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Cooperative

Florence Baptist Association, June 2017



Prayer Corner :

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

Churches without Pastors:

*Florence First
Rehoboth
South Florence
Union*

New Work:

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*

Hispanic Ministry

We continue to hear all the reports about the majority of our Southern Baptist Churches being plateaued or declining. What is your reaction to these reports? Here are some of the things I hear: "people just don't go to church like they used to", "I don't know why people won't come to church", "we have tried and tried to get people to come", and others. Many of our churches have suffered through drops in attendance. Often we continue to experience lack of growth for several reasons.

One such reason is our expectations. We somehow expect lost people to have interest in church. Then, if we do get lost people to come, we expect them to behave like "church people". As a rule, I don't go to car shows. I don't have anything against car shows. I am happy that people that like car shows are able to go to car shows. You see I don't much care to walk around and look at cars. For people to be interested in car shows, they need to be in love with cars.

People that are interested in church need to be in love with Jesus. Church can be many things. It is the Body of Christ, the Bride of Christ, a local body of Jesus followers. It can also be perceived as an institution, a country club, a cult, and many other things. We aren't going to get people to the car shows until they fall in love with cars, and we aren't going to get them to be a part of the local body of believers until they fall in love with Jesus. While a car enthusiast would have a hard time trying to get me to go to a car show, a

Jesus follower is dependent of the Spirit of God to draw people to Jesus.

I have been leading a group of pastors through Mark Clifton's book "Reclaiming Glory, Revitalizing Dying Churches". In the success stories of churches that have been able to be revitalized there are some common characteristics. Prayer is the one that is more important than any. Prayer will lead a person that is not engaged in reaching the community to become engaged. Prayer can cause a church that has not previously heard from God concerning how to reach the community, to hear from God concerning reaching the community. Who do we ask to do what we can't do, someone that can do it.

You may have tried and failed. Your congregation might be tired and not very energetic, but remember to ask God to do something that you can't do and ask Him for the energy to do it through you. In one story, a pastor and one member, who showed up to pray, were the beginning of a move of God that revitalized a congregation. Would you be that member that will pray and be led by the Spirit of God to start what will be revitalization?

Looking Forward,

Chris

Lumberton North Carolina Mission Trips

Site Location: Hyde Park Baptist Church
Lumberton, North Carolina

June 29-July 1, 2017

&

July 13-15, 2017

Participation deadline: June 8, 2017

(Background checks must be done for those without valid SC Baptist Disaster Relief Badges)

North Carolina Baptist Disaster Relief responded to us after the great flood of October 2015. NC Baptist men then took the lead in Rebuild SC until Hurricane Matthew forced them back into service in their own state.

The nature of the work is to serve those who have been affected by the recent disaster. The main task is to show the love of Jesus through words and actions. Everyone is watching - homeowners, neighbors, restaurant workers, and the clerk in the grocery store. Remember to pray for these survivors as you work.

Since we are in the rebuild stage, most of the work is construction related. Putting up sheet-rock, finishing sheet-rock, painting, installing windows or doors, building a deck or installing a wheel-chair ramp and clean-up.

Two dates have been scheduled for Long Weekend Mission Trips:

⇒ June 29 - July 1

⇒ July 13 - 15

⇒ Space is reserved for groups of 20 volunteers for each trip

⇒ Must be completed 6th grade to participate

⇒ Only cost is for transportation

⇒ Donations are gladly accepted

⇒ Please let the FBA Office know if you plan to attend by June 8th. Background checks must be done for those without valid SC Baptist Disaster Relief Badges

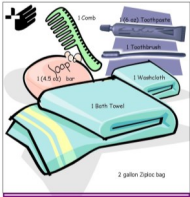
Lodging, showers, and food are provided at the site. You will need to provide your own cost, air mattress and bedding items, towels, washcloths, etc. **Please bring twin size bedding only.** A feeding team will provide a hot breakfast and supper each day.

Please pray for the
Vacation Bible School's listed below.

Calvary, Florence	July 9-14	Mizpah	June 19-22
Ebenezer	June 11-15	Northgate	June 25-29
Elim	June 25- 29	Oakdale	June 11-15
Evergreen	June 25-29	South Florence	July 23-27
Grace	June 11-15	Union	June 12-16
Greenwood	June 11-15	Willow Creek	June 11-15

Ministry Health Kits
Due June 30, 2017

Health Kits are due in the associational office on Friday, June 30th. Please include the following items in a **two gallon zip lock bag**. These will be used with the fair ministry, for the homeless, and other needs.



