

Allen Memorial
 Arise
 Beaver Dam
 Bethany
 Bethany Hispanic
 Bethel
 Bethlehem
 Boiling Springs
 Buffalo
 Calvary
 Camps Creek
 Carpenter's Grove
 Casar
 Christ Covenant
 Christian Freedom
 Christopher Road
 Community
 Crestview
 CC Cowboy
 David
 Double Shoals
 Double Springs
 Dover
 Eastside (KM)
 Eastside (Shelby)
 Elizabeth
 Emmanuel
 Faith
 Fallston
 Flint Hill
 Gethsemane
 Goodes Grove
 Grover First
 Immanuel
 Joy Christian
 Kings Mountain
 Kings Mtn. First
 Kings Mtn. Second
 Lattimore
 Lawndale
 Lily Memorial
 Living Hope
 Macedonia
 Midview
 Mt. Sinai
 Mulls Memorial
 New Bethel
 New Camp Creek
 New Covenant
 New Hope
 New Jerusalem
 New Prospect
 Norman's Grove
 Northside
 Oak Grove
 Oak View
 Pathway
 Patterson Grove
 Patterson Springs
 Peach Street
 Peoples
 Plains View
 Pleasant Grove
 Pleasant Hill
 Pleasant Ridge
 Polkville
 Poplar Springs
 Putnam
 Ross Grove
 Sandy Plains
 Shelby First
 Shelby Second
 Sunrise
 Temple
 Trinity
 Union
 Victory
 Waco
 Wallace Grove
 Washington Missionary
 Westover
 Westview
 Westwood Heights
 White Harvest
 Zion
 Zion Hill
 Zoar



THE BEACON

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc. Shelby, NC
Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries

Volume 58, Issue 2

Website: gccba.org

February 2016

I just recently finished reading "Legacy Churches", a book, by Stephen Gray and Franklin Dumond, published by ChurchSmart Resources. This is one of the best books that I have read about churches of this day. It certainly causes one to pause and reflect on the way we are doing ministry. One of the statements made was about a recent post by Ken Walker on churchcentral.com. Walker reported that the Southern Baptist Convention, one of the largest church families in the world, is on course to close 50 percent of its churches by the year 2030.

The authors gave six danger signs pertaining to the church.

1. Public worship attendance has drastically declined.
2. Staffing of essential ministries is no longer adequate or effective.
3. Annual income is no longer adequate to do effective local ministry.
4. The church has not consistently grown over the last five years.
5. The age or tenure of the membership is unusually high.
6. Survival has become the main mission.

A final thought provoking question also comes from the book.

"Ask yourself these questions.

1. When did your church last experience growth by conversion?
2. How much of our spending is devoted to keeping the doors open and how much is invested in missions and evangelism?
3. What effective ministry do we offer to our community?"

I believe every Pastor and Staff person should become familiar with this work. We continue to pray that the Lord will bless you and your congregation.

Tony

††††††††††††††

In just one week I had a conversation with two mothers who described their children's emotional reactions to certain situations. They noticed that their children were exhibiting compassion or lack of it even at a young age. Immediately I thought about a passage in Ephesians 4 that gives valuable insight into the human heart. Paul shares the differences between the feelings and behavior of a believer and non-believer. Of course, young children are not old enough to make spiritual commitments, so the behavior we see exhibited in them is a snapshot of the human heart. But when we reach the 'age of accountability' and invite Jesus to be our Lord and Savior, we then have a spiritual nature that helps negate the downward pull of the old, human nature with all of its traits. Although some people exhibit some admirable natural abilities such as kindness and compassion, the old nature in us all is basically selfish and mean! Note how Paul addresses the problem: Unbelievers are 'alienated from the life of God because of the willful ignorance and spiritual blindness that is within them, because of the hardness and insensitivity of their heart.' (Eph 4:18). He admonishes believers, however, to 'be kind and helpful to one another, tenderhearted (compassionate, understanding), forgiving one another

Thoughts from our staff.....

just as God in Christ forgave you.' (Eph 4:32) Hard-hearted vs tenderhearted. We see this played out each day in the young and the not so young. Compassionate or indifferent; kind or mean; self-giving or self-centered. And we see it displayed every day! Let's spend time in the Lord's presence each day, asking Him to keep the old nature under control in order that He can live His life out through us.

