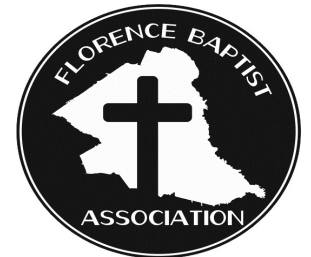


Florence Baptist Association
2208 Pamplico Highway
Florence, SC 29505-6828
843-662-5921
fbaconnie@sc.rr.com
lgs5155@aol.com
fbachris@gmail.com
www.florenceba.org
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Exposure

Florence Baptist Association, July 2014



I am writing this article during a break in the first month of a very busy summer. LifeChangers has been in full swing this week with blazing heat and some great Youth, Adult Chaperones, and Crew Leaders. I want to thank Calvary for hosting, the churches that provided meals, as well as the worship leaders and Cleve Calcutt for doing the preaching. I enjoyed being on the roof with a crew for three days, as strange as that may sound.

I was able to attend the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Leaders and the Southern Baptist Convention in Baltimore June 6- 11. The conference has been a good opportunity for me to educate myself and draw from the years of experience of other Associational Leaders. It is also a great opportunity to hear from other leaders within our convention.

We were able to hear from Ed Stetzer who oversees all activities of the LifeWay Insights division, including LifeWay Research, Corporate Communications and Ministry Development. I would like to share briefly some of what he shared with us. Protestant Christians are no longer in the majority in America. Even so, the number of "Convictional Christians" has remained steady since the 1970's. When we look at our culture it seems as if we are constantly losing ground because of the direction of the culture around us. Here is his explanation: We typically have had, in the United States, about 25% non-Christian, 25% cultural or nominal Christian, 25% congregational Christian, and 25% convictional Christian. Southern Baptist

would fall into the convictional category as a denomination even though not every member of a SBC church would be a convictional Christian. A convictional Christian lives out their convictions, because of the Word of God, and a relationship with Christ. A congregational Christian would be attached to a denomination and not live out their life with Biblical conviction. A Cultural Christian just claims Christianity and might go to church on Christmas and Easter.

Here is why we are losing ground in our culture. The 50% in the middle are no longer siding with the church, but are taking the side of the non-Christians. This is evidenced by the acceptance of things that a few years ago were taboo. He describes the church as being in a great harvest with an unengaged labor force. So what does this look like in the coming years? Those churches that understand and are prepared for this shift will survive and be stronger. Those that don't will not survive. Church membership will decrease as the nominal Christians die out, but should be more involved as those that come into the church will be more committed.

So in his thoughts, we have the positive of a stronger church and the negative of a church with less cultural influence. As time moves on it will be increasingly hard to live with a cultural or congregational type of Christianity. The harvest is plentiful, be and pray for an engaged work force!

Looking forward, Chris

Prayer Corner:

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

Churches without Pastors:

*Ariel
Greenwood
Ridgecrest*

New Work: Hispanic Ministry

CLC Program Financial Support

Good News Clubs!
*Pray as it expands to FSD 2
and to Darlington School District;
Financial Assistance*

Family Promise Financial Support Host Churches;

***Partnerships
Akron/Canton Ohio
New Brunswick,
Canada***

Joseph Project

Worship and Praise With Robin Mark

**Northern Ireland's premier singer, songwriter, and worship leader
Author of "Days of Elijah," "Revival," and "All for Jesus"**



General Admission Tickets — \$15.00

For tickets call 843 662-5921 or 843 229-3410

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**Also available at Florence Lifeway Christian Store or
Pee Dee Christian Book and Supply, Florence**

Sponsored by Calvary and Sparrow Swamp Baptist Churches

In association with the

**Christian Learning Centers of Florence County
For more information go to www.florenceclc.org**

Associational Sunday School Training Event

August 24, 2014

6:00 pm

Florence First Baptist

Guest Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Hemphill
Author of "Revitalizing a Sunday Morning Dinosaur"
and

Director of the Center for Church Planting
and Revitalization At North Greenville University



Summer Bible Conference

Grace Baptist Church

Bringing Encouragement, Inspiration, and Challenge through the Word of God

Monday, August 4 - Alex McFarland

Director of the Center for Christian Worldview and
Apologetics at North Greenville University

Monday, August 11 - Bill Cox

Director of Concoctions Ministries, Spartanburg

Monday, August 18 - Reggie McNeal

Missional Leadership Specialist for Leadership Network of Dallas, TX

Monday, August 25 - Ken Hemphill

Director of the Center for Church Planting and
Revitalization at North Greenville University



