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Cooperative

Florence Baptist Association, April 2015



Last month I wrote about Pastors being allowed to lead and Pastors leading, as a part of the cooperation theme I began at the beginning of the year. Now the next topic I mentioned, way back then, was: "Have Godly men and women in leadership".

While some have differing opinions about how things should be accomplished, we should not be differing about what should be accomplished. The church is the "Body of Christ" and the "Bride of Christ" and a body and a bride are both very active. The purpose of the church is to go and make disciples, baptizing and teaching. We also worship together and pray. To focus on any one of these, to the detriment of the others, is a mistake, and it provides a very good opportunity to lack cooperation. So how do congregations avoid this?

Godly leaders are the key to cooperation. When congregations elect Deacons and other leaders based on: social and economic status, education, reputation in the community, leadership ability, and other non-Biblical criteria, they may tend to make decisions based on the same non-Biblical criteria. Now if God is leading the leaders, in the decisions that are made, the leaders are going to be in agreement. It might not come im-

mediately, quickly, or without compromise on the part of some, but agreement will come.

Godly men and women can always look beyond what seems to be the sensible, right, prudent, easy, or safe, thing to do; and see what God wants to do. Remember to elect or appoint, allow, and encourage Godly leaders if you want Godly results. The church is no place for our own agendas; this includes pastors, staff, deacons, teachers, ministry leaders, or even nursery workers. We all need to be reminded, from time to time, that our call is to: take up our cross, come and die, serve, extend mercy and grace to others, as we go and make disciples.

Godly leaders without agendas are the key to cooperation. Cooperation is not so much about us learning to work together as it is continuing to hear the voice of God!

I wish you all a very meaningful and joyous celebration of the RESURRECTION!

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
Director Search*

Partnerships
*Akron/Canton Ohio
New Brunswick,
Canada*

Joseph Project

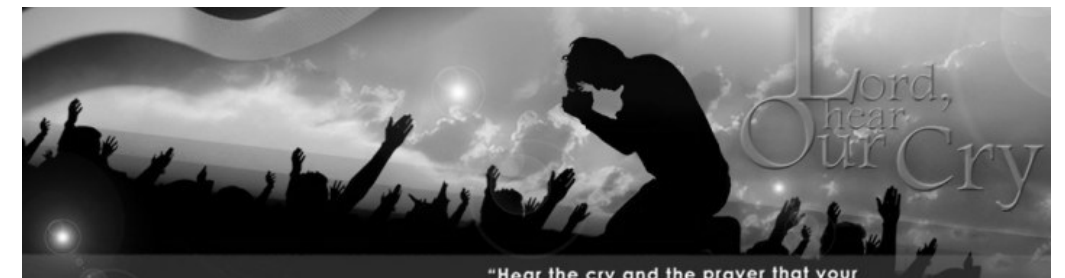
Spring Inspirational Meeting and Ohio Partnership Promotion

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 mission trips to Ohio. Drew will also be with us for the Minister's Conference on Tuesday, April 28 at 11:30 am.

National Day of Prayer

May 7, 2015
12:00 noon
Florence County Complex
180 N. Irby Street



City Wide Prayer Gathering
& National Day of Prayer
7:00 pm

Cumberland United Methodist Church
163 S. Coit Street

Join us as we pray for our nation and our community.

Connie Maxwell Children's Home is seeking prayer warriors for EVERY STUDENT on every campus. They are asking teams of men and women from across SC to pray specifically for every student as long as he or she is in their care. Each team will have a captain that will keep their team members updated on prayer requests with their child's needs in mind and the progress they are making as they strive to have a more abundant life.

Training sessions for the prayer warriors will be here at the FBA office, 2208 Pamlico Hwy. on **Tuesday April 14th**. You can choose which time is more convenient for you: **3 pm – 4:30 pm** or **6:30 pm – 8 pm**. You only attend ONE session.

To register for the training: RSVP directly to Connie Maxwell to Merry Beth Moore at mbmoore@coniemaxwell.com or call 864.942.1434 or 800.868.2624.

We have a Connie Maxwell Campus right here in Florence so our response to this should be strong.

LifeChangers June 21-26, 2015

We are in need of churches to host the evening meals on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We also need groups to prepare the lunch meals for the crews of 12-15 people and take them to the work sites each day. If you are interested in helping, please call Louanne as soon as possible at 662.5921

Family Promise of Florence Presents "Artisan Faire"

**Tuesday, April 28
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

Calvary Baptist Church, Florence

Dinner and Shopping
\$10 per ticket

(available at FBA office, Calvary, Highland Park or Stefano's)

All proceeds will benefit Family Promise of Florence

Artists are needed! If you have a special craft, this Faire is for you! Cost is \$50 for one table; \$75 for two tables. You keep all profits!!