Dr. Alice Cullinan



The other day I read an article on strategies to help your family live on missions in daily life. There are great ways that we can teach our children that missions is a way of life and not a one-time trip. The strategies are: 1. Talk about how you can serve- it's important to sit down and talk with your family about what missions is and how you can serve others. 2. Write a family mission statement- this statement should tell what you believe God is calling your family to do. 3. Display your mission statement somewhere in your house where everyone can see it 4. Hang a world map in your house, pick a country and then learn about it and its people while praying for those who live there and the missionaries that work there. 5. Bless your neighbors- help your children become involved in missions by finding a neighbor that has a special need and help them. It is Important for us to teach our children and remind ourselves that God calls us to be missional people and to let our lives reflect His love for others.

This week I celebrate my 10th anniversary working here at the Baptist Association. It is amazing to me that I have been here for a decade. I am so grateful to the many people who volunteer and give their time to help make these ministries possible. I am thankful for our member churches and how they work together to share God's love to Cleveland County and across the world. It has been an amazing 10 years, meeting people, traveling for missions, and working together for God's glory. I am excited to see what God has in store for us over this next decade. I pray that together we will always remember that our goal is to glorify God by showing his love to others.

Serving Together,
Katie Harris



Vision towards the future.

The word of God encourages us every day and invites us saying: "if from there you seek Jehovah your God, you will find him, if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul." (Deuteronomy 4:29.) It is a new year and we are preparing with much encouragement, with great force, with great vision and with the firm hope that God as Lord and Savior will provide for His children's needs. This year we are inviting all churches to join in daily prayer with us here in the Association. We are inviting God's children to seek Him every day, because we are sure that you will find Him. We are inviting you to unite in prayer that God will give solutions to most of the problems that the community has: social problems, problems of families, abuse of drugs and alcohol. And in addition, we have many families who are deprived of food, clothes, medicines; this requires us to attend to them in the name of our Lord. The church must seek God and must take God into households. People will not come to the churches; we have to bring the church to their homes. We should take his word to them, and if we do it with all our soul and heart, God will bring about a blessing and a harvest.

2016 is for all of us a year of harvest, a year in which we break barriers of separation we have had for centuries. People without vision and without hope are lost. We are the hope of the world; we are really the light and salt of this community. We have been called to preach inside and outside the church; we must be determined to send our members to preach and evangelize the world. We must carry the good news of salvation and God will empower us to be successful. Let this year see us mobilizing the church to go into the community. May God's blessings be on our lives and on the lives of the members of our churches.

Rev. José A. Espinal. Hispanic Language Missionary.

Education and Network Opportunities



Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesday Bible studies will resume on February 2 at 10:30 A.M. at the associational office, top floor. Dr. Cullinan will be leading us in a study on "The Fear of God." There is no cost or pre-registration. Bring your Bible and a pen and join us! Most of us have heard the phrase 'The Fear of God,' but may have little understanding of what it means or why it is so significant.

Minister's Conference/Learning Community

Monday, February 1, 2016

10:00 Fellowship

10:30 Program

at the Shelby Mission Camp

Lunch will be served by the Mission Camp.

Please call or email Nicole by January 25th to make your reservation for this meeting.



Mark Your Calendars DEACON TRAINING EVENT

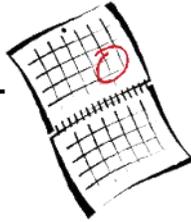
Date: Monday, March 7, 2016

Time: 6:30 pm

Place: Zion Baptist

Topic: "Why Do I Sometimes Feel Like Quitting

Leaders: Alice Cullinan and Keith Dixon



Our **Associational RA Derby** race will be on March 12th at the Shelby Mission Camp. The weigh in will be at 5:00 with the races starting soon after. Each RA group participating must have a mission project display.



"The 16th Annual Senior Adult Music Day!

"Music, Fun, Food, Fellowship!"

Flint Hill Baptist Church

Thursday, March 17, 2016-

9AM-1PM (This is the rehearsal)

Elizabeth Baptist Church

Sunday, April 10, 2016- 6:00 PM

(The presentation)

Led by- Marty Parks, Creator of "Well Seasoned Praise" from Mississippi- learn more about him at martyarks.com

SENIOR ADULT MUSIC DAY REGISTRATION- 2016

*(This registration and all money is due at the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Assoc. Office- **by Tues. March 8th**)*

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

1175 Wyke Road Shelby, NC 28150

Phone : 704.482.3472

***Please pay \$7.00 per person-**

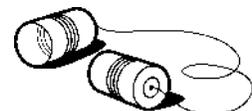
-This includes a wonderful meal & snacks-

Make Checks to: GCCBA - (write: Sr. Music Day on memo line of check)

Sr. Music Day is on St. Patrick's Day Make sure you wear your green! Door Prizes and St. Patty surprises!