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

Cartersville	July 7-10
Grace	July 6-10
Mizpah	July 27-31
Pamplico First	July 27-31
Sardis	July 13-17

July 2014

3-4 July 4th
Holiday; FBA
Office Closed
12-18 Ohio Mission
Trip
24 Executive
Committee
Meeting; FBA;
7 pm
7-25 - Canada Mission
8-2 Trip
28 Red Wolves
Faith & Family
Night

August 2014

4 FMU Welcome
Back Packs Due
in FBA Office
18 FSD1 Students
Begin
21 GNC Training;
Church of
Sandhurst;
6:30 pm
23 GNC Training
Kelleytown
Baptist Church
Hartsville;
8:30 am
24 Associational
Sunday School
Training Event;
Florence First;
6 pm

The FBA Office will
be closed Thurs-
day July 3rd and
Friday July 4th in
observance of the
July 4th holiday.



We Are Grateful!
May Contributions

Church	May	Budget YTD
Ariel	65.00	344.00
Bethel	.00	200.00
Beulah	.00	1,200.00
Calvary	1,333.96	6,148.93
Calvary, Lake City	100.00	500.00
Cartersville	.00	639.00
College Park	504.05	2,652.76
Coward	50.00	250.00
Ebenezer	.00	1,853.45
Elim	666.47	3,332.55
Evergreen	.00	1,451.40
Florence 1st	.00	1,245.19
Grace	542.68	2,830.05
Greenwood	608.73	3,648.57
Hebron	100.00	500.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	1,110.00	5,218.00
Immanuel	574.12	1,103.41
Kingsburg	.00	400.00
Korean	100.00	250.00
Lake City First Baptist	.00	2,600.00
Mizpah	51.39	575.67
Mt. Zion	.00	1,200.00
New Hope	.00	00.00
Northgate	227.13	1,634.73
Oakdale	317.28	1,430.26
Pamplico 1st	.00	3,330.55
Pee Dee Community	.00	100.00
Peniel	.00	300.00
Quinby	353.77	912.34
Rehoboth	.00	275.00
Ridgecrest	1,138.48	2,348.78
Sardis	862.50	1,725.00
South Florence	448.27	2,023.82
Southside	4,434.64	9,925.12
Sparrow Swamp	639.51	3,321.22
Tans Bay	.00	.00
Timmonsville 1st	.00	250.00
Union	1,408.59	2,870.94
Unity	208.20	1,200.65
Willow Creek	204.50	1,575.09
TOTALS	16,049.27	71,366.48

Support Associational Missions

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

Happy Birthday

11 Rev. Bo Treadway (P) New Hope
25 Rev. Charles Larrimore (P), Unity
28 Rev. Peter Rivera (AP), Immanuel

Happy Anniversary

2 Doyle & Mary Frances Jones, retired
5 James (P) & Doris Brown, Rise & Live
7 Daniel & Fonda Inabinet, Florence First
11 Cleve (AP) & Vaughn Calcutt,
Greenwood
14 Ed (MM) & Julie Self, Ebenezer
22 Darryl (P) & Beth Davids, Quinby
27 Burton (P) & Suzette Welsh, Sardis
27 Rex (MM) & Becky Hunter, Florence
First
30 Eddie (AP) & Louanne Stewart, Calvary
Florence/FBA
31 Bob (P) & Debbie Dockery, Mt. Zion
31 Shane (P) & Martha Patrick, Lake City
First
31 Bobby (P) & Penny Earls, Northgate

Around the Association

Lake City First...Due to their recent strong rec-
ord of giving, has been able to pay the balance
of their church loans making their church debt
free! May God, from whom all blessing flow,
continue to be praised and glorified in all that we
give and do in His name!

Iglesia Bautista Alianza...Congratulations to
Mrs. Irma Carter, for becoming an American
Citizen. She took the Oath of American Citizen-
ship on May 12, 2014 in Charleston, SC.

Many Thanks...On June 27, 2014, I celebrated
twenty years of service as the Florence Baptist
Association Ministry Assistant. I want to thank
you for the gracious monetary gift and for the
extra vacation days. David and I plan to use this
gift to travel to see our son and his family in the
fall. Thank you again for all the love and sup-
port you have shown my family during these
past 20 years and I look forward to what God
has planned for our association in the future.

Connie George, FBA Ministry Assistant.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to Rev. and
Mrs. David George, Cartersville, in the death of
his sister.

