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We are all in the middle of transition. We have transitioned into a new year and now are transitioning into the month of February. Soon we will transition into spring. We have transitioned to a new President of the United States and his Administration. Here in the Florence Baptist Association we have churches that are transitioning with the loss of their pastor and/or the arrival of a new one. Other churches are anticipating transition as their pastor nears retirement or as they have moved into or plan for a new building. Also, we have transition in our personal lives. If all goes as planned, my Mother will be transitioning to the Bethea Baptist Home sometime in the next few weeks.

Transition opens up lots of opportunity, but it is also often met with fear because of the uncertainty. Many live with less than favorable situations in their life for one simple reason, you live with it because it is predictable. Once something new comes along, you just don't know how it will be. But, for the Christ follower, we are not to be as concerned about what will be as much as the one who has the ultimate say in what will be. God's promise is to take the transition and use it for our good, and his glory. We may never fully see how it is for our good, or for his glory, but it is a promise that is always fulfilled. So, if transition has you anxious, troubled, or feeling burdened, "cast all your cares on Him, because He cares for you". Pray that you might not miss the opportunity God has for you to be at work, where He is working, during the times of transition in your life, church, and community.

Let me share with you some opportunities that are coming up in March. These may take some advanced planning on your part, so I don't want you to

miss out. Our North American Mission Board is coordinating a spring work project for college students. This will be held for three weeks at the Johnsonville site. They will arrive on Saturday afternoon and leave our on Thursday mornings, on the weeks of March 4-9, 11-16, and 18-23. We are in need of kitchen help, crew chiefs, and other support staff during all of these weeks. If you have any interest in helping in any of these, pleased contact our office. Also, we will host Disaster Relief Training, March 18, 2017 from 8 am – 4:30 pm at Calvary Baptist Church, 915 Cherokee Road, Florence. If you have never been trained, are previously trained but have not had any training or responded to a disaster in three years, this is a great opportunity.

I am getting our churches grouped together in threes. This is for the purpose of each congregation praying specifically for the other two and whatever other ministry or fellowship opportunities might come from it. I have yet to see a situation yet, where churches praying for each other, has had a negative effect. Press on through whatever transition God has blessed you with!

Chris

Cooperative



Florence Baptist Association, February 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
Peniel
Rehoboth
Union

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

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.

Disaster Relief Training

March 18, 2017 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Calvary Baptist Church Cost: \$50 for new volunteers \$35 for returning volunteers

This event provides training for those interested in meeting needs after a disaster. Classes are offered in the various ministry areas of disaster relief: Assessment of Needs, Introduction to Chaplaincy, Children's Response Teams, Communications, Feeding, Fire Response (ash-out), Chainsaw, Flood Response (mud-out), Rebuild, Shower/Laundry, and Administration. Additionally, an "Introduction to Disaster Relief" class is required of all volunteers. The day of training will include three class times, a general session, and lunch.

BONUS: An optional class session will be available on Friday evening (at no additional charge) for those that register for the Saturday training.

To register go to scbaptist.org and click on Calendar. Then go to March 18 and click. Details will pop up.



FEBRUARY 2017

Chicken Bog for Nichols

February 16, 2017 West Florence Fire Station

Cooks for Christ is planning a benefit for the Town of Nichols on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at the West Florence Fire Station on Pine Needles Road in Florence. Lunch will be served from 11 am to 2 pm and dinner will be served from 4 pm to 7 pm. A bake sale will be held all day. Plates are \$7.00 each and lunch and dinner can be delivered for orders of 7 plates or more. The menu consists of chicken bog, green beans, slaw and bread....and we promise your meal will be DELICIOUS! All donations should be made payable to: Town of Nichols - Disaster Relief Fund. Volunteers are needed on preparation day which is Tuesday, February 14 and on the day of the event. Go to this link to sign up to volunteer https://goo.gl/forms/eFALhR6gr0ftFt7I1.

Helping Florence Flourish

Presents

Tony Evans Oneness Embraced Event

February 16-17, 2017 Florence Civic Center 7:00 pm

This is a FREE event but you need a ticket so you won't have to wait in line at the door. A large crowd is expected so go ahead and get your tickets. Go to www.helpingflorenceflourish.org and click on the link. If you want to go both nights you must get a ticket for both nights.

