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Did you miss me? If you read this, you probably read it regularly, and know that we didn't publish a newsletter last month. Our office, as were many of you, was very busy after Matthew. We did not feel like it was in anyone's best interest to spend our valuable time as well as your resources to publish a newsletter while there were so many needs about us.

Matthew canceled church services, postponed annual meetings, ruined freezers full of food, canceled plans, flooded homes, blew trees over, just to name a few. Matthew also caused neighbor to help neighbor, churches to help others, and aid to come to us from other parts of the country. So I would like to give you some highlights of the disaster response in the area.

Hoffmeyer Road Baptist Church allowed, even while they were dealing with storm damage, their campus to be used to set up the feeding unit from Hebron Baptist Church. There the Hebron unit cooked food for the Red Cross to distribute to shelters and other points across the Pee Dee. The Hebron unit and the other volunteers did an amazing job preparing nearly 8000 meals a day at the high point of distribution. Many local students from our churches and BCM Students from FMU helped in the first few days of tree clearing. Hoffmeyer also housed and fed a Chainsaw Team from Tennessee and Grace housed a team from North Carolina. The chainsaw teams from Harmony Baptist Church in Elgin and from the Kershaw Baptist Association have worked in our area more than any other units. We have also had the opportunity to store and distribute disaster supplies throughout the affected areas of the Pee Dee. The Southside Shower Unit was used at the shelter in Mullins.

On Saturday, November 12, several of our churches participated in a Disciple Now Weekend. On Saturday, we had over 100 local students, some students from North Greenville University, and chaperones, working on 4 different sites clearing trees. Work continues in Johnsonville rebuilding from the storm of last October. North Carolina Baptist Men did an excellent job while they were here but were recalled to work in their own state. Jack McCormick and his wife Sharon are now coordinating the rebuild efforts out of Johnsonville. There is still work to do and we need to step up. Here are some state wide numbers: Ministry Contacts - 1,082, Chaplaincy Contacts - 312, Gospel Presentations - 129, Professions of Faith - 6, Bibles Distributed 208.

Our rescheduled annual meeting was very inspiring. We were able to view a slideshow that highlighted our churches and ministries, have a wonderful worship experience, hear a challenging message from Mark Aderholt, new chief strategist for the SCBC, and officially vote our newest church into membership. New Covenant, which came under watch care last year, is now official. I apologize for the inconvenience of the date for some of you who could not attend.

I want to conclude by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chris

# Cooperative



Florence Baptist Association, December 2016 - January 2017

# Prayer Corner:

Please include the following prayer needs on your prayer lists and in your prayer times.

# Churches without Pastors:

Florence First Northside Chapel Southside

#### New Work:

Hispanic Ministry
New Covenant

## CLC Program

Financial Support
Expansion to Lake
City

#### Good News Clubs!

More volunteers as GNC expands to other School Districts; Financial Assistance

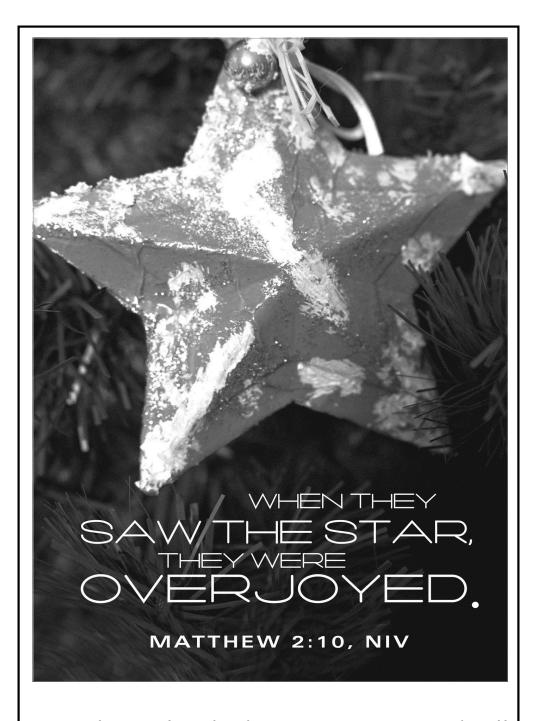
#### Family Promise

Financial Support Families served Vehicles for Families

#### **Partnerships**

Canton Ohio New Brunswick, Canada

2017 Go Tell Conference with Rick Gage



Merry Christmas from the Florence Baptist Associational Staff!

DECEMBER 2016-JANUARY 2017

## **Children's Ministry Day**

February 25, 2017 10:00 am Calvary Baptist Church, Florence

This event is for ALL children. The emphasis this year will be on Disaster Relief. There will be a speaker from Red Cross. The children will prepare some snack bags for disaster relief workers. Churches are asked to bring some of the following items to prepare the snack bags: Gatorade, water, nutrigrain bars, crackers, and fun size candy bars. The children will decorate the snack bags as part of the activities of the morning. The children are asked to bring a stuffed animal and a children's book to give to a child who has been affected by Hurricane Matthew.

# Prayer Boot Camp Basic Training for a Life of Prayer

January 5, 2017 9:00 - 4:00 pm South Carolina Baptist Convention Cost: \$20 (before Dec. 15) \$25 (after Dec. 15)

Recent response to War Room indicates that God is calling His people to prayer, and God's people are responding with a hunger to learn to pray more effectively and strategically.

