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As I write this it is the last day, I will be 58. I always remember the "older folks" talking about how fast time goes by. As a child it would seem like forever from one Christmas to the next. Now days it seems like time literally flies. I have girls that are seniors in college and high school and it seems like a short time ago they were seven and eleven. With everyday that passes there can be opportunities missed. I like the way Ephesians 5:16 is rendered by the Amplified Bible: making the very most of your time [on earth, recognizing and taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence], because the days are [filled with] evil.

Time flying means one thing when it comes to children growing up so fast and Christmas seeming like it comes every four months. Time flying means much more when it is in the life of a believer. If God knows the number of our days, do you believe he has opportunities for us each day? How do we miss these opportunities? Some times it is because we don't find ourselves in a close relationship with God and we can not hear His voice or see Him at work as we should. There are other times when we allow the busyness of the times, some of it is evil, or the pursuit of ungodly things,

which are all evil, to distract us.

We all have the areas where we are "prone to wander". The days are obviously shorter in our lives, and certainly it is a shorter time until the return of Christ. Join me in a re-commitment to making the most of your time. Actually for us believers it is not our time at all. It is God's time he is allowing us to live.

Looking forward,
Chris



The FBA Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, in observance of Labor Day!

Cooperative



Florence Baptist Association, September, 2022

Florence Baptist Association Senior Adult Rally

September 15, 2022

**Hosted By:
Greenwood Baptist Church
10:00 am**

Make plans now to join us for an Associational Senior Adult Rally on Thursday September 15th. Greenwood Baptist has agreed to host this event. It will begin at 10 AM and conclude with lunch. Bus drivers and church staff are also welcome.

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.

Registration for this event will begin on Monday, August 1. Please call the FBA office at 843.662.5921 or email Connie at fbaconnie@sc.rr.com to let us know how many from your church will be attending. Registration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 8th.



Glen Ward, Humorist



"The Called Quartet"



Bryant Simms, SCBC

Love Packages Collection - We will be collecting old SS material, Bibles (any version and in any shape) and other Christian material September 19-22, 2022. Remember the FBA Office is closed on Fridays. **Material will not be taken after this week until our next collection time.** We have to get it boxed up and sent on to Shelby so we will have the storage space ready to collect items for the fair. Please box "like material" together and place in boxes NO BIGGER than a box that a ream of paper comes in. Bigger boxes are really hard to lift and the sorters struggle if the boxes are too big. If you need a complete list of what can be brought for Love Packages, please contact Louanne at the FBA office.

Jade Bridge — Jennifer Danford is available to speak about the ministry of the Jade Bridge for a group or a church service, etc. Just contact her at 843-245-1686 or contact her through thejadebridge.org. The Jade Bridge is offering a special training for adoptive and foster families. TBRI® is a holistic, trauma informed approach to helping and offering hope and healing to families, caregivers and children from "hard places." It can be truly life changing for families. It was developed through research at Texas Christian University. The Jade Bridge is offering TBRI® Caregiver Training via online Zoom classes. You can check out our website, thejadebridge.org/resources, for more information and to sign up. Once caregivers have completed the training, they'll have a toolbox full of hope and skills to help them work with and manage some of the hard things that foster & adoptive families deal with on a daily basis. The next Introduction and Overview Class starts on Monday, August 29 from 7:30-9:00 PM.

The BLISS Ball the prom for children and adults with special needs, is Saturday, October 1st at Calvary Baptist Church, 915 Cherokee Road. The younger ball for children up to 15 yr. old will be held from 3 pm – 5pm and the ball for teens 16 years up through adult is from 6 pm – 8 pm. If you know a child or adult that could benefit from this, please share this information. Registration forms are on our FBA website – Florence-ba.org. If you would like to help decorate or help with food, please contact Louanne ASAP.

