

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
 Hope Community
 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 12

Website: gccba.org

December 2017



Please join us as we celebrate with
 Rev. Charles Reed
 on his retirement from the
 Greater Cleveland County Baptist
 Association
 Thursday, December 7, 2017
 Drop in: 4:00-6:00 pm
 GCCBA Office
 1175 Wyke Rd, Shelby

'Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. '
Isaiah 7:14

So I learned a valuable lesson in last month's Beacon. Pay attention to date the Beacon is to be mailed out. If you read my article last month, you noticed I was a little ahead of myself projecting a great day at the "The Greatest Treat Festival." I did not tell a lie, even with the cold wind, we had one of our greatest crowds! We know of six people who gave their lives to Jesus that day! Praise the Lord! Thank you to all who came and ministered! "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" The decorations are pretty, the music is great, but that's not the reason it's the most wonderful time of the year. It's the most wonderful time of the year because we celebrate the birth of Jesus! God in human flesh, come to live among us! Immanuel, God with us! How awesome! God's plan to redeem humanity was coming to be. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is good news! Are we telling the good news? Research shows that 61% of Christians have not shared their faith with another person in the past six months. That same research shows that 75% of Christians feel comfortable sharing their faith, but over half just don't do it. Why is that? Have you shared your faith with someone in the last six months? There are about 80,000 people in Cleveland County who are far from God. What better gift could you share with someone this Christmas than the gift of trusting in Jesus? He's the greatest gift!

I pray that we are intentional this season. Pray for God to show you who around you is lost. Pray for courage, boldness, and love to share with them the gospel. Get to know them. This is the most wonderful time of the year, to share Jesus! Christ has come and he's coming back again!

Praying and serving with you! Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

'But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. '
Luke 2:10-11

In Christ,
 Wesley

Thoughts from our Staff.....

Ready to give Thanks

PSALM 105: Praise the Lord, call on his name; discloses his deeds among the people.

During 2017 we dedicated our lives to teach people about the author of our faith and we saw many come to Christ and share the message with their family and friends. Today is the day that we stop and say thanks to God for this fruit.

Today we think about the people who came across the ocean seeking a better life as they settled down in what we now call our home, America. When these people came God was with them and protected and provided for them. They took time to stop and give thanks for all that God had provided for them.

We as people of God also have so much to be thankful for. In Daniel 6:10 people continually give thanks to God despite the situation they lived in. It is our job as Gods people to give thanks in all situations. We need to be people who thankfully sacrifice to God and take time and effort to share all that he has done for us.

Thankful for you,
Rev. José. A. Espinal, Hispanic Language Missionary

Jose and Maria Espinal are available to come cook a meal for your church family and share about GCCBA mission work in Nicaragua. The proceeds from the meal go to help support our dental clinic in Jinotega, Nicaragua. To schedule his group to cook a meal, please contact Katie Harris.



MY LAST BEACON ARTICLE

The 28 years I have served as your Director of Church and Community Ministries (now Ministry Team Leader) have literally flown by and now I am retiring from this position December 31, 2017. Thank you for allowing us to reach out with the resources we as the church and association of churches have to minister to people who feel as though no one cares for them and are running low on help and hope. With so many churches, community agencies, volunteers, and generous donors countless lives have been shown the Love of Christ through ministry that gives them help and hope that is theirs in the Lord Jesus Christ.

In Matthew 25:31-46 our Lord has given us the spiritual foundation for this ministry- to feed the hungry, to offer water to the thirsty, to show hospitality to the stranger in our land, to clothe the naked, and to visit those who are sick and in prison . He tells us to do it with this attitude- as if we were offering such acts of ministry to Jesus Himself!

May we be found faithful in the days ahead doing these acts of ministry and like ministries as if we are doing it unto Christ Himself. I pray we will be known not only as "hearers" of the Word of God, but "doers" of the Word of God to bring people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ! To God Be the Glory-
Charles Reed

I wanted to take an opportunity to express my appreciation to Charles for all that he has taught me over the last 14 years. It has been wonderful working with him as a Summer Missionary for 2 years and with him full time for the last 12 years. I am grateful for God using him in a mighty way to bring hope and help to so many hurting people in Cleveland County. Charles, I hope you have a blessed retirement full of relaxation and fun.

