

Allen Memorial
 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
 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 59, Issue 1

Website: gccba.org

January 2017

*Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year
 From the GCCBA Staff*



Wesley
 Smith
 Charles
 Reed
 Alice Cullinan

Katie
 Harris
 Nicole
 Mosley
 [Signature]

Oh Holy Night

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." 2 Corinthians 9:6

I realize that in our world today, the majority of us do not think about farming or growing things. Some do, but most do not. It is really difficult to think about growing things in the winter. That's when everything dies. If we do not think about growing things, then we probably do not think about harvesting either. I have been challenged lately, to always be thinking about sowing seeds, and reaping a harvest. Not in terms of vegetation, but in terms of gospel seeds! What am I doing everyday to sow gospel seeds? Am I looking for the harvest?

I shared the scripture from John 4 at the Bi-Annual meeting in October. My desire is for us as churches to constantly be thinking about the harvest. We should be thinking about workers for the field. Are we preparing workers for the harvest? Are we sowing seeds?

I heard, Bill Easum say this at The National Church Revitalization Conference this year. "If you can see the harvest, you can take the risk." What's the risk? Sending workers out in the fields. That's the risk.

I pray that as we enter into the year 2017 that we would all really look at what we as the body of Christ are doing. Is everything we do focused on the harvest? Please be in prayer about how you or your church can partner with us this year as we work together to sow and harvest gospel seeds! Pray for workers! (Matt. 9:38) Take the risk!

Praying and Serving with you! ~Wesley

"Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." John 4:35

Thoughts from our staff.....

It is amusing to me how many animal idioms there are. Here are a few many of us use: "Has the cat got your tongue?" "I am dog-tired today." "You are a chicken." "He is sure an eager beaver." "That's a fishy story, to be sure." "She let the cat out of the bag." "I smell a rat." "She took the bull by the horns." And many, many more. I am not quite sure how these came into existence, but they have taken on specific meanings that most of us understand. Just yesterday, I was talking with a former student about some of her struggles with pride and selfishness. We discussed the fact that many times we forget that we have both a new nature and an old nature residing within us. We discussed the fact that all of us want to be 'queen bees' or 'king of the hill.' That is the characteristic of the old or Adam nature within us. Even the Apostle Paul struggled with it (See Romans 7). What is this 'queen bee' syndrome that plagues all of us? Information from Terminex can help us learn a valuable spiritual truth. Queen bees direct the behavior, the work assignments and the balance of the colony population to make sure it is structurally sound. She communicates her directives and causes some colony members to become workers, some to become drones and others, potential queens. In other words, what she says goes! I believe we would make more progress in our walk with the Lord if we would learn to realize the 'queen bee' that wants to control our lives and everyone else's, too! It may work fine for real bees to function that way, but 'queen bees' in churches or families can bring about a lot of destruction. Let's run to Jesus for help when we see our old nature trying to take control.

Dr. Alice Cullinan

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CHRISTMAS **Luke 1:18-24**

Christmas is a time of blessing for families in our church. As a pastor, I am thankful for the wonderful blessing to care for the people who come to our church. Shepherds have the responsibility of taking care of their flock by leading them and helping provide for their needs.

When Jesus was born; it was a difficult time in the land. The government was corrupted and many people were hungry and in need. During this time in America, it is also a difficult time. People face job loss, hunger, homelessness and many other obstacles. Many of these people will die without knowledge of our Lord and Savior. If Christ is in our hearts, we need to be committed to caring for others and sharing God's love with them. Today we need to make a vow that in the coming year we will be on mission for Christ. We need to live on mission and it should affect everything we do. As you celebrate this Christmas season, I pray you will think about how you can shepherd a flock and lead them to Christ.