Clay Shoot Benefit for Good News Club

March 11, 2017 Black River Sporting Clays Kingstree, SC



There will be a Clay Shoot Benefit for Good News Clubs on Saturday, March 11 at Black Creek Sporting Clays in Kingstree, SC. Cost is \$100 per shooter (almost half of that goes to Black Creek Sporting Clays). You can enter as an individual or part of a 3 person team. There will be drawings for 2 Beretta A300 Camouflage 12 Gauge shotguns, as well as door prizes and a silent auction. Drawing tickets will be \$20 each and they are good for both drawings and you do not have to be present to win. You can purchase tickets from the FBA office. Sponsors are also needed for this event. Registration and Sponsor sheets are available online at the FBA website - www.florenceba.org under the events tab!

For more information contact Ron Pruitt, 843.495.3315.

February

Prayer Time for direction for possible crusade; 11:30 am: FBA Office Ministers Conf; FBA; 11:30 am 16 Chicken Bog for Nichols 16-17 Tony Evans Conference 25 Children's Ministry Day; 10 am; Calvary, Florence

March 2017

Closet Ministry; Calvary 5-12 Week of Prayer for North American Missions Ministers Conf.: FBA; 11:30 am 11 CEF Clay Shoot Disaster Relief Training; Calvary

Prayer Time

Feb. 1, 2017 FBA Office 11:30 am

This is a call to prayer for direction for a possible crusade type event. Anvone who feels spiritual awakening is upon us is welcome to attend.



FEBRUARY 2017

We Are Grateful! **December Contributions**

Church	Dec.	Budget YTD
Ariel	61.00	940.50
Bethel	.00	400.00
Beulah	.00	4,700.00
Calvary	1,089.38	15,230.46
Calvary, Lake City	200.00	2,400.00
Cartersville	721.00	2,836.60
College Park	.00	4,269.65
Coward	.00	550.00
Ebenezer	.00	9,988.08
Elim	.00	6,664.70
Evergreen	511.10	5,032.23
Florence 1st	1,814.10	6,011.25
Grace	1,364.21	10,738.36
Greenwood	.00	7,466.99
Hebron	.00	1,375.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	1,833.11	24,041.58
Immanuel	556.10	9,808.87
Kingsburg	.00	800.00
Korean	.00	.00
Lake City First Baptist	.00	6,000.00
Mizpah	92.09	1,108.92
Mt. Zion	.00	3,236.75
New Covenant	40.00	428.00
New Hope	.00	00.00
Northgate	.00	2,993.34
Northside Chapel	.00	1,200.00
Oakdale	836.00	3,708.99
Pamplico 1st	.00	7,305.57
Pee Dee Community	.00	1,300.00
Peniel	300.00	1,200.00
Quinby	.00	2,102.76
Rehoboth	.00	300.00
Ridgecrest	927.78	9,630.27
Sardis	.00	3,450.00
South Florence	.00	4,164.43
Southside	1,758.20	22,938.32
Sparrow Swamp	.00	7,838.88
Timmonsville 1st	.00	800.00
Union	.00	5,725.00
Unity	450.63	2,216.69
Willow Creek	.00	1,149.64
TOTALS	12,554.70	202,051.83

Support Associational Missions

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

February Birthdays

Rev. Bobby Earls (P), Northgate Rev. Dwight Elijah (P) New Covenant

February Anniversaries

- Johnny (P) & Anita McDaniel. Greenwood
- Steece (P) & Julia Hayes, Oakdale

Around the Association

Ministers Conference...Will be held on Tuesday, February 7th at the FBA Office at 11:30 am. Lunch will be provided for a cost of \$5 per person.

Ebenezer...is accepting applications for the director of the Weekday Early Education Ministry. Applications will be accepted Feb. 1-28, 2017 or until filled. Resumes, cover letter, and a minimum of three references should be delivered to Ebenezer Baptist Church Administrator, Dusty Kertis, via email or in person. Send via email to: dustykertis@ebcsc.com. For detailed job description. go to Ebenezer Baptist Church Weekday Ministry Website; http://www.ebcsc.com/#/ children/weekday-preschool.



Christian Sympathy is expressed to Rev. Greg Batchelor, pastor, Hoffmeyer Road, in the death of his father. Please remember this family in your prayers