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At the 2021 Southern Baptist Convention, the messengers voted to have an independent group investigate the claims made concerning cover-up of sexual misconduct among SBC churches. Guidepost Solutions released a 288-page report of their findings. Here is a very brief quote as a summary: "Our investigation revealed that, for many years, a few senior Executive Committee leaders, along with outside counsel, largely controlled the Executive Committee's response to these reports of abuse. They closely guarded information about abuse allegations and lawsuits, which were not shared with EC Trustees, and were singularly focused on avoiding liability for the SBC to the exclusion of other considerations." The report also says that, survivors of abuse and other concerned Southern Baptists have been met with "resistance, stonewalling, and even outright hostility from some within the EC."

Unfortunately, these were not just incidents in a few churches with pastors, staff, or other leaders. There were convention presidents, entity employees, seminary professors and presidents involved either in sexual misconduct themselves or playing a role in covering up. Some would justify the "cover-up" being bet-

ter than the liability and other damage done to the SBC. Some would use the autonomy of the local church to excuse getting involved. Sexual misconduct among a church leader is a serious offense that goes far beyond concern for liability. It must be dealt with in the church and if not dealt with properly, it is certainly open to be dealt with among those who cooperate together such as the local association, state convention, and even the SBC.

How do we respond concerning those who have been exposed as a result of this report? Realize the seriousness of sin in general and then the magnitude of sexual sin and cover-up. Remember that Satan works best under a shroud of secrecy. Remind others, God can draw a straight line with a crooked stick. Do not dismiss all that has been accomplished for the Kingdom of God through these people. Pray, pray, pray for those whose ministries have been forever changed by these events. Pray for our denomination as we go through this time. Pray that light shines in the darkness of this world we live in.

Looking forward, Chris

# Cooperative



*Florence Baptist Association, June, 2022*



**WinShape Day Camp – July 18-22, 2022**

First Presbyterian, Florence  
8 am – 5 pm (M-Th)  
8 am – noon (F) – Fun Day for whole family  
Children who have completed 5K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Cost \$224 per camper (Scholarships are available)  
Register online at [www.winshapecamps.org](http://www.winshapecamps.org)

S. Truett Cathy, founder of Chick-fil-A, Inc., started WinShape Camps in 1985 with the hopes of creating a camp experience that would offer kids fun, adventure, lasting friendships and a closer relationship with God. Since then, thousands of campers have experienced the amazing programs at WinShape Camps.

**Welcome Back Packs** - Francis Marion Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) needs your help. They will be giving the “Welcome Back Packs” to new students arriving on campus in the fall 2022. This will be the 17<sup>th</sup> year of this outreach 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. 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 1, 2022:**

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



**Harvest Hope Food Bank** is our local community food bank that feeds the needy through donations. You can visit their website <https://www.harvesthope.org/> for more information and statistics on hunger. Because of inflation and the higher food costs, they are in **DIRE need of food**. They are asking churches to host food drives to help them replenish their shelves. Financial donations are also welcomed. These are the items most needed: meat, rice, pasta, non-meat protein like peanut butter, kidney beans, pinto beans, lima beans, peas, etc.; dairy products, and produce – vegetables and fruits. Please no opened/used or out of date items. Items may be taken directly to Harvest Hope Food Bank, 2513 West Lucas St., 29501. Jason Kale – 803.260.9601 cell.

**Financial Information  
April Month of 2022**

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Monthly Budget Needs:  | \$19,166.67  |
| Monthly Received:      | \$18,782.62  |
| Monthly Expenses:      | \$12,208.76  |
| Year to Date Budget:   | \$230,000.00 |
| Year to Date Received: | \$79,082.59  |
| Year to Date Expenses: | \$66,719.94  |

**Senior Adult Rally  
September 15, 2022  
Greenwood Baptist Church  
10:00 am**



Make plans now to join us for an Associational Senior Adult Rally on Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup>. Greenwood Baptist has agreed to host this event. It will begin at 10 AM and conclude after lunch. We look forward to good times with Glen Ward a professional humorist and inspirational speaker and Bryant Simms from the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Music will be provided by the Called Quartet of Lexington, SC.

**Save the Dates!**

Eastern Carolina Agricultural Fair  
October 27 – November 5!  
This is later in the month and longer, so we will be re-evaluating what we do.

**LifeChangers June 19-24, 2022**

We still need LOTS of lunches to be taken to work sites at 11:30 am each day. Contact Louanne if you can help. 843-662-5921

*June Birthdays*

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

*June Anniversaries*

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 6  | Dave (P) & Jo Ann Bult, Kingsburg           |
| 7  | Harry (MM) & Rita Adkins,<br>Florence First |
| 14 | Landon (MM) & Leah Reynolds,<br>Calvary     |
| 16 | Charles (P) & Marsha Pittman,<br>Immanuel   |
| 19 | Adam (P) & Mary Pfahlert, Union             |
| 29 | Kendal (BCM) & Jennifer Danford             |

**WE NEED A ROOF!** Thanks so much to those that have supported our FBA Capital Improvements Fund. We have received gifts from individuals, groups within churches, and about 25% of our churches. To date, we have received \$16,046.00 with another check in the mail. This will allow for phase one, the roof, to begin soon. Please continue to give as we replace floors and some other interior projects! Looking forwarding, Chris

“Ask and it shall be given unto you.”



The FBA Office will be closed Monday, July 4th.

**Christian Sympathy** is expressed to Rev. John Collins, Grace, and his family in the death of his father.