

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
Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Florence, S.C.
Permit No. 34

Cooperative

Florence Baptist Association, March 2015



Here is where I left off last month: So what now? This seems to be the question we constantly ask about the congregations, associations, and conventions that we are a part of. How do we cooperate?

Allow Pastors to lead / Pastors you lead

I believe it is hard to expect cooperation on a larger scale if we don't cultivate it in our local churches. Our denomination is different in that the Southern Baptist Convention is at the bottom of our structure, with the local church being at the top. Because each church is autonomous, and because all of our affiliations are voluntary, we don't have a Bishop or Board, handing down mandates. Our churches differ in areas of practice and policy, but have a core of shared beliefs/doctrines.

Some churches are stuck in an old model that seemed to have developed in the days where many churches had to depend greatly on lay leadership for decision making. Often they had a "preacher" that lived outside of the community and was only there on Sundays, or sometimes every other Sunday. Where there is a struggle for leadership between the pastor and lay leaders, there is a lack of cooperation. Churches "call" a pastor and he is never hired. He is called of God to lead and serve a local body of believers. Problems often arise when the Pastor is hired

and then told how to lead the church. If the church has been seeking God in the process and calls a pastor, God has lead them to, let him lead. The deacons, church council, and other official or unofficial groups need not hinder leadership but serve as those who work with the pastor keeping everyone accountable to the vision/direction of the church.

There are occasions where the pastor fails to lead. This can come through several scenarios. Sometimes the pastor is not a natural leader, or may be a reluctant leader. This can be corrected as the pastor can secure a mentor, learn from Godly persons in the church, and most importantly seek God's help and direction. There are times when a pastor has been "burned" before. He might have tried to lead only being shut off by leaders in the church. A pastor could in this case fail to lead out of a fear for his security as pastor and all the related problems of being asked to leave a church. Just as a church has to trust the call and the God who orchestrated it, a pastor must also remember that the Lord called him there and is able to keep him in His perfect will. In short, churches allow pastors to lead and pastors lead!

Looking Forward, Chris

Prayer Corner:

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

Churches without Pastors:
*Hoffmeyer Road
Quinby*

New Work:
Hispanic Ministry

CLC Program
Financial Support

Good News Clubs!
MORE volunteers as GNC expands to Darlington School District; Financial Assistance

Family Promise
Financial Support

Partnerships
*Akron/Canton Ohio
New Brunswick,
Canada*

Joseph Project

Spring WMU Meeting and Church Missions Fair

March 30, 2014
Evergreen Baptist Church
6:00 pm - meal
7:00 pm - Church Missions Fair

The Florence Baptist Association Spring WMU Meeting will be held at Evergreen Baptist Church on March 30th with supper starting at 6:30 pm. Please call Evergreen Baptist at 662-1020 by March 27 with a total of who from your church will be eating supper.

Churches are asked to prepare a table showing what their church is doing to reach the lost. The table can be simple or as creative as you would like to make them.

Items will be collected for Whosoever Community Church. They provide daily meals, and a place to shower and stay warm for the homeless people in our community.

Items Needed for Whosoever Community Church: Rice, dry beans, pasta, peanut butter, jelly, paper towels, toilet paper, large black trash bags, shampoo, hand soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, wash cloths, towels, blankets, hats, gloves. Can also use frozen meat.

Spring Inspirational Meeting and

Ohio Partnership Promotion

Drew Carroll, Pastor of Aurora First Baptist Church in Ohio
Speaker for the evening
Sunday, April 26, 2015
6:00 pm
Greenwood Baptist Church

We would like to have as many churches as possible worship together for this special service. Drew is the pastor in Ohio who is helping to coordinate our missions trips to Ohio. Drew will also be with us for the Minister's Conference on Tuesday, April 28 at 11:30 am.

“GO!” D-Now Weekend for Youth

March 20-22, 2015

Calvary Baptist Church

Cost—\$35 per person

Speaker - Chris Renfro

Deadline to sign up is March 8!

Send registration and money to:

FBA, 2208 Pamplico Hwy., 29505

For more information contact Billy Leach at 687.0209

Ministry Health Kits
Due April 30, 2015

Health Kits are due in the associational office on Thursday, April 30th.
Please include the following items in a two gallon zip lock bag.

