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To mask or not to mask, that is the question. Sorry, while I don't want to make light of the situation, we can still find humor. As I write this, on May 19, several of our churches had services in their buildings last Sunday and a few more plan to open this coming Sunday. Some with mask and some without. All practicing caution with some being more cautious than others.

As we continue to navigate the Covid-19 issues, be thankful we are autonomous. We have no district superintendent or other hierarchy to tell us what we are to do. This also means we don't have that person to blame it on if we don't like it. So, each congregation can blame their own pastor or deacons. **I am joking people!** We have never been in this situation before and our churches are diverse. Let's all be kind and take responsibility for ourselves and our families. Let us also be respectful of the decisions of others.

Our pastors have had the opportunity to network together on our Zoom Meetings and I have been trying to provide some resources to help make informed decisions. Let's not lose the amazing opportunities we have to be a witness to the lost and those who have enough biblical knowledge to be concerned that the stage is being set for the return of

Christ.

Some of our churches are reporting outstanding numbers, including visitors for video and drive up services. Sometimes, you don't miss something until you lose it. We are also hearing that giving among the churches is about normal with some experiencing slightly below average. Pray for one another, your church, other churches near you, and church leadership.

I cautioned our pastors, to try to be moderate, and I pass that on to each of you. What I mean is this, we all have our feelings and opinions concerning the government entities that we are being regulated by. It is easy to get on social media in the heat of the moment and let that opinion or those feelings cause others to stumble. We have members of the FBA churches that have been infected with this virus and have had one, that I know of, that died. It's real and it is more real to those whose lives have been directly affected by it.

While some of our events are in limbo, we press on as you do. We hope to have a new normal soon. What it looks like I don't know but God does. He and He alone is sufficient to lead us through this time and into the future. Live so as it is easy to pray, COME LORD JESUS! Looking forward, Chris

# Cooperative



*Florence Baptist Association, June 2020*

BE ON GUARD.

STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH.

BE COURAGEOUS.

BE STRONG.

1 CORINTHIANS 16:13 NLT

KLOVE

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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

**BCM News!**

**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](http://fmubcm.org/donate.htm).

**Attention Graduating Seniors!**

Do you know someone going to Francis Marion University or Florence Darlington Technical College? We would love to get their contact information! Email us at [florencebcm@gmail.com](mailto:florencebcm@gmail.com), visit our website [fmubcm.org](http://fmubcm.org) or call us at 843.665.1958.

**Financial Information  
Month of April 2020**

Monthly Budget Needs:	\$19,166.67
Monthly Received:	\$15,922.92
Monthly Expenses:	\$15,825.35
Year to Date Budget:	\$230,000.00
Year to Date Received:	\$72,170.05
Year to Date Expenses:	\$67,198.79



On behalf of the staff, administration, and the Board of Directors of HopeHealth, I wish to express my thanks for your donation of personal protective equipment to our HopeHealth clinical staff. Your generous spirit is appreciated far more than you will ever know. Our staff has been working hard to ensure the safety and well-being of our staff and patients. Your donation helps to ensure that we can take care of our clinical team members.

*Scherrie Cogdill, HopeHealth, Director of Development.*

Words will never be enough to express our sincere gratitude for your support of McLeod Health during this unprecedented time. Thank you for rising up for our heroes on the front lines as we care4 for the patients that rely on us. On behalf of myself and the employees of McLeod Health, we are grateful for you. Thank you for the masks, suits, and goggles. We are blessed with the community support for our employees.

*Elizabeth Jones, Development Officer, McLeod Health*

*June Birthdays*

20	Rev. Gerald McCants,
24	Rev. Doyle Jones, retired
30	Rev. John Collins (P), Grace
30	Rev. George Koon (P), Calvary LC

*June Anniversaries*

1	Justin (WL) & Briana Simmons, Hoffmeyer Road
6	Dave (P) & Jo Ann Bult, Kingsburg
7	Harry (MM) & Rita Adkins, Florence First
14	Landon (MM) & Leah Reynolds, Calvary
16	Charles (P) & Marsha Pittman, Immanuel
19	Adam (P) & Mary Pfahlert, Union
20	Nathan (MY) & Ashley Neighbors, Ebenezer
29	Kendal (BCM) & Jennifer Danford

**Reset Team Report**

Well like most things, we missed our April meeting because of the craziness surrounding the Covid-19. We did meet in May via Zoom. We are continuing to mull over a new mission statement and seeking to make some changes in structure that will allow us to function better together.

We would love to see more of our churches take active parts in our work together. We also realize that even though our churches are full of Baby Boomers, we can’t have a structure and function suited for them when this is no longer the majority generation. We have some lively discussion from our wide variety of team members. Pray that we will continue to experience God’s direction and wisdom. We hope to have something for us to share when we meet together in October for our annual session.