Katie

Education and Network Opportunities

If you would like to be a **Jail Ministry Volunteer** or if you are already serving, the orientations are coming up and you must attend one of these sessions in order to minister at the jail in the next two years. The meeting last about 1 hour.

Thursday, November 30: First Baptist Kings Mountain- Kings Mountain area—7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 6: Greater Cleveland Baptist Association – 2:00 pm

Thursday, December 7: Greater Cleveland Baptist Association – 10:00 am and 2:00 pm



Ministers & Spouses Christmas Dinner Monday, December 4, 2017 at 6:30 pm

The Farmhouse

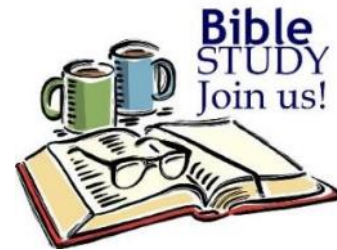
4045 Devine Road, Lawndale, NC 28090

We want to encourage you to make your reservation for this time of food, fellowship and inspiration! There is no charge for the meal. This is for our ministers who are active as well as those who are retired.

Please call or email Nicole and make your reservation by November 27!

Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesday Bible studies will resume in January 9 at 10:00 A.M. at the associational office, top floor. With Dr. Jim McConnell teaching on 1st Peter.



Thank you Charles for your 28 years of service to the Lord here at the association and in Cleveland County.

You have changed the world because you have touched so many lives! Enjoy Retirement!

**WE JUST WANT TO SAY...
THANK YOU!**

Missions Opportunities

Greatest Treat Festival

Our 2017 Greatest Treat Festival was wonderful. Even though it was cold and windy we had a great turnout of volunteers from our churches and community. We had over 3,500 people come through the gates to hear about Jesus' love for them. I appreciate each person who suffered through the cold to make sure that others knew about the greatest treat, Jesus. When people ask me how they can help I tell them we need more volunteers! We need people to come set up games, talk to people, help with traffic flow, help with registration, and many other areas. Please start making plans now to be involved with next year's event on October 28th.



Christmas Toy Store

We are still in need of volunteers to help with our Christmas Toy Store which will take place on December 12th & 13th at the Shelby Mission Camp. We use volunteers to help parents pick out toys and to be counselors and spend time in prayer with the parents. This is a wonderful opportunity to be involved in missions this Christmas season. Contact Katie if you are interested in volunteering. We are also collecting new toys and donations to help purchase toys to use in our Toy Store.



Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We are signing up groups to help with our lunch program in 2018. Please contact Katie if your group is interested in helping. We also have these following dates in 2017 still needing volunteers: December 1st & 15th.

Suggestions for toy donations to the GCCBA toy store:

- For younger children (2-4):** picture books, pull toys, squeeze toys, riding toys, educational toys
- For girls (5-7):** dolls, tea set, storybooks, board games, puzzles, coloring books/crayons, radios, purses, writing/drawing pads, riding toys, dress up clothes
- For boys (5-7):** trucks & cars, model car kits, throw games, bats & gloves, storybooks, remote cars, baseballs, board games
- For boys & girls (8-10):** board games, DVD's, electronic games, books, cd players, bats, gloves, baseballs, football, basketballs
- For older boys and girls (11-12):** jewelry, jewelry boxes, makeup, perfume, vanity cases, curling irons, hair dryers, craft kits, jewelry making kits, watches, board games, card games, dvd games, basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, cameras, tackle box, fishing gear, diaries/journals, clips/barrettes, hats, skateboards, photo albums, mp3 players
- Cost of gifts should be around \$15 (up to \$20 for older children)
- Please no toys that promote violence

Toys due at GCCBA by December 4th



We are collecting toiletry supplies to give away at our **Friday feed the hungry lunch program**. If you would like to donate supplies, please contact Katie.

*Merry
Christmas*

Missions Opportunities

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!

2017 GCCBA FOOD GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

**** DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED ****

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

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

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

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

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

GROVER: 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 (we have plenty corn and green beans right now), and non-perishable fruit!

GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries December

Eastside KM:
Ron Caulder, 8 years
New Prospect:
Chris Devine, 1 year



Pray for our Pastor less Churches

Allen Memorial ~ Crestview ~
Lattimore ~ Lily Memorial ~ Mulls Memorial ~
Pleasant Grove ~ Temple ~ Zoar



GCCBA Resource Library

We are very excited that we have been able to update our Resource Library. We have purchased around 25 DVD Bible Studies for our churches to borrow. This includes studies by Beth Moore, Henry Blackaby, Tony Evans, Max Lucado, and many others. The materials include the DVDs and leader books so you will only need to purchase the student



Our assistance office is in need of additional volunteers to help answer the phones, put together food orders, and help assist clients. If you are interested in volunteering with us please contact Katie.



December 22-January 1

Our Website

Please take a chance to look at our new and approved website at www.gccba.org. We will use the web page to keep you up to date on the latest trainings and mission events going on in our association. You will also be able to register for events and watch different training videos. Please check back often as we are updating it regularly.



Block Party Trailer

This ministry tool is a great asset to churches during Block parties, and other ministry events. The cost of the trailer is \$100 and that includes all supplies needed to run the popcorn, snow cone, and cotton candy machines.



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 CDs, DVDs, & Blu-Ray. , 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, & Mission Friends material; No Mission Mosaics, Mature Living, Guide Posts, & Angels on Earth magazines; No cassette or VHS tapes.

Church Needs.....

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.

Crestview:

Needed: **Youth & Children Minister**, Part-time. To lead a comprehensive and balanced Youth and Children's Ministry with the goal of leading them and their families to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to grow in their faith through discipleship and training. Please send resume to Crestview Baptist, 1090 Old Boiling Springs Rd., Shelby 28152

Eastside, Shelby:

Eastside Baptist Church, Shelby N.C. is prayerfully seeking a **full time Church Office Administrator** (Church Secretary). The Office Administrator is accountable to the Pastor and provides administrative support to the Pastor, other church staff and to the congregation. Extensive Quickbooks experience and accounting procedures are required. Applicant must have a commitment to and love for Jesus Christ. Send a Letter of Interest and resume to Attn: Personnel Committee 1165 Wyke Road, Shelby, N.C. 28150 or officebc@carolina.rr.com

Goode's Grove:

Goode's Grove Baptist Church is seeking a **part time Minister to youth**. For details and job description please contact Pastor Robby Hensley at 828-429-9419. Send resume to Goode's Grove Baptist Church PO Box 67 Mooresboro NC 28114

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 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

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.

Waco:

Needed: **Part-time youth & children's leader**. Call the church 70-4435-9311 to leave a message or call Everette Grigg at 704-435-2937. Send resume to Waco Baptist Church PO Box 297, Waco, NC 28169

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 minister of 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 including details of your salvation experience and calling by God to be a pastor, to: Pastor Search Committee, Zoar Baptist Church, 1740 S. Lafayette Street, Shelby, NC 28152. Résumés should be received by December 30, 2017.

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

The Magic of
Christmas
is not in the presents
but in *His* 
presence

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:
Wesley Smith, 104—wesley@gccba.org

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

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

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

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



- 1-** Hungry program, 12:30 pm
- 4-** Ministers and Wives Christmas Dinner
- 6-** Jail Ministry Volunteer Training, GCCBA at 2:00 pm
GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:00pm
- 7-** Grover & KM Minister's Fellowship, Carolina Crossing 8:30 am,
Jail Ministry Volunteer Training, GCCBA at 10:00 am & 2:00 pm
KM Youth Minister's Fellowship, Love's Fish Box 1:00 pm
Charles Reed Retirement Reception, GCCBA 4-6:00 pm
- 8-** Hungry program with Grace Christian students, 12:30 pm
- 12-13-** Toy Store Open at Shelby Mission Camp
- 14-** Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30
am Shelby Youth Ministers Fellowship at Jammin J's, noon,
- 15-** Hungry program, 12:30 pm
- 20-** GCCBA Staff Meeting 3:00pm
- 21-** Polkville and Waco Minister's Fellowship at Hwy 18 North
Café, 11:30 am
- 22 - 29-** GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS
- 22 -**Hungry program with Westwood Heights Volunteers 12:30 pm
- 29-**Hungry program with Calvary Volunteers, 12:30