1 toothpaste (6 oz)	1 washcloth
1 toothbrush	1 bath towel
1 soap (4.5 oz bath size)	1 comb



Take Me Out to the Ball Game
RedWolves Baseball
Faith and Family Night
Monday, July 31st - 7 pm
Group Tickets: \$4 each
Deadline for ordering tickets: July 19th
Contact FBA Office to order tickets.
Checks should be made out to "Florence Redwolves"

"Welcome Back Packs" for FMU

Francis Marion Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) needs your help again this year. They want to give the "Welcome Back Packs" to new students arriving on campus in the fall 2017. This will be the 12th year they have done this and it has proven to be a wonderful way for the BCM students to reach out to other students on campus. It serves as a tool to begin a relationship with students and to invite them to their BCM activities. Don't miss this ministry opportunity! **If you would like to provide packets please put the following items in a quart zip lock bag and bring to the associational office by Monday, August 7.**



1 pack of crackers	2 mechanical pencils
1 pack of pop tarts	1 pack of Tic Tacs or breath savers
1 pack of microwave popcorn	2 packs of gum

June 2017

13-14 Southern Baptist
Convention;
Phoenix, AZ
18 Father's Day
18-23 LifeChangers
28-1 Lumberton, NC
Mission Trip
30 Ministry Health
Kits Due in FBA
Office

July 2017

4 July 4th Holiday;
FBA Office
Closed
13-15 Lumberton, NC
Mission Trip
31 Red Wolves Game;
7 pm

August 2017

7 "Welcome Back
Packs" for FMU
due in FBA
Office.

Save the Dates!

Cardboard Box City!
September 30

Bliss Ball
October 8

Fair
October 10-14

*Christian Sympathy is
expressed to Rev. Greg
Batchelor, Pastor Hoff-
meyer Road Baptist
Church, and his family in
the death of his mother.*

We Are Grateful!
April Contributions

Church	April	Budget YTD
Ariel	80.00	284.00
Bethel	.00	200.00
Beulah	.00	.00
Calvary	1,092.96	5,280.58
Calvary, Lake City	.00	600.00
Cartersville	.00	722.50
College Park	332.25	1,673.87
Coward	50.00	200.00
Ebenezer	1,001.56	4,137.18
Elim	666.47	2,665.88
Evergreen	402.36	1,388.54
Florence 1st	.00	30.98
Grace	888.33	3,833.16
Greenwood	.00	2,423.15
Hebron	125.00	500.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	1,390.65	6,303.65
Immanuel	639.87	2,861.32
Kingsburg	.00	500.00
Korean	.00	.00
Lake City First Baptist	.00	3,000.00
Mizpah	102.56	461.39
Mt. Zion	.00	600.00
New Covenant	.00	220.00
New Hope	.00	75.00
Northgate	383.58	1,368.54
Northside Chapel	.00	.00
Oakdale	.00	1,163.66
Pamplico 1st	.00	2,255.75
Pee Dee Community	.00	.00
Peniel	.00	300.00
Quinby	165.83	785.98
Rehoboth	.00	.00
Ridgecrest	645.92	2,162.61
Sardis	.00	862.50
South Florence	1,474.65	1,474.65
Southside	1,877.01	7,458.50
Sparrow Swamp	710.54	2,885.22
Timmons ville 1st	.00	400.00
Union	.00	1,209.16
Unity	.00	171.90
Willow Creek	.00	548.73

TOTALS 12,029.54 61,008.40

Support Associational Missions

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

June Birthdays

20 Rev. Gerald McCants, (P), Calvary LC
24 Rev. Doyle Jones, retired
30 Rev. John Collins, (P), Grace

June Anniversaries

4 Jerry & Sherry Davis, retired
6 Dave (P) & Jo Ann Bult, Kingsburg
10 Howard & Nel Starks, retired
14 Landon (MM) & Leah Reynolds, Calvary
16 Charles (P) & Marsha Pittman,
Immanuel
19 Nathan (MY) & Ashley Neighbors,
Ebenezer
28 Ray & Joyce Rogers, retired
29 Kendal & Jennifer Danford, BCM

Around the Association

Minister's Conference...Due to the South-
ern Baptist Convention the June Minister's Con-
ference will not be held. The next Minister's
Conference will be held in September.

Ebenezer...Is offering "A Colonial Christmas"
Tour to Williamsburg, VA, Dec. 6-9-2017. The
tour will include a guided tour of Colonial Wil-
liamsburg, guided Christmas Decorating Tour,
guided tour of Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown
Victory Center, plus lots more. Please contact
Harold Watson at 843.540.9921 for more infor-
mation.

Baptist Collegiate Ministry...Kendal Danford,
BCM Director, would like to get contact infor-
mation for the students from our churches who
will be attending Frances Marion University or
Florence Darlington Technical College in the
Fall. Any contact information (cell number, ad-
dress, or email address) would be helpful so
students can be contacted before school starts
in the fall. Information can be emailed to
fmubcm@sc.rr.com.

Southern Baptist Convention

Phoenix, Arizona
Phoenix Convention Center
June 13-14, 2017