Save the Date:

**Senior Adult Rally: Faith and Fun
Thursday morning, April 14, 2016
at Boiling Springs Baptist**



Spread the Word

Association Bible Drill

Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 3:00 pm

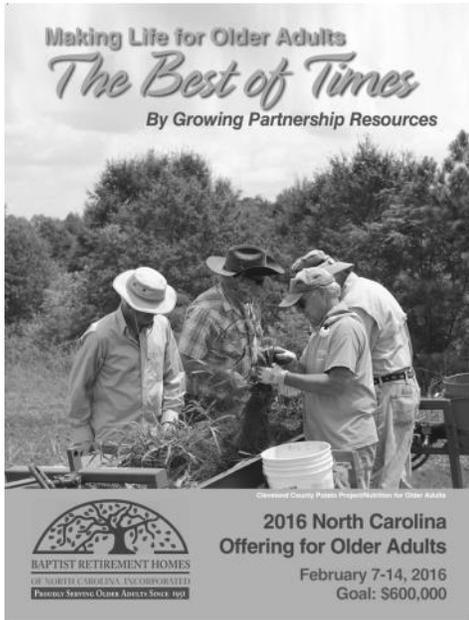
You will register ALL drillers with the ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE (even those who do not qualify for the associational drill or those who participated in Bible Drill activities, but did not participate in the church drills) Please send the names to Nicole.

Missions Opportunities

We are in need of groups to provide food for our **Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program**. Groups that sign up bring chips, cookies, and sandwiches for 75 people. We also recommend that you bring 3-5 people to help serve.



We are currently working on plans for our summer mission trips. This year we once again plan to travel to a location in the United States and we will also go back to Nicaragua. More information will be given about both trips in the near future.



CLEVELAND COUNTY April 30th or May 7th, 2016
Operation INASMUCH 2016

Operation INASMUCH is a one day mission blitz using our gifts and talents to reach out to those in our communities through, home repairs, wheelchair ramps, backyard bible clubs, yard work, painting, nursing home visits, music and many other creative ways to share God's Love with our neighbors.



All ages can be part of Operation INASMUCH. God can use everybody! Please pray about your church participating in Operation INASMUCH 2016. Now is the time to schedule the date, recruit a church coordinator and begin planning OIAM for your church.

We will have a county planning meeting to help you get started on February 2nd at 7 pm at the Shelby Mission Camp. Please make plans to attend and be part of our Cleveland County Operation InAsMuch.

For questions or more information contact;

David Brown

Cleveland County OIAM Coordinator

919-422-9990

dfbrn@bellsouth.net

dbrown@ncbaptist.org

2016
Heck-Jones
Offering
WEEK OF PRAYER
for WMU of North Carolina

*A
Beautiful
Thing*

*I tell you the truth,
wherever the gospel is
preached throughout
the world, what she has
done will also be told,
in memory of her.*

— MARK 14:9 (NIV)

Missions Opportunities

DUKE ENERGY SHARE THE WARMTH

Although we have had a mild winter so far I think we are in for much colder winter weather in the days ahead! Thank you to those who have already sent funds in to be matched by Duke shareholders. The first check has been deposited and we are able to assist clients with high utility bills in the colder winter months. To make a contribution that Duke will match dollar-for-dollar take note of the following information: Checks should be made payable to SHARE THE WARMTH FUND and mailed to:

Share the Warmth Fund
The Duke Energy Foundation
P.O. Box 35469
Charlotte, N.C. 28254-3429

Thank you for caring for your neighbors who are having a difficult time during these cold winter months.

EMPTY STOCKING FUND

This year GCCBA, Inc. was requested by the SHELBY STAR to receive and distribute the Empty Stocking Fund which is a fund where contributions are used to assist people in need with everything from toys for children to food, medicine, utilities, etc. to those who are having a hard time at Christmas and into the new year. At this time GCCBA, Inc. has received over \$30,956 from the fund which has been used to help people with food, dental extractions, medicine, and two different cases where families needed help to get their loved one cremated and have a burial.

It was a privilege to write some articles about our ministry and how the fund has been used by us in the past and what we anticipate the needs will be for people in Cleveland County in the winter months ahead.

