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Happy New Year! I have always loved the New Year, not the celebrations because I am not a night owl, but a clean slate and a fresh start. I have a friend that decided to try to walk, for exercise, every day of the year. As of the middle of November he had been successful, I think he will, and I will ask him in the hopes he has made it. How about you? Have you been one to make New Year's resolutions? Perhaps some of us need to make New Year's Restitutions.

The fitness centers and the YMCA seem to be real busy in January but by March things are back to normal with the regulars from before, and the few that have stuck with it. I have a theory why so many don't stick with it. It is because failure is defined by a single instance or perhaps a string of bad days. We often set the bar high and then when we don't meet our goal or expectations, we are distraught and loose hope, enthusiasm, and the will to see things through, or even to catch a deep breath and just start again.

If we will do this with health concerns and other personal matters, then we would most certainly do it with spiritual matters too. So, as much as spiritual discipline is, don't forget GRACE! "By

grace are you saved through faith...", not by discipline, not by getting it right most of the time, and it is not based on our performance. A little bit of grace will go a long way toward making us feel better about our failing. If you make some life decisions, spiritual and others, and you have a bad day, or even a string of bad days, don't quit. God's grace extends to every part of life and it should be encouragement to keep going, start again, or get back up and dust ourselves off and start again.

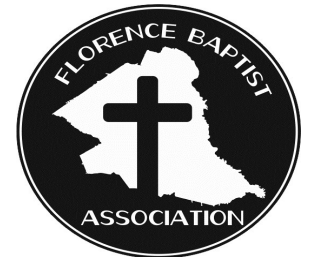
I want to encourage you as individuals, families, and congregations, as go through 2014, allow grace to flow. We will have rough days and tough times but God's grace is sufficient! "Grace, grace, marvelous grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within.... Grace that is greater than all our sin". Here is to a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous, and GRACE filled New Year!

Looking forward,

Chris

Exposure

Florence Baptist Association, January, 2014



Prayer Corner:

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

Churches without Pastors:

Ariel
Greenwood
Hebron
Ridgecrest

New Work:

Hispanic Ministry

CLC Program

Financial Support

Good News Clubs!

Pray as it expands to FSD 2 & 4 and to Darlington School District; Financial Assistance

Family Promise

Financial Support
Host Churches;
Day Center

Partnerships

Akron/Canton Ohio
New Brunswick, Canada

Human Trafficking Task Force

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday - January 16, 2014

7:00 pm

FBA Office

This is an important meeting because the updates and changes in our constitution and bylaws will be voted on as presented at the annual meeting on October 13. If you would like a copy emailed to you for your review, please call the FBA Office.



Prayer Walk

Timmonsville Educational Center

Saturday, January 11, 2014

10:30 am

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month!

"The Cantinera - Cantina Girl"

**Tentatively showing at Julia IV during January 2014
Watch for more information through email!**

"The Cantinera" is a story of a woman who was forced by her mother to drink with men in Latin bars when she was 13 years old. Twenty three years later, she is still drinking thirty beers a night, five nights a week, but longs for sobriety and a second chance.

In this feature documentary, go first hand into the world of human trafficking through hidden cameras and a few brave women who are dedicated to fighting against the growing criminal industry. For more information on the movie go to www.cantineradocumentary.com.

In SC there were 821 total calls to the National Trafficking Resources center and 147 calls to the Tip and Hotline. Human Trafficking is alive and well in SC. What are YOU going to do about it?

KIDS’S WORSHIP WEEKEND!

March 15 & 16, 2014
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Led by:
Jeff Slaughter

Ebenezer Baptist Church Children’s Ministry will host a KID’S WORSHIP WEEKEND on March 15 & 16, 2014. **Jeff Slaughter** will be the worship leader during that weekend! Jeff composed many of LifeWay’s VBS songs. The schedule is Saturday Night Worship 6:00 - 8:00 pm with a dessert social. Sunday Kids Worship at 8:30 - 9:45 am. Both services will be held in the Family Life Center. As a mission project to help their Honduras team provide shoes for boys and girls in Honduras this summer, they are asking each child to bring a pair of new crocs in your size to the worship time on Saturday evening. There will be a special time to bless the shoes and those that will receive them during that service. If your church is interested in bringing a group of children to this event, please call Ebenezer Baptist Church at 669-1802 to register and talk to Andi Hill. Deadline to register is March 3rd.



Empty Pantry
at the
Lighthouse!