Blessings,
Jose Espinal

††††††††††

It's hard to believe that 2016 is coming to an end. As I look back over the last year I am thankful for all that God has done in my life and in the life of our association. God has always been faithful to our association by providing volunteers who help serve our county. Because of the time and support you have given we have shared God's love with many people through mission trips, mission events, and giving assistance to those in need. As the new year approaches and I start my 12th year working here, I am committed to seeking God's will and direction for our association. I hope that you will share ideas with me on how we can help our churches become more effective in reaching people for Christ. I am thankful that the churches in Cleveland County are willing to work together to reach the same goal to make sure everyone knows of God's love for them.

Katie

Education and Network Opportunities

Minister's Conference/Learning Community

Monday, January 2, 2017
10:00 am

Make plans to join us. Janice Hager, formerly with Duke Energy, now a consultant to the North Carolina Baptist State Convention will be sharing with us about Ministerial Tax Issues. Fellowship starts at 10am, prayer 10:30am, program at 11:00am.

Bible study at Westwood Heights Baptist

Dr. Cullinan will be leading a 4-night Bible study Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 at Westwood Heights, 650 Dellinger Rd, Shelby from 6-7:00 PM. You are invited to attend. The topic is "Standing Firm." There are many things that cause believers to fall, falter or become weak. This study will help us learn how to be more successful in standing firm instead of falling. There is no preregistration needed or cost. Just come seeking the Lord's wisdom.

Uniquely Bivocational Pastors

Tuesday, January 24, 2017
6:00 pm

Also, mark your calendars to change our March meeting. It will be Tuesday, March 28!

Tuesday Bible Classes resume in February "Being a Faithful Servant" is the topic for the Tuesday morning Bible classes that will be each Tuesday morning for 5 weeks: Feb. 7, 14, 21, 18, Mar. 7 from 10:30 – noon. You do not have to preregister and there is no cost for the classes. Just bring your Bible, a pen and a notebook. The classes will be taught by Dr. Alice Cullinan.



Missions Opportunities



We are currently beginning to work on plans for our **2017 Summer Mission Trips**. We will be traveling back to New Albany, Indiana and Nicaragua to continue to minister through the partnerships we have made in these locations. As more details become available, we will get them out to the churches. For those interested in learning about our Nicaragua trip, we will have a meeting on January 31st at 6:30 pm to discuss dates, cost, and other important information. If you want to know about this partnership, please join us at the meeting.



Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

I am currently signing up groups to help with the Friday Feed the Hungry lunch program in 2017. We appreciate the many churches who have been involved in this ministry for so many years. We also appreciate First Baptist for allowing us to use their gym and kitchen facilities to serve those who come.

If your group is interested in helping, please contact Katie Harris.

Thanksgiving at the Shelby Mission Camp

Janet and I would like to thank all of the churches and individuals that prayed, sliced turkeys, cooked, cleaned, served, delivered meals, baked desserts, gave financially and any of the other tasks required to make our Thanksgiving meal a success. Because of your servant's heart, we were able to minister to our communities through 590 meals served, including 476 deliveries.



God Bless,
David & Janet Brown

Missions Opportunities

The stock in the food pantry has been getting low by the middle of the month and donations are greatly needed and appreciated. Some have said they are unsure what to get for a donation, but canned soups, stews, meats, peanut butter and crackers are always spot on!

2016 FOOD GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

**** DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED ****

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

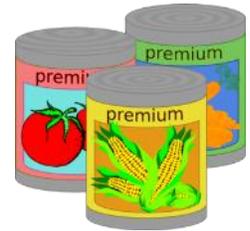
GROVER: rice, canned vegetables and meats, peanut butter, crackers, macaroni & cheese, powdered milk, spaghetti & canned meat sauce, sugar, flour, shampoo

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

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

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

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



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



Day of Giving, February 5, 2017

Children's Homes of Cleveland County, is a provider of services to children and families in crisis due to abuse and neglect. The agency is in the Right of Passage Campaign to raise money to build a new facility that will increase the size of the Out-Patient Mental Health services, enhance the Supervised Visitation Program, move the administrative offices from rented space saving money for other programs, and developing Independent Transitional apartments for youth aging out of the foster care system. We need YOUR help!