We fell short of the \$40,000 goal at this time, but we are grateful for all the contributions made by businesses, churches, civic clubs, and individuals to show care and compassion for their neighbors who are having a difficult time this winter. May God bless you and your family as we serve Him in 2016!



2016 FOOD GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

**** DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED ****

LATTIMORE: macaroni & cheese, canned salmon or tuna, soup, stew, flour, powdered milk, paper towels

SHELBY: rice, canned vegetables and meats, peanut butter, crackers, macaroni & cheese, powdered milk, spaghetti & canned meat sauce, sugar, flour, shampoo

WACO: canned spaghetti & meatballs, ravioli, oatmeal, rice, dried beans, flour, powdered milk, paper napkins, clothing detergent

KINGS MOUNTAIN: canned meats, stew, tuna, cereal, peanut butter, saltine crackers, soup, dried beans, Kleenex, clothing detergent

GROVER: canned spaghetti sauce and noodles, grits, oatmeal, cereal, rice, dried beans, dish detergent

POLKVILLE: peanut butter, saltine crackers, soup, canned fruits & juice, sugar, flour, bath soap, toilet tissue



Here are suggested food items needed. (GCCBA churches by geographical areas) We can always use canned meat products, soups, peanut butter, crackers, canned vegetables, and nonperishable fruit!

GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries for February

Elizabeth:

Rit Varriale, 11 years

KM First:

Chip Sloan, 28 years

Normans Grove:

Keith Huss, 7 years

Northside:

Neal Efird, 17 years

Oak View:

David Turner, 1 year

Putnam:

Bryan Glisson, 17 years

Mulls Memorial:

Jeffery Self, 3 years



Stephen Sain became the new music minister at Double Springs Baptist Church on January 3rd, 2016.

Please remember the calendar for the **Block Party Trailer** fills up fast, especially in the Spring and Summer. If you would like to use the trailer at VBS or other events please call to schedule it as soon as possible. The cost of the trailer is \$100 and that includes all supplies needed to run the machines. The only additional thing you need to supply is ice for the snow cone machine. We ask that a church not keep the trailer more than 3 days at a time so that more churches will be able to use it.



Apple Devices



Android Devices

Our APP and Website

There are many helpful resources on our app and our website. Please check these out and help us get the word out to others. We have Bible study materials and links to Bible study and training videos that will be helpful to you. Website address: <http://www.gccba.org> You can get our app by going to the website and scanning the code, or you can go to the play store or appstore on your phone and typing in "Greater Cleveland county ba"

Wanted

-Bibles (all kinds in any condition); Christian Literature (Sunday School, church training, tracts, devotionals, magazines from Christian publishers, sheet music, etc.);
-Christian Books of all kinds (hymns, Bible Study, concordances, Bible dictionaries and regular dictionaries, commentaries, children and adult Christian books and paperbacks, etc.);
- Christian tapes; cassettes; videos; CD's; DVD's, etc. Spanish: Bibles, Sunday School literature, and Devotional books. Literature can be new or used. All material is sorted, boxed and sent to another Ministry, where it is sent to our brothers and sisters in poor Third World Countries. If you or your church would like to join "Harvest Seeds Ministry", please contact Pat Hamrick from Mt. Sinai Baptist Church 704-487-7518 or for Churches in Upper Cleveland County, New Bethel Baptist Church in Lawndale is now a collection site for "Harvest Seeds." Please contact Tony Fogleman at 704-538-0223 or you can bring them by the GCCBA Office.

Please do not send: RA, GA, Acteens, and Mission Friends material; and Angels on Earth magazines

Church Needs.....

Available Positions in our Churches:

Eastside, Kings Mountain:

Eastside Baptist Church, Kings Mountain is seeking an experienced part-time pianist. Resumes can be mailed to Eastside Baptist Church, 308 York Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086. For more information call 704-739-8055 or 704-616-6132.

Eastside, Shelby:

Eastside Baptist Church, Shelby, NC (Southern Baptist/1963 Faith & Message) seeks full-time Minister of Music and Education. Responsible for all music programs as well as training and education. Job description/requirements: www.eastsidebaptistshelby.org. Send Letter of interest and resume Attention: Personal Committee, 1165 Wyke Rd. Shelby, NC 28150 or officeebc@carolina.rr.com

Lattimore:

Lattimore Baptist is seeking a music director.

