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Return Service Requested

As I write this article it is June 17, 2020. On June 17, 2012 I stepped into the FBA office as your director. Eight years have flown by. Drew and Maggie finished grade school and Lillie is a rising sophomore. It has been my pleasure to serve you over these past years even thru a "pandemic."

Never in my life did I think we would be dealing with the things we are today. Our culture is upside down. Our clock is ticking for the return of Christ. Scripture can be sighted for everything we see happening. Has much of it happened before? Yes, pandemics, riots, racial tensions and polarization. But, when we consider time, when we put things into the context of scripture and how much our culture has moved away from the Judeo/Christian culture, we are obviously closer than we have ever been.

Now, more than ever, it is important to speak the truth in love. People are being deceived in the name of many ideas and or movements that sound good. In reality, they are just another tool of the deceiver (Satan). While we see the ignorance of scripture and the things of

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the Lord, they see enlightenment and freedom from religion and restraint. "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Proverbs 14:12 and 16:25 (the same verse is present twice)

Arguing accomplishes nothing. You will not accomplish much trying to talk to what the book of Proverbs describes as a fool. A calm loving spirit can be used to help people move from ignorance and deception to being informed and transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Remember while the ignorance and deception seem insurmountable, our commission is not to single handedly change the world. Be faithful to engage, by speaking the truth in love, that one person that God has for you at any given moment.

Looking forward,

Chris

Cooperative



Florence Baptist Association, July 2020



July 2020 July 2020

The uncertainty of how things will progress with COVID-19 makes it very hard to plan ministry activities. At this point we are continuing to plan for our fall ministries. Things could change, but for now we are moving forward.

BLISS Ball for children and adults with special needs is scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd at Calvary Baptist Church. The ball for children up to 15 years old will be from 3 pm - 5 pm and the ball for 16 year olds through adult will be from 6 pm - 8 pm. There will be a photo booth, professional photographer, plenty of food and music. Registration is required and will begin in August, 2020.



Fair Ministry Schedule for October 13-17, 2020:



Monday, October 12; 5:30 pm - Chicken Bog meal All churches are asked to provide individually wrapped desserts cookies, slices of cake, etc.

Wednesday October 14; 9:30 - 12:30 Hair Cuts, Children's Ministry, BP Checks, Photos, Eyeglasses, Doughnuts

Friday, October 16 – FREE Yard Sale, Breakfast, Devotion 10 am

Needed - Volunteers at 9 am to help set up and work the sale Yard Sale Items

Items Needed - shampoo, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, Tylenol, Advil, over the counter cold medicine, 4 pack toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, unscented laundry detergent, Pop Tarts, cereal, "pop top" foods, blankets, twin sheets. Items may be brought to the FBA beginning September 25th or after.

Saturday, October 17 – 200 Snack Sacks

Volunteers are welcomed to come to the fair and help with any of the activities. If you are interested in helping distribute the Snack Sacks late Saturday night, October 17, please ask Louanne for details.

Financial Information Month of May 2020

Monthly Budget Needs: \$19,166.67 Monthly Received: \$16,740.56 Monthly Expenses: \$13,459.21

\$230,000.00 Year to Date Budget: Year to Date Received: \$95,827.26 Year to Date Expenses: \$80,658.00

"Welcome Back Packs" for FMU

FMU 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 2020. This will be the 15th 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 and is especially important this year since our campus minister position is in transition. Don't miss this ministry opportunity! If you would like to provide packets please put the following items in a quart zip lock bag & bring them to the associational office by Monday, August 3:

> 1 Pack of crackers 1 Pack of Pop tarts 2 mechanical pencils 2 packs of gum 1 Tic Tac or Breath savers

BCM Needs Your Help!

We are in the process of raising \$20,000 to add two interns on our team at BCM. Rischard Brown and Morgan Peoples are two of our graduates from FMU who have devoted their college years to serving at BCM and have felt the Lord's leading to continue working with the ministry over the next year. In order to have them on our staff we need your support. Here are three ways you can give: Send check to BCM, 290 S. Evander Dr., Florence, SC 29506; Text "fmubcm give" to 474747; or visit fmubcm.org/donate.htm.

July Birthdays

Rev. Bo Treadway (P), New Hope 18 Rev. Adam Pfahlert (P), Union Rev. Charles Larrimore (P) Unity 26 Rev. Peter Rivera (AP), Immanuel

Guly Anniversaries

Dovle & Mary Francis Jones, retired

James & Doris Brown, retired

Cleve (AP) & Vaughn Calcutt, Greenwood

Ed (MM) & Julie Self, Ebenezer

Bobby (P) & Penny Earls, Northgate

Burton (P) & Suzette Welsh, Sardis

Eddie (AP) & Louanne Stewart, Calvary 31

Shane (P) & Martha Patrick, Lake City

July Executive Committee Meeting

The Covid-19 claimed our quarterly executive board meeting in April. We plan to meet July 16 at the FBA office and practice physical distancing. (We have proven through Social Media we are not social distancing but we are physically distancing ourselves from each other.) We will meet at 11:30 and no meal will be served. Expect a partial report from the RESET TEAM which we actually voted to form last July. They are tasked with presenting a mission statement and a structure that will be aligned around that statement and for that purpose. If you remember, the book, "Simple Church", think simple association.



The FBA Office will be closed Thursday, July 2 - Monday, July 6 in observance of the 4th of July Holiday!