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Strange times they are. An Olympic Gymnast was penalized for being too good. There's a new strain of Covid which you may get even if you're vaccinated. There have been multiple cases in some churches and in several cases, kids have gone to camp to come home with it and infect parents. Gas prices are up as car and truck prices, and the stock market as well as lumber prices are down. The supply chain is still messed up with trucks waiting on computer chips and even grocery items not being available.

Well, if you have children, you may be getting a tax credit on the 15th of each month. Seems like there are a few more people working since our governor has declined the federal program to continue to pay people more for not working than working. We are often quick to take the scripture, about if you don't work you don't eat, out of context. This is talking about Christians that had stopped working and only waiting on the return of Christ. We can't rightly apply this scripture to every situation where people don't work.

The GOOD NEWS is still the GOSPEL of JESUS CHRIST! The great commandment and great commission have not changed with

the times. We love the Lord our God with everything and our neighbor as ourself! We are to make disciples of Christ if we are disciples of Christ. This is an individual process and responsibility and a congregational process and responsibility.

Houses have been built for many years. You start the process with materials and you end the process with a dwelling. The process by which you go from materials to dwelling has changed greatly through the centuries. The making of disciples has continued to change drastically as our culture is "less Christian", bible illiterate, but perhaps more open to casual gospel conversations. Don't focus on cultural change because it is mostly negative. Focus on learning how to reach this culture with the GOSPEL! It isn't easy, but it's very rewarding to see people step from death to life.

Looking forward,
Chris

Cooperative



Florence Baptist Association, August 2021

Christian Learning Center Update

The CLC Executive Board would like to thank Rev. Stan Sullivan for his leadership in the CLC program for the last 12 years. Stan has officially retired and has moved to Columbia. We appreciate all the time and energy he has invested in CLC over the years. He will be greatly missed. Nathan Neighbors, Student Minister at Ebenezer Baptist Church, will be the new chairperson of the CLC Board. Please be in prayer for him as he takes on this huge responsibility.



CLC is offering classes at four middle schools this fall – Hannah Pamplico Middle, Moore Middle, Sneed Middle, and Williams Middle School. After missing last year, the CLC Executive Board is super excited to be able to get back into these schools sharing the love of Jesus. This will be the FIRST year to offer CLC classes at Moore! PLEASE pray for the CLC teachers and for the students that will be in the classes. If you are not familiar with the CLC ministry, please check out the website www.florenceclc.org.



CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

Good News Club Update

God is growing our CEF chapter!!! Lord willing, this fall we will start our first GNC in Chesterfield County. Praise the Lord! We are in the process of restarting the clubs that were meeting pre-covid. There is a great need for more volunteers to work in Good News Clubs in Florence 1, Pamplico, and Darlington. If you would like to volunteer, please contact The Heart of the Palmetto CEF chapter at www.heartofthepalmetto.com

Eastern Carolina Agricultural Fair is October 12-16, 2021! Fair Ministry Schedule:

Monday, October 11; 5:30 pm - Chicken Bog meal

All churches are asked to provide individually wrapped desserts – cookies, slices of cake, etc.

Wednesday October 13; 9:30 – 12:30 Hair Cuts, Children's Ministry, BP Checks, Photos, Eye-glasses, Doughnuts

Friday, October 15 – FREE Yard Sale, Breakfast, Devotion 10 am

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

Items Needed – shampoo, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, Tylenol, Advil, over the counter cold medicine, 4 pack toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, feminine hygiene items, UN-SCENTED laundry detergent, Pop Tarts, cereal, "pop top" foods, blankets, twin sheets. Please start collecting these items now so we will have a good collection. Items may be brought to the FBA beginning September 27th or after.

Saturday, October 16 – 200 Snack Sacks

If you would like to provide an item for the Snack Sacks, please contact Louanne.

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 16, please ask Louanne for details.

BLISS Ball will be October 9, 2021 at Calvary Baptist Church, Florence; 3-5 pm (Children up to 15 yr. old); 6-8 pm (16 yr. – adult). The BLISS Ball is an unique evening designed specifically for children and adults with special needs. There will be different activities planned for the evening including photo booth, prom pictures, refreshments and lots of dancing!

Guests are required to register. Go to www.florenceba.org/events/blissball for registration forms. Each guest will be required to bring a chaperone that will stay with them the entire time. There is a need for volunteers on the day of the event and before the event - preparing food and table decorations, etc. If this is something you feel God leading you to help with, please contact Louanne 662.5921.

Love Packages Collection: We will be collecting old SS material, Bibles (any version and in any shape) and other Christian material September 13-16, 2021. **Material will not be taken after this week until our next collection time.** Please box "like material" together and place in boxes NO BIGGER than a box that a ream of paper comes in. If you need a complete list of what can be brought for Love Packages, please contact Louanne at the FBA office.

Idea for Community Ministry: Covid & the state of our country have hit our local businesses really hard and has left the majority of them short staffed. People are tired and frustrated with life. Consider reaching out to some of the businesses close to your church and express your appreciation for their continued service to our community. Contact the business and ask how many employees they have and prepare a small bag of store-bought snacks, gum, candy, etc. for each person. Add a note from your church expressing your appreciation for their hard work and assure them of your prayers. This could be done for a gas station, restaurant, hospital, fire department, police station, private business, doctor's office, etc. A random act of kindness goes a long way and may plant a seed for someone finding Jesus!

Financial Information Month of June 2021

Monthly Budget Needs:	\$19,166.67
Monthly Received:	\$19,063.82
Monthly Expenses:	\$19,575.41
Year to Date Budget:	\$230,000.00
Year to Date Received:	\$114,897.40
Year to Date Expenses:	\$104,330.25

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)



National Collection Week is November 15-22, 2021. It's never too early to start packing shoe boxes. If your church has never packed shoe boxes you are highly encouraged to join this ministry. It is a great church wide ministry and is perfect for all ages – children to senior adults. If you would like to find out more ways to get your church involved, consider attending the following workshop.

OCC Project Leader Workshop

Saturday, September 11

4:30 – 6 pm

Calvary Baptist Church

915 Cherokee Road

Staff from the regional OCC office in Charlotte will be conducting the workshop!



Florence Baptist Association

Annual Meeting

October 17, 2021

Grace Baptist Church

6:00 pm

August Birthdays

2	Rev. Oscar Holland, retired
3	Rev. Henry Simmons, retired
7	Rev. Eddie Pettit (P), Evergreen
14	Mrs. Connie George (Min. Asst.) FBA
15	Rev. Bryan Chapman (P), Pee Dee Comm.
19	Rev. David Wike (P), Ebenezer
21	Rev. Barry Moon (P), Pamplico 1st
23	Rev. Julian Long, retired
24	Rev. David George (P), Cartersville
24	Rev. Chris Smith, (DOM), FBA
24	Rev. Justin Simmons, (WL), Hoffmeyer Road

August Anniversaries

4	Leo (P) & Irma Carter, Alianzo
19	Wesley (P) & Dena Mayfield, Elim
31	Craig (P) & Beverly Tedder, Coward



Mizpah...Is seeking a Pianist for their morning service and choir rehearsals. Interested personnel can call 843.662.6940 or send resume to mbcflorence@gmail.com

Sparrow Swamp...Rev. Stan Sullivan retired after serving as Pastor for 29 years.

Greenwood...Rev. Cleve Calcutt, who served as Associate Pastor for the past eight years, has been called as Pastor at Deep Creek Baptist Church in Georgia.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to Rev. and Mrs. Chris (Tracy) Smith and their family in the death of her mother.