To request a registration form call 662.5921. Registration forms must be received by April 22nd!

Christian Learning Center Banquet April 23, 2015 - 6:30 pm First Presbyterian Church, Florence

Tables that seat 8 are available for \$200. If you, your church, or Sunday School class or group are interested in purchasing a table, please email Louanne at fbalouanne@sc.rr.com or call 662.5921 for a registration form. Registrations are needed by April 16 so food preparations can be made.

April 2015

- 5 Easter Sunday
- 9 Associational Council Mtg; FBA; 9 am
- 16 Executive Committee Mtg; FBA; 7 pm
- 23 CLC Banquet; 6:30 pm First Presbyterian Church;
- 26 Spring Inspirational Meeting; 6 pm Greenwood;
- 28 Ministers Conf.; FBA; 11:30 am
- 30 Ministry Health Kits due in FBA Office

May 2015

- 7 National Day of Prayer; 12 noon; Florence County Complex
- 7 City Wide Prayer Gathering and National Day of Prayer; 7 pm; Cumberland United Methodist Church
- 14-15 SC Baptist Ministry Assistant Conf.; Lexington Baptist Church
- 25 Memorial Day; FBA Office Closed

Christian Sympathy is expressed to Dr. and Mrs. David Wike and family in the death of his father.

We Are Grateful! Feb. Contributions

Church	Feb.	Budget YTD
Ariel	76.00	144.00
Bethel	.00	.00
Beulah	.00	.00
Calvary	1,149.50	2,862.91
Calvary, Lake City	400.00	400.00
Cartersville	.00	.00
College Park	351.00	1,051.76
Coward	50.00	100.00
Ebenezer	3,780.59	3,780.59
Elim	666.47	1,332.94
Evergreen	290.12	290.12
Florence 1st	.00	235.92
Grace	843.53	1,713.50
Greenwood	570.03	1,314.89
Hebron	.00	125.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	1,916.00	1,916.00
Immanuel	250.50	250.50
Kingsburg	.00	300.00
Korean	.00	.00
Lake City First Baptist	.00	.00
Mizpah	104.39	175.28
Mt. Zion	600.00	600.00
New Hope	.00	00.00
Northgate	655.21	655.21
Oakdale	316.75	710.38
Pamlico 1st	.00	1,551.75
Pee Dee Community	.00	.00
Peniel	.00	.00
Quinby	275.07	275.07
Rehoboth	.00	.00
Ridgecrest	1,295.59	1,295.59
Sardis	862.50	862.50
South Florence	413.47	2,282.16
Southside	1,627.17	3,958.39
Sparrow Swamp	553.42	1,263.50
Tans Bay	.00	.00
Timmonsville 1st	200.00	200.00
Union	1,429.17	1,429.17
Unity	.00	.00
Willow Creek	203.02	203.02
TOTALS	18,879.50	31,280.15

Support Associational Missions

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

April Birthdays

- 3 Rev. Robby Ott (MY) Florence First
- 6 Rev. Jerry Aiken, retired
- 19 Rev. Ed Self, (MM), Ebenezer

April Anniversaries

- 3 Randy (P) & Tammy Oswalt, College Park

Around the Association

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. Drew is the pastor in Ohio who is helping to coordinate our missions trips to Ohio. Lunch will be provided for a cost of \$5 per person. To RSVP either call or email the FBA office.

Peniel...Will host its annual Classic Car and Tractor Show on Saturday, April 18th from 10 am - 3 pm. **This event is free** and is for all ages. There will be hayrides, slides, music and much more.

Mizpah...Dawn Smith Jordan will be in concert on Sunday, April 19th. Concert is at 6:30 pm. A love offering will be taken during the concert. Please call Mizpah Baptist Church at 843.662.6940 for more information.

Florence Baptist Association...is searching for 2 local, college age females to serve as student missionaries this summer. Responsibilities will be the devotion time for the children at the YMCA on Wednesday and Thursday morning from 9 am - 12 noon and to help the week of LifeChangers June 21-26. Start date is June 8 and end date is July 23. Stipend is \$100 per week plus mileage. If interested, call 662.5921 for an application.

Ministry Health Kits Due April 30, 2015

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

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