Pleasant Grove:

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church is searching for a part-time Youth and Children's Minister, working 20 hours a week with the youth and children. If interested, please send resume to: Personnel Committee, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 3932 Pleasant Grove Church Road, Shelby, NC 28150.

Pleasant Hill:

Pleasant Hill Baptist is in need of a pianist/choir accompanist for Sunday morning worship and Wednesday night choir rehearsal. Music is traditional/blended style. Contact Amanda Lowery alowery52@gmail.com

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church is seeking a pastor to oversee the life and direction of the church body. The pastor will be a gifted teacher who enables persons to learn and develop spiritual truths, an effective communicator of well developed sermons, a compassionate and discerning counselor, a visionary and planner for the future of the church and a staff developer. The church recognizes the extent of these responsibilities and is committed to supporting the Pastor in the work of the church for the glory of our God.

The church is affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Southern Baptist Convention, NC Baptist State Convention and the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association. Weekly services are held on Sunday Mornings and Wednesday Evenings. Interested candidates should submit a resume to phbc1851@att.net or Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Attention: Pastor Search Committee, 2338 Pleasant Hill Church Road, Grover, NC 28073.

Pleasant Ridge:

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Shelby NC is seeking a Minister to Youth (Middle and High School) who will demonstrate a strong commitment to Jesus Christ while developing and implementing a ministry for the youth of our church and community. Our search team is interested in candidates who offer strong leadership and organizational skills. We are seeking the right person who possesses the ability to motivate youth and parents through effective communication, planning, and implementation of ministry ideas. Experience in ministering to and with Middle School/High School Youth is preferred. This person should have a heart for understanding the special needs of youth and parents and a desire to include these special groups in the overall ministry of the church. This is a full time position and a background check (provided by the church) will be required. Please send all résumés to Dr. J. Eric Davis (Dr.JED@carolina.rr.com) or Minister to Youth Search Team, Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, 198 Pleasant Ridge Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152. Résumé must be received before February 29, 2016.

Polkville:

Part-time Worship Minister

Polkville Baptist Church is seeking a part-time Worship Minister with a heart to follow God's will, being gifted in communicating and coordinating worship experiences, along with the pastor and musicians. Send résumé by email to: employment@polkvillebaptist.com; or by USPS to: Search Committee, Polkville Baptist Church, Post Office Box 245, Polkville, NC 28136.

Ross Grove:

Ross Grove is in need of a part-time Custodian, 12hours per week, prefer to have person work 2 days-6 hours per day. Please send letter of interest or resume to: Ross Grove Baptist Church, Attn: Personnel Committee, 1225 Fallston Road, Shelby, NC 28150.

**If any of these positions have been filled
please let me know at nicole@gcoba.org**

Pray for our Pastor less Churches

Pleasant Hill~ Ross Grove ~
Sandy Plains~ Temple



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.
1175 Wyke Road
Shelby, NC 28150
Assistance Office Phone Number: 704-481-9119
Office Phone Number: 704-482-3472
Counseling Center Number: 704-472-1437
Website: www.gccba.org

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If you are not going to read the printed version of the newsletter, please call and have your name removed from the mailing list. We can add you to the email list, if you so desire.

THE BEACON

STAFF, PHONE EXTENSIONS & EMAIL

Associational Missionary:
Tony Fulbright, 104—tony@gccba.org

Ministry Team Leader:
Charles Reed, 106—charles@gccba.org

Missions Team Leader:
Katie Harris, 109—Katie@gccba.org

Christian Ed Leader:
Alice Cullinan, 107—alice@gccba.org

Hispanic Missionary:
Jose Espinal, 100—jose.espinal231@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:
Nicole Mosley, 101—nicole@gccba.org



- 1**— Ministers Conference 10:00 am Shelby Mission Camp
- 2**- Dr. Cullinan Bible class 10:30 am
GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm
- 4**— Grover Breakfast 8:30am Carolina Crossing
- 7-14**—NC Baptist Retirement Home Offering & Week of Prayer
WMU, NC Heck Jones Offering & Week of Prayer
- 9**— Dr. Cullinan Bible class 10:30 am
GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm
- 16**- Dr. Cullinan Bible class 10:30 am
GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm
- 18**— Belwood Lunch 11:30 am Hwy 18 North Cafe
- 23**- Dr. Cullinan Bible class 10:30 am
GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:30pm
- 25**— Thrive/Revive 9:30 am GCCBA