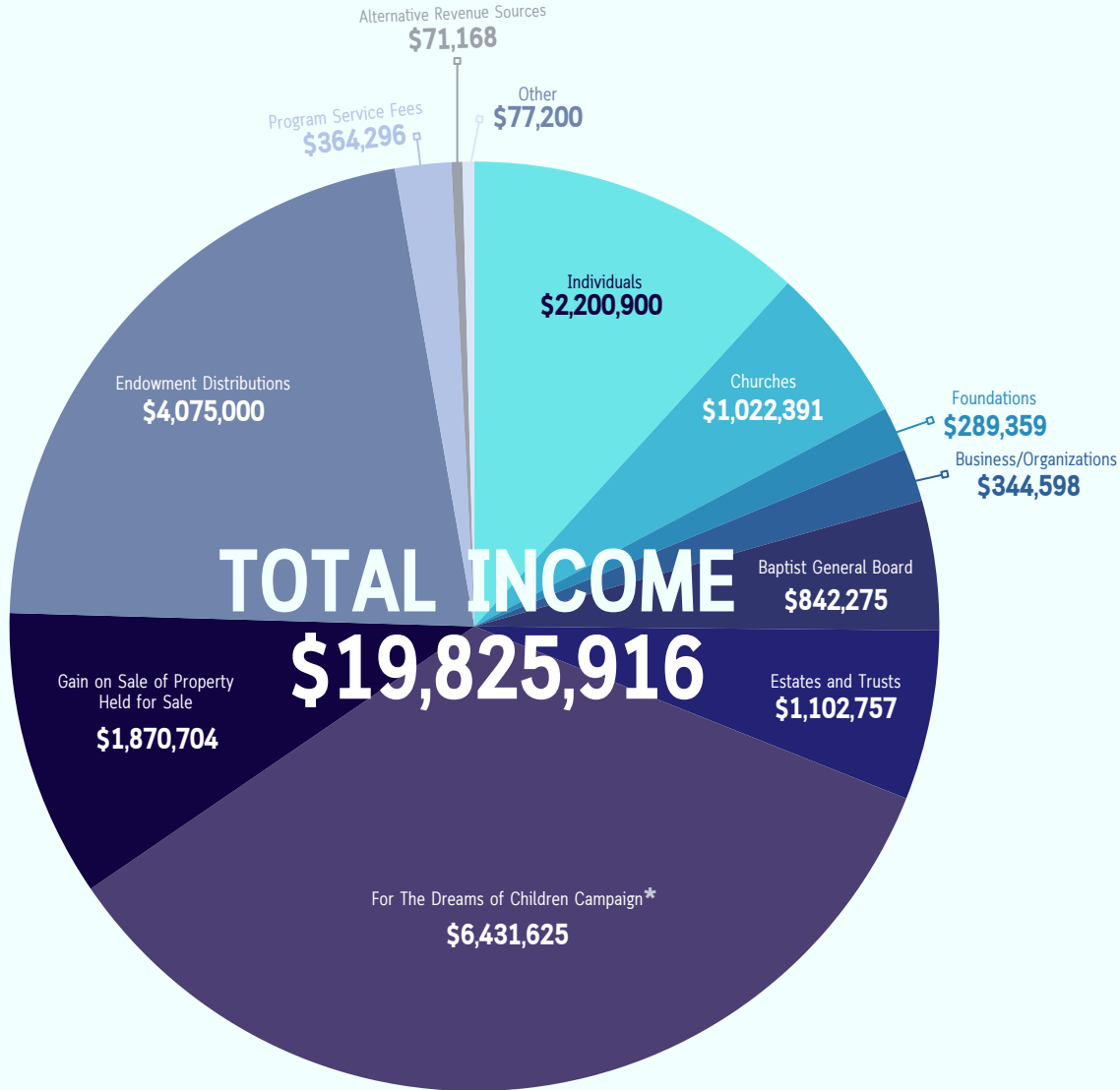
DAYS OF CARE



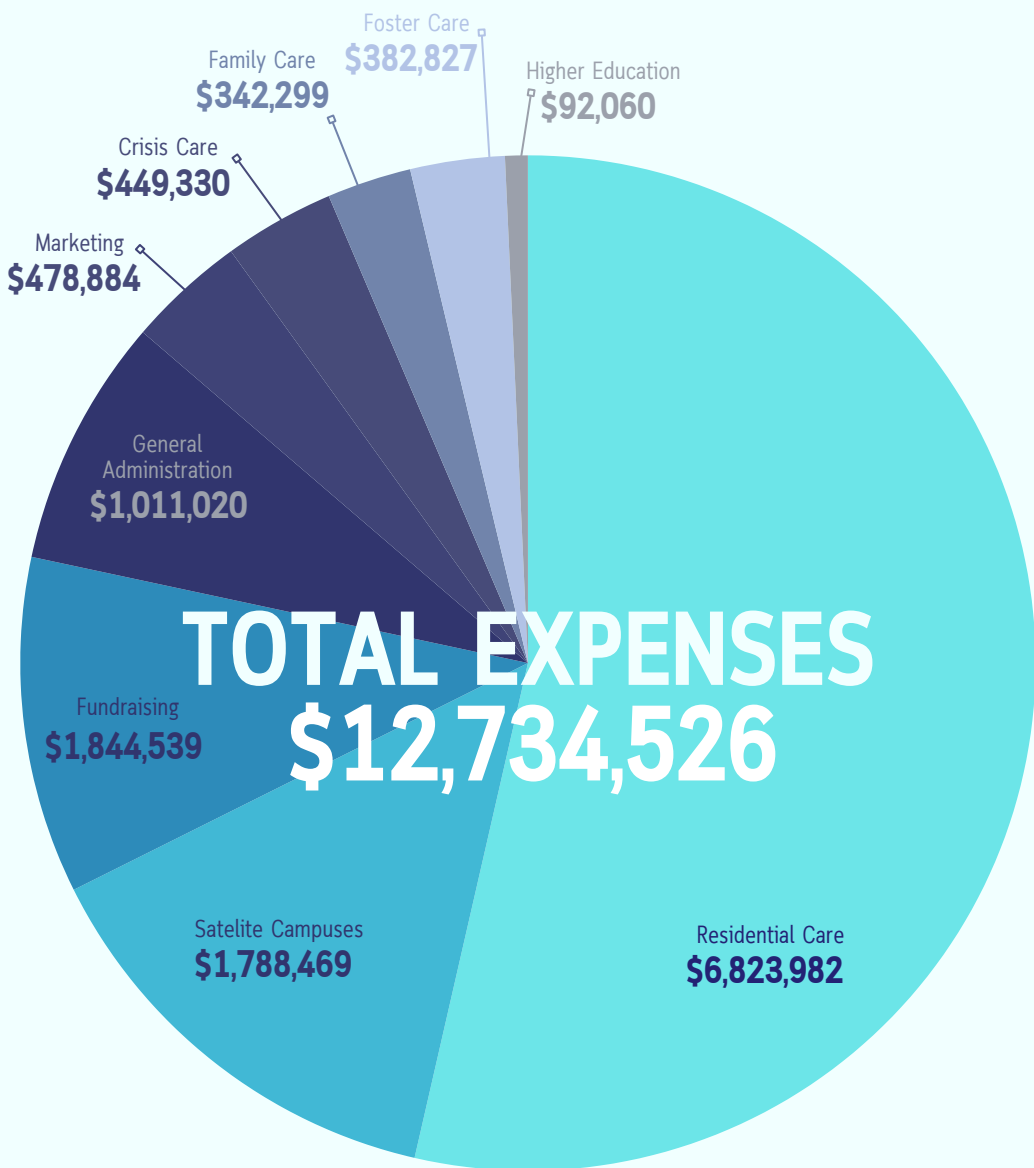
The Council on Accreditation accredits the full continuum of child welfare, behavioral health, and community-based human and social services for children, youth, adults, and families.

FINANCIAL *information*

FISCAL YEAR
10/01/2022 - 9/30/2023



* In 2023, Connie Maxwell began "A Campaign: For the Dreams of Children." A significant portion of the revenue shown above is reserved for future capital projects (designated) and pledge commitments. These gifts are not available to fund operating expenses.