We ask you to join fellow congregations in celebrating February 5, 2017 as a day of giving to the Right of Passage campaign. This is a wonderful opportunity to involve youth and children through a bike-a-thon, bake sale, car wash, sports tournaments, or coin drive. Other ideas include love offerings, special funds contributions or dinners. No matter how you are called to respond, we will be blessed by the activity that best fits your congregation.

"And the king shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me". Matthew 25:40

Please call Nancy Scism (704-300-5800) to indicate your willingness to participate in this important event. Call Margie Christopher (704-484-2558) or email (mcchcc@charlotte.twcbc.com) with questions or a request for a speaker at one of your services or additional brochures. We will have a bulletin insert available for the February 5th service if you would like to have that; just let us know by mid January. We need your support to help these young people who are struggling.

Missions Opportunities



I am so thankful to each of you who have helped with our Toy Store through donating time and/or toys. As I step back and watch the volunteers in action, I am amazed that so many of you are willing to donate your time during a very busy season. Without your help we would be unable to serve the needy parents and children in Cleveland County. One thing that makes our Christmas assistance program so unique is that each parent will spend time with a volunteer

talking about God's love for them, and their families and will have an opportunity to share prayer request and spend time in prayer. So each person that comes through will hear the Gospel story and will have a chance to respond, it is amazing to see how lives are changed during our Toy Store. This year we will assist over 350 children from 178 families.

DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION

Share the Warmth was established in 1985 to assist Carolinas residents in need with winter heating bills and is funded by our customers, employees and the Duke Energy Foundation. Contributions are matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$500,000.

The Share the Warmth program provides financial assistance with heating bills during the winter season for individuals and families in need within the service territories in the Carolinas.

Funding for Share the Warmth comes from our customers, employees and the Duke Energy Foundation. Each winter, Duke Energy customers are sent bill inserts along with self-addressed postage-paid envelopes about the program. The Duke Energy Foundation will then match up to \$500,000 in customer contributions during the heating season.

Paperless Billing customer donations

Our Paperless Billing customers can easily make a donation online when scheduling their monthly Duke Energy payment. Customers will need to complete the section titled "Customer Contribution" if they would like to make a donation to Share the Warmth.

Additional information

Contributions may be tax deductible. Consult a tax advisor before claiming a contribution.

Share the Warmth at Piedmont Natural Gas

In October 2016, Duke Energy acquired Piedmont Natural Gas, which operates as a business unit of the company. The transaction adds Piedmont's 1 million natural gas customers to Duke Energy's existing customer base of 525,000 natural gas customers and 7.4 million electric customers. Its **Share the Warmth** Round Up program offers customer a way to help low-income individuals and families pay their monthly energy bills. Since 1985, the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association has been the exclusive distributor for **Share the Warmth** in Cleveland County. You can also have a very important part in Share the Warmth by mailing your contributions in to the Duke Energy Foundation and having them matched dollar-for-dollar by the foundation. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SHARE THE WARMTH FUND** and mail them to the following address:

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

May you and your family have warm celebrations while together at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and let's reach out to families who are having a difficult this year and need a little extra help at this time with higher utility bills!

Happy New Year

GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries for January

Carpenter's Grove:

Jason Allen, 2 years

Gethsemane Hispanic

Jose Espinal, 8 years

New Covenant:

Brandon McElahney, 2 years

Polkville:

Rick Hamrick, 10 years

Sunrise:

Dennis Harmon, 15 years

Trinity:

Mike Frazier, 4 years



Pray for our Pastor less Churches

Beaver Dam ~ Christopher Road ~ Crestview
~ Grover First ~ Temple ~ Zoar



New Prospect called Chris Devine as their full time pastor on December 11, 2016!

Thank you

Thank you to Camps Creek Baptist Church for inviting the GCCBA staff to worship and share with you on Sunday, November 27. It's a joy to share about how God allows us to work together to serve so many! We were also very appreciative of lunch!

Thank you Tim and Rita Hendrick for hosting our Ministers and Wives Christmas Dinner at the Farmhouse! We had a great time!