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

March 2015

- 1-8 Week of Prayer
for North
American
Missions
- 3 Minister's
Conference;
FBA; 11:30 AM
- 5 Pancake Supper
for Good News
Club; Palmetto
St. Church of
God; 5-8 pm
- 7 Disaster Relief
Regional Trning.
Hoffmeyer Road
- 20-22 "GO!" D-Now
Weekend for
Youth; Calvary;
- 26 CEF Spirit
Night at Chick
Fil A
- 30 WMU Spring
Meeting;
Evergreen

April 2015

- 3 Good Friday;
FBA Closed
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 9 Associational
Council Mtg;
FBA; 9 am
- 14 Executive
Committee Mtg;
FBA; 7 pm
- 26 Spring
Inspirational
Meeting; 6 pm
Greenwood;
- 28 Ministers Conf;
FBA; 11:30 am
- 30 Ministry Health
Kits due in FBA
Office

Christian Sympathy is
expressed to Rev. and Mrs.
Bryan Chapman and family
in the death of his father.

We Are Grateful!
Jan. Contributions

Church	Jan.	Budget YTD
Ariel	68.00	68.00
Bethel	.00	.00
Beulah	.00	.00
Calvary	1,713.41	1,713.41
Calvary, Lake City	.00	.00
Cartersville	.00	.00
College Park	700.76	700.76
Coward	50.00	50.00
Ebenezer	.00	.00
Elim	666.47	666.47
Evergreen	.00	.00
Florence 1st	235.92	235.92
Grace	869.97	869.97
Greenwood	744.86	744.86
Hebron	125.00	125.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	.00	.00
Immanuel	.00	.00
Kingsburg	300.00	300.00
Korean	.00	.00
Lake City First Baptist	.00	.00
Mizpah	70.89	70.89
Mt. Zion	.00	.00
New Hope	.00	00.00
Northgate	.00	.00
Oakdale	393.63	393.63
Pamplico 1st	1,551.75	1,551.75
Pee Dee Community	.00	.00
Peniel	.00	.00
Quinby	.00	.00
Rehoboth	.00	.00
Ridgecrest	.00	.00
Sardis	.00	.00
South Florence	1,868.69	1,868.69
Southside	2,331.22	2,331.22
Sparrow Swamp	710.08	710.08
Tans Bay	.00	.00
Timmonsville 1st	.00	.00
Union	.00	.00
Unity	.00	.00
Willow Creek	.00	.00
TOTALS	12,400.65	12,400.65

Support Associational Missions

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

March Birthdays

- 10 Rev. Howard Starks, retired
- 13 Rev. Howard Allen (P), South Florence
- 20 Rev. Shane Patrick (P), Lake City

March Anniversaries

- 20 Burl & Teresa (CM) Godwin, Southside
- 21 David (P) & Connie George, Cartersville
- 22 Gerald and Frances McKay, retired

Around the Association

Ministers Conference....We are pleased to announce that we will have Dr. Terry A Branscombe a Church Planter and Leadership Consultant in Riverview, New Brunswick. He has also served with NAMB. Chris first met Terry during his first trip to New Brunswick back in August of 2012. He is heavily involved in church planting and support in New Brunswick while planting “The Refuge” church. He will be at our next Ministers Conference on March 3rd at 11:30 am. Cost of meal is \$5 per person. Please call or email the FBA if you plan to attend. We are looking forward to being able to hear from him as it relates to our current partnership and future involvements in New Brunswick, Canada.

The April Ministers Conference will be held on Tuesday. April 28th. Rev. Drew Carroll, Pastor of Aurora First Baptist Church in Ohio will be present for this meeting.

Evergreen...Licensed Tim Bill to preach on February 15th. Tim is the Youth and Children’s pastor at Evergreen Baptist and has surrendered to the work of the ministry after a three year searching for God’s direction. He is available to preach at other churches as his schedule permits, and is an excellent speaker. Tim is enrolled in Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte, through their online program.

As you notice a few changes in the newsletter, let me make this disclaimer. We typically mail out over 800 newsletters. In the electronic world we live in, less & less is delivered in print. We hope to continue this tread by cutting back on the number of newsletter we mail and increasing the number we email. If you are getting this in print and would be willing to have it emailed to you, please call the office and let us know so that we might change you from the mailing list to the email list.



South Carolina Baptist
Disaster Relief Training
March 7, 2015

Hoffmeyer Road Baptist Church
2317 Hoffmeyer Road
Florence, SC

This is an opportunity to get started in Disaster Relief, being your training up to date, or continue your training. Cost is \$40 for a new volunteer and \$35 for a returning volunteer. You may register on line through www.scbaptist.org. We have feeding and shower units in the FBA, so if you are thinking about what to train in, consider these.



