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Florence, S.C.
Permit No. 34

I would like to thank those of you that came out to the annual meeting this year. Best I could figure, we were down by about one third from the past year. This would seem rather normal given the situation we attempt to maneuver through. The main items of business were voting Johnsonville First Baptist Church into the association and the passage of the Reset Team motions. One motion gave us a Mission Statement, "The Florence Baptist Association is a network of churches cooperating to make disciples and advance the gospel for the glory of God". Two others moved us to a Leadership Team and the changes in the Bylaws to reflect this. The other instructs the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, to make a recommendation with input from the Reset Team, concerning the time frame for affiliation, of an existing church, joining from another association.

Please be patient with your pastor and church leadership. Each congregation has a different context and make-up of membership that requires different responses to the Covid-

19 crisis. You might be on one extreme or the other and your pastor and leaders are trying to be cautious and some how do what is best for the whole congregation. Don't cower in fear but don't be reckless. Also remember that each of us have suffered some level of mental and/or emotional anguish during this crisis. Those who may have mental and/or emotional issues may be struggling in ways that you do not know.

Did you vote, will you vote? Personally, I have not missed an opportunity to vote since the 1984 election. I believe it is not just an opportunity to participate in the governing of our republic, but it is an obligation for the believer. The political system is a mess. Our choices are often between the lesser of two evils but hold your nose, if you have to, and vote!

Looking forward,

Chris

Cooperative



Florence Baptist Association, November, 2020



Operation Christmas Child National Collection Week Information

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) National Collection is Week November 16-23, 2020. This is one ministry that will continue as normal. In fact OCC says shoeboxes are needed more than ever because COVID-19 has devastated so many countries.

Calvary Baptist Church will serve as the Central Collection Center again this year. They would like to have churches sign up to send 6-8 volunteers to help each day. If you would like to sign up to help, please contact Louanne Stewart at 843-662-5921 or fbalouanne@sc.rr.com. Times volunteers are needed are listed below:

Monday, November 16: 4 pm - 7 pm
Thursday, November 19: 4 pm - 7 pm
Friday, November 20: 4 pm - 7 pm
Saturday, November 21: 11 am - 1 pm
Sunday, November 22: 2 pm - 5 pm
Monday, November 23: 10 am - 6 pm



The JADE Bridge is a non-profit that exists to offer support and encouragement to adoptive and foster families, as well as provide opportunities for these folks to come together as a community. This will be an ongoing partnership for the FBA. The Jade Bridge was birthed in the heart of Jennifer Danford from the experience she and Kendal had in adopting their daughter. Jennifer is available to speak to groups about what God is doing through Jade Bridge so if you would like to invite her to come to your church you can contact her at 843.245.1686.

HYGEINE ITEMS we will be collecting for the Jade Bridge can be brought to the FBA at any time. Items needed: Infant toothbrush and toothpaste, baby body wash, baby shampoo, baby lotion, baby powder, child's toothbrush and toothpaste, comb, children's shampoo, pocket size Kleenex tissues, children's body wash, floss on a holder, floss in box, ponytail holders (for girls), band aids, chap stick, deodorant (boys and girls), sanitary pads (for younger girls).

Heart4Schools is a network of churches serving students and teachers in SC and is an initiative of the SC Baptist Convention. Many of our churches already have partnerships with a local school either through Good News Clubs, CLC, Prayerwalks, teacher support, etc. If there is EVER a time that schools need the support and prayers of churches it is now in this crazy COVID time. Heart4Schools encourage support in three areas: (1) Reading Buddies where you commit to read with a child for 30 minutes a week, (2) teacher support such as notes of encouragement, meals, gift cards, etc., and (3) Backpack Buddies - all of Florence County is already covered through Help Kids ministry of food for the weekend that is distributed to almost 2,000 children. If you want more ideas on how to adopt a school, please call Louanne.

Financial Information Month of September 2020

Monthly Budget Needs:	\$19,166.67
Monthly Received:	\$20,966.62
Monthly Expenses:	\$17,893.76
Year to Date Budget:	\$172,500.03
Year to Date Received:	\$164,547.79
Year to Date Expenses:	\$149,761.16

2020 Christmas Prisoner Packets

One **Black** non-retractable pen
(no wire clip and no other color pen)

One junior legal writing tablet
(no larger than 5" x 8" and **no wire bound**)

One Adult Toothbrush
(**Individually factory-sealed, no multi-packs**)

Three First-Class #10 Stamp
Embossed Envelopes (Purchased at USPO)

Two Rolls of Candy
(LifeSavers, Mentos, Breath Savers type)

One 3.2-6 oz. Bar of Soap (no travel size)

One 4-6 oz. Toothpaste

Please note the change in number of First Class stamp embossed envelopes.

*Please place items in a one gallon zip lock bag and bring to FBA Office **on Nov. 30, 2020.***



Ministers & Spouse

Christmas Social

December 3, 2020
6:30 pm
Grace Baptist Church
Community Life Center

November Birthdays

- 1 Rev. Burton Welsh (P), Sardis
10 Rev. Cleve Calcutt (AP), Greenwood

November Anniversaries

- 19 Dwight (P) & Bernadette Elijah,
New Covenant
19 Jim (P) & Jennifer Griff, South Florence
22 Bo (P) & Dee Treadway, New Hope
23 Eddie (P) & BJ Pettit, Evergreen



Newsletter Disclaimer....Due to rising cost of print, postage, and labels, beginning February of 2021, we will not continue to mail every newsletter. **We ask that if you want the newsletter mailed to you, that you let us know by calling the office or emailing Connie at fbaconnie@sc.rr.com. We will be glad to continue to mail newsletters but our list is such that we have many bad addresses and/or people who have no desire to receive it.**

The newsletter will continue to be emailed and available on the website. If you are not receiving it via email, please make sure we have a valid email address.

Thanksgiving Holidays

The FBA Office will be closed Wednesday, November 25 - Friday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving Holidays. FBA Office will reopen on Monday, November 30th.