Thank you to all who donated toys and for our volunteers who worked so hard to set up and serve those who shopped! It is always a special time!

Available Positions in our Churches:

Allen Memorial:

We are seeking a Pianist/Music Director part-time employment for Sunday morning, Sunday evening, choir practice, and Wednesday evening services Contact Kenny at 704-739-1262 or email Kenny at ambcgrover@aol.com for more info.

Beaver Dam:

Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Shelby, NC is currently seeking a full-time Senior Pastor. We are a conservative, Southern Baptist, family and community oriented church that was established in 1850. We are a thriving church with an average Sunday School attendance of 150. The Senior pastor will lead three services each week (Sunday morning Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening). He will work alongside an associate pastor, minister of music, and minister of children and youth. Senior Pastor should have a minimum of five years pastoral experience with a seminary degree from an accredited seminary. After prayerful consideration, please submit résumés to: Pastor Search Committee, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, 123 Beaver Dam Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152.

Beaver Dam Baptist Church is seeking a part-time pianist/accompanist. Our services feature a blend of traditional and contemporary music as well as a variety of instrumental and vocal ensembles. To submit a resume or obtain further information please send inquiries tomichelle@bdbcshelby.com.

Camps Creek:

Camps Creek Baptist Church is seeking an experienced Youth and Children's Minister that is excited to work with the children and

\$24.95

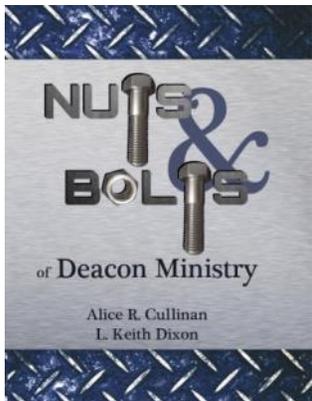
DEACON TRAINING BOOK

NOW AVAILABLE

Keith and Alice have worked for over 3 years compiling, writing and adding other helpful information from 10 years of deacon training

events and their own personal ministry experience. They have started a non-profit ministry called Lamplighters Ministries, through which they will make these books and other resources available to churches and church leaders. Please prayerfully consider purchasing books for your pastor and deacons as well as yourself. (The material is helpful for anyone wanting to grow in their walk with Jesus.)

Donations to Lamplighters Ministries are tax-deductible and will be used to provide books and other materials to churches who cannot afford to purchase them. Bi-vocational pastors, and churches with less than 100 members, will be given 2 free copies of the Deacon Ministry book as monies are available. (Visit lamplighters-ministries.org for more information about this ministry and resources. Prayers are appreciated.)



Church Needs.....

Available Positions in our Churches:

Camps Creek:

youth of our church in helping them to grow in their desire to know and understand more about their personal relationship with God. Anyone interested may email your complete resume (include education, experience, short testimony, etc) to Pastor Buddy Morehead at: pastorbuddy47@yahoo.com You may also mail your resume to: Pastor Buddy Morehead, 2318 Camps Creek Church Road, Mooresboro, NC 28114. We will be accepting resumes through December 2016 and will begin interviews around the first of January 2017. Full description on the GCCBA website.

First Baptist Shelby:

First Baptist is prayerfully seeking an Church Administrative Assistant. We are looking for an individual with a variety of administrative gifts, professional demeanor and a heart for ministry. A full job description is on the GCCBA website. Qualified candidates can send cover letter and resume to business@fbcshelby.org

Lattimore:

Lattimore Baptist Church is seeking a part-time Church Secretary to provide support for the pastor, music director, children's director, youth director, church clerk, deacons and other committee chairpersons. Applicants should have administrative skills, the ability to manage multiple tasks and meet deadlines, a proficiency in Church Power Plus and the Microsoft Office Suite, including Word and Excel. Applications will be accepted through November 15. Interested individuals may mail or e-mail a cover letter, resume, and references to: Lattimore Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Court Greene, PO Box 188, Lattimore, NC 28089 courtgreene@yahoo.com

Mulls Memorial:

Mulls Memorial is praying for a part time pianist. This position will require Sunday morning service and choir practice. They can send a letter of interest with salary requirements to MMBC Attn: worship committee- 3299 Fallston road, Shelby NC 28150.