ServeFlo - Helping Florence Flourish (HFF) is sponsoring **ServeFlo**, a season of service for Florence, during the month of October. They are encouraging churches to look around your community and see where God wants you to minister. This can be done on several different levels. It can be done church wide, or with children, youth, mission groups – however the Lord leads you. Think of groups that have been hit hard, medical, business people, educators, law enforcement, EMT's, firefighters, etc. Target a favorite restaurant and ask them how many employees they have. Fix "thank you for your service bags" for each employee with gum, candy, gift cards, etc. - always include the plan of salvation and how to contact your church, etc. The ServeFlo project could be pressure washing, yard work, or simple construction. The HFF website, helpingflorenceflourish.org, will also have projects listed for which you can sign up. Projects will be added to the website as they are confirmed. Churches can also add their project to the HFF website.

OCC collection week is November 14-21, 2022. Calvary Baptist Church in Florence will be serving as the Central Collection Center again this year. They are in need of volunteers from other churches to come and serve one of the days. Volunteers should be 13 years old and up. If children younger than 13 want to help, they should be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. If you or your church would like to volunteer to help please contact Louanne Stewart 662.5921 or FBALouanne@sc.rr.com and let her know.

Help is needed during these times:

- Monday, Nov. 15 through Friday, Nov. 19: 4 pm – 7 pm
- Sat, Nov. 20; 11 am – 1 pm
- Sun, Nov. 21; 2 pm – 5 pm
- Mon, Nov. 22; 10 am – 6 pm

OCC Project Leadership Workshop

Saturday, Sept. 10th
3 pm - 4:30 pm

Welsh Neck Baptist Church
112 Church Street
Society Hill, SC 29593

**Financial Information
July 2022**

Monthly Budget Needs:	\$19,166.67
Monthly Received:	\$20,827.12
Monthly Expenses:	\$15,462.26
Year to Date Received:	\$131,651.44
Year to Date Expenses:	\$117,516.28

Fair Ministry — The Eastern Carolina Agricultural Fair will be in Florence October 27 – November 5. Fair Ministry

- Wednesday, October 26; 5:30 pm - Chicken Bog meal. If your church would like to provide food please contact Louanne. *All churches are asked to provide individually wrapped desserts – cookies, slices of cake, etc.*
- Wednesday November 2; 9:30 – 12:30 Hair Cuts, Children's Ministry, BP Checks, Photos, Eyeglasses, Doughnuts
- Friday, November 4 – 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, UNSCENTED 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 October 3 or after.
- Saturday, November 5 – 200 Snack Sacks
If you would like to provide an item for the Snack Sacks, please contact Louanne.

South Florence High School Needs

The FBA received a request from SFHS for the following items:

- Underwear, all sizes - guys & girls (especially need girls)
- Socks – guys and girls
- Pants – new or used, guys or girls, all sized (Jeans, sweat pants, khakis)
- T-shirts – new or used – unisex, all sizes, especially big sizes

September Birthdays

8 Rev. Eddie Stewart (AP), Calvary
16 Rev. Craig Tedder (P), Coward

September Anniversaries

5 Gerald (P) & Pat McCants,
LC Calvary
11 Julian & Betty Long, retired
16 Charles (P) & Marlene Larrimore,
Unity

**Capital Improvement
Fund Update!**

We are getting closer to the goal for our Capital Improvements. We have received \$21,907.13. After the \$12,265.00 that was spent on the roof, we have a current balance of \$9,642.12 We look forward to receiving the little over \$3,000 that would put us over the goal. Thanks again to those churches, Sunday school classes, men's ministries and individuals that have given. If your church is not able to contribute that is ok. If you are able, we encourage you to contribute to this fund. Remember the FBA is no more and no less than the 40 churches that cooperate together. Looking forward, Chris.

"Ask and it shall be given unto you."

**WMU Fall Meeting
Monday, Sept. 26th
Florence First Baptist**

Desserts - 6:30 pm
Training - 7:00 pm

Training Offered:

Church Wide Missions
WMU Director
Women on Mission
Mission Friends
Girls in Action
RA's