Enhancing Trust

In 2022, Connie Maxwell became accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. ECFA's standards focus on independent board governance, sound financial management, and responsible stewardship and fundraising. The standards set a high bar for organizations—often far above the minimum required by law. Learn more about ECFA's integrity standards for ministries at [ECFA.org](https://www.ecfa.org).

TOP 25 *giving* CHURCHES

New Providence Baptist Church
Cheraw First Baptist Church
North Trident Baptist Church
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Spartanburg First Baptist Church
Harris Baptist Church
Honea Path First Baptist Church
Fort Mill First Baptist Church
Sweetwater Baptist Church
Seacoast Church Mt. Pleasant
St. Johns Baptist Church
First Mount Moriah Baptist Church
Conway First Baptist Church
Central Baptist Church
Norway Baptist Church
Roper Mountain Baptist Church
Evergreen Baptist Church
Asaville Baptist Church
Oakwood Baptist Church
Brushy Creek Baptist Church
South Main Baptist Church
Fish Camp Fellowship
Abbeville First Baptist Church
Westside Baptist Church



CHURCH *highlights*

SPRING VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Earlier this year, Spring Valley Baptist Church in Northeast Columbia highlighted Connie Maxwell on a Sunday morning, thanks to Lead Pastor Blake Jenkins. The congregation responded! As a result, five kids were sponsored by one Sunday school for Christmas Wishes, and another donated wrapping supplies and gift cards.

TAYLORS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Taylors First Baptist Church has been one of the most influential churches in our state for a long time. Lead Pastor Josh Powell allowed Connie Maxwell to be highlighted in each of their three Sunday morning worship services on Sunday, November 12, resulting in numerous conversations and interest in foster care.

MT. AIRY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rob Merritt is the Missions Pastor at Mt. Airy Baptist Church in Easley. He and Mt. Airy sponsored 17 of our children through Christmas Wishes and conducted a day-long camp experience for the kids on campus in December.

MATLOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

Matlock Baptist Church in Jackson has volunteered throughout the year with our younger girls' cottages. This Christmas, they hosted a lunch fundraiser to sponsor one of the cottages for Christmas. They raised \$1,800, which went directly to helping the cottage have a wonderful Christmas!

"I am so thankful for the ministry of Connie Maxwell under the leadership of Danny Nicholson. Their partnership helps us as a church love and care for the most vulnerable in our community. I could not encourage others strongly enough to take advantage of the great resources Connie Maxwell provides."

JOSH POWELL

Lead Pastor at Taylors First Baptist Church



2023 *volunteer* STATS

1,145

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS

9,400

HOURS SERVED

\$253k

**TOTAL VALUE OF
VOLUNTEER LABOR**

871

NEW VOLUNTEERS

Thank you



2023 events

FAULKENBERRY FAMILY CARE HOME GRAND OPENING

On May 4, 2023, we celebrated the grand opening and dedication of the Faulkenberry Family Care Homes.



ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC

Over 200 trustees, supporters, community members, and staff gathered for the annual community picnic in August. President Danny Nicholson shared an update on the progress of the 10-year strategic plan, A Decade of Dreams, and unveiled the new Maxwell Farms logo.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO
WATCH OUR 2023 RECAP!



THRIVE

In September, we hosted two THRIVE foster care events at Lake Murray Baptist Church and Taylors First Baptist Church. The night included food, fellowship, training hours, and an encouraging message for our foster families from keynote speaker Maggie Dunn.



CORN MAZE AND BLUEGRASS CONCERT

In October, we hosted the annual Corn Maze and Blue Grass Concert at Maxwell Farms. The event included food trucks, gem mining, a petting zoo, and lots of fun areas for kids to make memories! The concert featured the Grammy-nominated Appalachian Road Show.



CHRISTMAS

In December, we held our annual Christmas event with wagon rides, a petting zoo, Christmas lights, hot cocoa, a live nativity scene, and special music performances.





Connie Maxwell
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