In an effort to equip God's people and mobilize them for prayer, we're looking for church, ministry, and prayer leaders who are willing to be trained to equip others using Prayer Boot Camps. To register go to www.scbaptist.org/BootCamp. Limited Space Available!

# After Hurricane Matthew - A Christmas Food Drive For Nichols, SC

Sponsored by SC WMU Region IV: Carolina, Chesterfield, Florence, Marion Pee dee, Santee, Southeast, Waccamaw, Welch and Williamsburg Associations.

Please promote the enclosed newsletter insert regarding the upcoming food Drive for Nichols, SC. As noted on insert, *No items of clothing or fur-niture are being accepted at this time.* But the town is very grateful for contributions in the categories listed in the insert. For more information, contact Louanne Stewart at 843.662.5921.

### December 2016

Ministers and Spouse Christmas Social: FBA: 6:30 pm: Cost: \$20 Season of Prayer 5-11 for International Missions Food Items due 14 at FBA Office Distribute Items to Nichols 23-31 Christmas Holidays; FBA Office Closed

## January 2017

New Year's
 Holiday; FBA
 Office Closed
 Prayer Boot Camp
 Training Event;
 SCBC; 9:00 am
 Minister's Conf;
 11:30 am; FBA
 Executive
 Committee Mting;
 11:30; FBA

## February

25 Children's Ministry Day; 10 am; Calvary, Florence

#### **Christmas Holidays!**

The FBA Office will be closed Dec. 23 - Jan. 2 for Christmas Holidays. The office will reopen on Jan. 3, 2017



# DECEMBER 2016-JANUARY 2017

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# We Are Grateful! October Contributions

Church	Oct.	Budget
		YTD
Ariel	.00	785.50
Bethel	.00	400.00
Beulah	.00	4,700.00
Calvary	1,032.58	12,738.03
Calvary, Lake City	.00	1,800.00
Cartersville	.00	2,115.60
College Park	324.25	4,269.65
Coward	50.00	500.00
Ebenezer	770.12	9,988.08
Elim	.00	5,998.23
Evergreen	397.94	4,128.39
Florence 1st	.00	4,197.15
Grace	.00	8,178.57
Greenwood	.00	6,683.58
Hebron	125.00	1,250.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	1,656.30	18,204.79
Immanuel	.00	7,686.48
Kingsburg	.00	800.00
Korean	.00	.00
Lake City First Baptist	.00	6,000.00
Mizpah	.00	918.14
Mt. Zion	600.00	3,236.75
New Covenant	40.00	338.00
New Hope	.00	00.00
Northgate	285.39	2,723.82
Northside Chapel	.00	600.00
Oakdale	.00	2,872.99
Pamplico 1st	.00	7,305.57
Pee Dee Community	.00	400.00
Peniel	.00	900.00
Quinby	159.90	1,916.78
Rehoboth	.00	300.00
Ridgecrest	1,693.44	7,889.97
Sardis	.00	2,587.50
South Florence	.00	4,164.43
Southside	2,189.49	19,264.01
Sparrow Swamp	723.40	7,037.22
Timmonsville 1st	200.00	800.00
Union	.00	4,472.91
Unity	469.23	1,766.06
Willow Creek	91.77	1,055.86
TOTALS	10,808.81	170,974.06

#### Support Associational Missions

Think - -3% Basic 4% Glory 5% Hallelujah

# December Birthdays

2 Rev. Brian Lynn (MY), Calvary, Florence 4 Rev. Stan Sullivan (P), Sparrow Swamp 12 Rev. Bill Greene (P), Hebron 24 Rev. Ray Rogers, retired 26 Rev. Jay Perez (AP), Southside 26 Rev. Landon Reynolds (MM), Calvary, Florence

## December Anniversaries

David (P) & Diana Wike, Ebenezer Ken (P) & Anita Moore, Elim

# January Birthdays

Rev. Mike Mills (P), Calvary, Florence Rev. J. D. Weed (P), Union Rev. Brad White (MY), Southside

# Ganuary Anniversaries Stan (P) & Donna Sullivan, Sparrow Swamp

Stan (P) & Donna Sullivan, Sparrow Swamp
Peter (AP) & Carey Rivera, Immanuel
Mike (P) & Caroline Mills, Calvary, Florence
David (P) & Nancy Cromer, Willow Creek

#### **Around the Association**

**Ministers Conference...**Will be held on Tuesday, January 10th at the FBA Office at 11:30 am. Lunch will be provided for a cost of \$5 per person.

**Executive Committee...**Will be held on Thursday, January 19th at the FBA Office. Lunch will be provided for a cost of \$5 per son and served at 11:30 am. The meeting will begin at 12:00 pm.

**Ebenezer...**Held it's first service in their new Worship Center on Sunday, Nov. 20th. Morning Worship began in the old sanctuary. The group then transitioned to the flagpole for the initial raising of the flags and then into the New Worship Center for a time of dedication, thanksgiving and WORSHOP!

#### \*\*\*\*\*

**Christian Sympathy** is expressed to Rev. Barry Moon, pastor, Pamplico First in the death of his father; Rev. Stan Sullivan, pastor, Sparrow Swamp, in the death of his nephew; and Mrs. Andrea Outlaw, Ministry Assistant, College Park in the death of her husband.