

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 1 Noon Florence County Complex on Irby Street (see newsletter for details)

Girls Night Out Artisan Faire

Benefit for Family Promise Thursday, May 8, 2014 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm Highland Park Methodist Church

Tickets are \$10 which covers supper provided by Stefano's and all the shopping time you need. Tickets will be available at the door, or you may pre-buy them at Highland Park Methodist Church, Florence Baptist Association, or Stefano's.

SAVE THE DATE - Mark your calendars now for another fundraising effort for Family Promise – *Cardboard Box City* will be held at West Florence High School on Saturday September 27th. For details go to www.familypromiseofflorence.com.

Family Promise of Florence Update

Family Promise of Florence is continuing to make progress toward opening the network for Florence. Currently 12 host churches have been enlisted to help with this ministry with the necessary amount being 13; although 15 host churches would be ideal! If you are reading about Family Promise for the first time, please visit www.familypromiseofflorence.com for more details on the ministry.

Another factor in opening the Family Promise

network is having a space for the Day Center that will house the Director's office and will host the guests during the day. House of Hope has graciously offered Family Promise the use of a house that is directly behind their building on Darlington Street. The house needs a lot of work, but a church has volunteered to make most of the repairs. This is EXTREMELY exciting!!

The biggest thing that is needed before opening is securing start-up funding in the form of grants. A new board member with grant writing experience has joined the Family Promise board so this will be an asset. This has been a long and laborious task, but encouragement is found in the recent progress. Please keep Family Promise in your prayers and if you can, participate in the two fundraisers previously listed. To make a donation, make your check payable to Family Promise of Florence and mail to PO Box 13021, Florence 29504.

Hygiene Items for South Florence High School

A need has been discovered for South Florence High School. They are in need of hygiene items for their health room. Items needed include deodorant- male and female, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, and *feminine napkins*.

A lot of times the staff ends up buying these products to minister to the students. These items will be collected at the FBA office through the end of August so we will have a good collection for the new school year.

Please bring your items to the FBA office by September 1!

Needs for LifeChangers June 15-20, 2014:

Prayer - Please begin to pray now for the students and leaders that will participate in LifeChangers. Pray for the residents of the homes that will be worked on. Pray for safety on the work site. Pray for the planning process before LC begins. Pray for the selection of homes as we work with the City of Florence.

Evening meals are still needed for Monday, Thursday, and Friday of the week. This is for the entire group.

Lunches are taken to the work site Monday – Friday at 11:30. Groups or churches can adopt a crew for the whole week (which is preferred) or for a few days – whatever works for your group! There is a guide for what needs to be done that can be emailed to you upon request. Only two crews have been adopted at this writing.

Crew Chiefs – this is an adult that has a minimal knowledge of construction issues but relates **WELL** to youth. Construction knowledge is NOT as important as the ability to be able to work with youth and to teach them how to paint, hammer, etc. The purpose of LifeChangers is to let the students do the work which might not be perfect. If you are a perfectionist, this is not the place for you.

Financial Need – This year LifeChangers is \$100 per participate which is the first increase in fees since the beginning in 2003. It is our desire to keep the cost down so LC is financially possible for everyone. Financial donations can be sent to the FBA office and marked for LifeChangers.

"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 2013. This will be the ninth 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 them to the associational office by **Monday, August 4**:

- Pack of crackers
- Pack of Pop tarts
- Microwave popcorn
- 2 mechanical pencils
- Tic Tacs or Breath savers
- 2 packs of gum



The Joseph Project is the new name for our FBA Human Trafficking Task Force. The general consensus of the group was that we need to reach beyond the Baptist realm because of the seriousness and scope of the human trafficking issue. If you are on Facebook be sure to "like" The Joseph Project page. The Joseph Project exists to raise awareness of the Human Trafficking industry worldwide and in South Carolina by educating and equipping individuals to recognize and fight human trafficking. Human trafficking exists in the form of labor trafficking, child labor, and sex trafficking. Knowledge empowers people to make a difference in the lives of victims.

Trafficking is such an overwhelming issue that it is extremely hard to "put a handle" on what one can actually do to help. The Joseph Project put address labels with the trafficking hot line information on bars of soap at one of the local motels during the Darlington race weekend. They are also working with FSD1 to get permission to incorporate "Chosen" in the middle school sex education materials.

The Joseph Project needs YOUR HELP!! Lamar Advertising has agreed to waive the rental fee and to provide public service billboards on the way to the beach with the Sex Trafficking hotline number on them. The vinyl for each billboard is

around \$680 and they will last around two years. There is no budgeted money for this



project so we are asking individuals, churches, youth groups, men's groups, mission groups, etc. to host a fundraiser and donate that money to The Joseph Project so the billboards can become a reality. Your donations can change the lives of women trapped in the horrible world of sex trafficking!!

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SAVE THE DATE! Fair Ministry October 14-18, 2014 (Dates are subject to change if we get more days.)