Once again, we need your help. The need for food and hygiene items is greater than the supply. In addition to people coming for assistance, our First Friday Homeless Connect Event has placed a tremendous strain on or limited food resources. Some of the churches are regular donors to the party and have been lifesavers many times. But now, our food supply is very low and we have to again ask for your help. Cans with pop-tops are especially needed for homeless people without access to can openers and we are in extreme need of all food groups, but especially protein items, such as canned meats or tuna, peanut butter, etc. Hygiene items are put into Ziploc bags to be given to homeless people the First Friday of each month and we are in dire need of those items. Please keep in mind that homeless people carry all of their belongings with them, so regular, rather than family sizes of shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, etc. are more practical for them.



FBA 2014 Mission Trips

It’s not too early to think about Mission Trips for 2014. We hope to set the date, this month, for two trips to Canada this Summer. Thinking about a church mission trip, how about the Akron/Canton Ohio Area? Please call on your Associational Staff to help you identify possibilities.

Jan. 2014

- 1 New Year's Holiday; FBA Closed
- 7 Associational Council Mtg. 9:00 am
- 7 Ministers Conf. FBA; 11:30 am
- 11 Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- 16 Executive Committee Mtg FBA; 7:00 pm
- 16 Spirit Night for Good News Club at Chick Fil A on Irby Street
- 18 Good News Training; TEC; 8:30 am -12:30 pm
- 30 Pancake Fund raiser Supper for Good News Club at Calvary; 5 - 8 pm

Feb. 2014

- 6 Spirit Night for CLC at Chick-Fil -A on Irby Street
- 12 Regional Tax Seminar; SCBC; 9 am



We Are Grateful!
November Contributions

Church	Nov.	Budget YTD
Ariel	50.00	675.50
Bethel	.00	400.00
Beulah	.00	400.00
Calvary	1,094.22	15,241.33
Calvary, Lake City	.00	1,000.00
Cartersville	.00	2,083.00
College Park	.00	4,699.51
Coward	50.00	550.00
Ebenezer	.00	10,664.39
Elim	2,000.01	7,333.37
Evergreen	200.30	1,780.39
Florence 1st	.00	7,599.98
Grace	442.90	8,634.12
Greenwood	615.45	7,325.00
Hebron	.00	1,000.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	1,224.00	13,584.00
Immanuel	.00	2,548.14
Kingsburg	.00	400.00
Korean	.00	.00
Lake City First Baptist	.00	3,900.00
Mizpah	247.96	3,962.18
Mt. Zion	600.00	2,400.00
New Hope	.00	75.00
Northgate	294.42	3,827.46
Oakdale	256.05	2,861.74
Pamplico 1st	.00	4,913.23
Pee Dee Community	.00	.00
Peniel	.00	900.00
Quinby	.00	1,891.73
Rehoboth	.00	550.00
Ridgecrest	584.97	7,247.82
Sardis	.00	3,449.50
South Florence	.00	3,538.49
Southside	.00	15,756.13
Sparrow Swamp	490.23	7,062.29
Tans Bay	.00	.00
Timmons ville 1st	.00	500.00
Union	.00	4,545.65
Unity	.00	2,310.80
Willow Creek	.00	137.76
TOTALS	8,150.51	155,748.51

Support Associational Missions
Think - -
3% Basic
4% Glory
5% Hallelujah

Happy Birthday

- 6 Rev. Lanier Singleton (P), Hoffmeyer Road
- 6 Rev. Mike Mills (P), Calvary
- 7 Rev. J. D. Weed (P), Union
- 17 Brad White (YM), Southside

Happy Anniversary

- 6 Stan (P) & Donna Sullivan, Sparrow Swamp
- 11 Peter (AP) & Carey River, Immanuel
- 14 Mike (P) & Caroline Mills, Calvary
- 24 David (P) & Nancy Cromer, Willow Creek

Around the Association

Ministers Conference...Next Ministers Conference will be held Tuesday, January 7th at 11:30 am at the FBA Office. A lunch of soup and sandwiches will be provided by the staff of the FBA Office. Please call by Monday, January 6th if you plan to attend.

Grace...Has officially called Billy Leach as Student/Family Minister. Billy has faithfully served Grace as student pastor on a volunteer basis for several years.

2014 Regional Tax Seminar
Feb. 12, 2014
9 am - 3 pm
SCBC
Cost: \$25

This seminar is for Ministers, Church Treasurers, Financial Secretaries Budget and Personnel Committee members and other church leaders. Topics covered will be dealing with Church Tax Issues and dealing with Ministerial Tax Issues. To register online visit www.scbaptist.org/ retirement. For more information call 1.803.227.6171.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to retired pastor Rev. Jerry Aiken and his family in the death of his son.