Mulls memorial has a PT opening for music director focusing on traditional Baptist hymns but not limited to only traditional hymns. This position would only require attendance at morning worship and choir practice. Please send letter of interest and salary requirements to MMBC attn: worship committee 3299 Fallston Rd Shelby NC 28021.

Oak Grove:

Oak Grove Baptist is currently seeking a pianist and organist. If anyone shows an interest in either position, please have them contact : mjimison@carolina.rr.com, or phone 704-685-1735. They could also call the church office at 704-739-4833

Pleasant Grove:

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church is looking for a part-time secretary (18 hours/week) to support the pastor and other

staff members. A proficiency in Excel, Word and Media Shout is a bonus. If interested, they can send a resume to Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Attn: Personnel Committee, 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

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.

Poplar Springs:

Poplar Springs Baptist Church is seeking an experienced part time organist. Responsibilities include playing all regularly scheduled Sunday Services, practice with choir on Wednesday night, playing for any specially scheduled church activities, funerals and weddings as needed. Resumes may be mailed to Personnel Committee, Poplar Springs Baptist Church, 1106 Poplar Springs Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152.

Ross Grove:

Ross Grove is looking for a part time Minister of Music. The interested parties would need to send a resume to 1225 Fallston Rd Shelby NC 28150 Attn: Personnel Committee or email them to Rossgrovebaptistchurch@gmail.com The church phone number is 704-482-6051.

Sandy Plains:

Sandy Plains is seeking a Music Director for Wednesday night and Sunday Morning. Please contact Suzanne Gibbs 704-434-6578 for further details.

Zoar:

Zoar Baptist Church, Shelby, NC is currently seeking a full-time Pastor who God is calling to serve our church and community. We are a conservative, Southern Baptist, family, community and mission oriented church that was established in 1837. We have traditional Sunday School and worship services with average attendance of 90 - 100. The Pastor will lead three services each week (Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening). He will work alongside a minister of music, and minister of children and youth. Our Pastor will be a man of the highest Godly character with God guided leadership and vision. He will be Biblically balanced and have a minimum of five years pastoral experience with a seminary degree from an accredited seminary. After prayerful consideration, please submit résumés to: Pastor Search Committee, Zoar Baptist Church, 1740 S. Lafayette Street, Shelby, NC 28152.

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.
1175 Wyke Road
Shelby, NC 28150
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THE BEACON

STAFF, PHONE EXTENSIONS & EMAIL



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

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

2— Ministers Conference, GCCBA, 10:00 am
3- GCCBA Staff Meeting 8:30 am
5— Grover Breakfast Carolina Crossing 8:30 am
Kings Mountain Youth Ministers Fellowship Love's Fish Box 1:00 pm
6 – Friday Hungry Program at Shelby First, 12:30 pm
10 – GCCBA Staff Meeting 8:30am
12 – Lattimore Breakfast at Bulldog Quick Snack 8:30 am
Shelby Youth Ministers Lunch at Jammin J's at noon
13 – Friday Hungry Program at Shelby First, 12:30 pm
17 – GCCBA Staff Meeting 8:30am
19—Belwood Lunch at Hwy 18 North Café 11:30 am
20- Friday Hungry Program at Shelby First, 12:30 pm with New Prospect Volunteers
23 - 10:00 am Pastor Coffee Fellowship
24 – GCCBA Staff Meeting 8:30am
Leadership Meeting 11:45 am
Uniquely Bi-vocational Pastor 6:00 pm
26— Thrive, GCCBA, 9:30 am
27- Friday Hungry Program at Shelby First, 12:30 pm
31– GCCBA Staff Meeting 8:30am
Nicaragua Trip Interest Meeting, GCCBA, 6:30 pm