

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

Office: 704-482-3472

Website: gccba.org



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries

THE BEACON

Volume 60, Issue 2

February 2018

'Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans. '
Proverbs 16:3

Greetings, Church! I pray that you have had a great start to 2018. Last month, we started our Ministry Round Table series. We have had great discussions. Check our schedule to see when your area of ministry is being discussed.

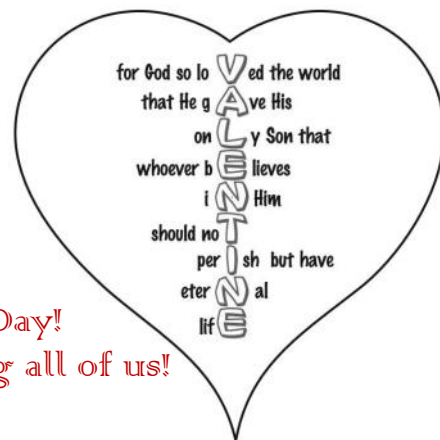
Proverbs 16 has several words of wisdom when it comes to our plans and motives. I pray that we will read this Proverb as we plan for 2018. There are a lot of good things the church is doing and could do, however, I challenge us all to consider consulting God about His plans for us before we begin to move into our own plans. Too many times, I'm afraid we do our church planning by simply taking last year's calendar and just copying down the dates. Or, we look at what other churches are doing that is successful and plan to do those things. Sometimes, we just simply want to do something that's cool that no one else has done or is doing. Very rarely, I believe, do we pray and ask God what He wants us to do, then strive to follow Him in obedience.

What does your church planning look like for 2018? What does your personal planning look like for 2018? Have we prayed and asked God to reveal His plans for us? Are we taking steps to follow Him? Would you be willing to take a blank sheet of paper, pray and ask God to put on this piece of paper what He wants you to, and commit to doing those things?

'In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps. '
Proverbs 16:9

Praying and Serving With You!
 Wesley

John 3:16



Happy Valentine's Day!
 Thank you God for Loving all of us!

Thoughts from our Staff.....

I think there is no better verse to speak to the importance of churches and Christians working together than Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 which says "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor; if either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up." When churches and Christians work together the results are greater than when we try to do it alone. I believe that churches have strengths and weaknesses, but in areas one church is weak, another church is strong and can help their sister church. Our ministry at the association strives to help churches work together. There are many needs in Cleveland County and it takes everyone working together to meet those needs. I appreciate the churches that are willing to work with each other to share Christ's love to those in our county. If you are interested in learning how your church can be more involved in missions, I would love to come and share with you.

Katie



THE FOUNDATION OF GOD IS AS WHITE AS SNOW

1 Corinthians 3:11-13 "because nobody can put another basis on which that is set, which is Jesus Christ, and upon this Foundation gold, silver, precious stones some builds, wood, hay, stubble, the work of each is here manifested;" by day declare it, and the work of each which is, try the fire."

God is sovereign, Creator, and supportive, but also He is our Redeemer, the Earth is full of His mercy. In the recent days, snow has fallen all over different parts of North Carolina and elsewhere; as we can see many things: all nature is hidden as it is covered in snow. The trees, without leaves, are decorated by the snow and offered as a real celebration of joy, white, beautiful, and still. They are inviting you to do the same, its as if they are trying to share this motif of silence and stillness. I have had the opportunity to be outdoors when it snows and after the snow and everything is silent, all under God's control, there the view is recreated. It is as if God would allow us to see beyond our noses, we can delve in the valleys and mountains discovering echoes, corners, and hillsides that had remained hidden to our observation. Snow is a symbol of cleaning. Without Holiness no one can go to the Lord. Take into consideration this verse of 1 Corinthians 3:11-13 to highlight that as children of God we are using the word of truth in the dimension that God wants. We are talking about the cornerstone of Christ Jesus, we are extending God's heart to new generations. Servants and leaders must take people to the Foundation of Jesus Christ our Lord. In these passages, God warns us of the great need to not be thinking as the world does in superficialities. Paul makes mention of the disorganized lives of the inhabitants of Corinth and warns them not to put their hearts and thoughts in the vain things of life. He mentions that gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, and stubble are the vanity of life. He warns that the day and time in which our lives will be weighed and judged by the universal judge will come. We do not have to worry about this because we will be tested by the fire of God's righteousness. Thank you brothers of our Association for all of the support in 2017. Please continue to remain faithful to His Word and also to the organization. Christ loves us, as we are known. Blessings.

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.



Education and Network Opportunities

Ministers Conference:

February 5, 2018,
11:30am Lunch/Fellowship/Prayer
12:00pm—Dr. Lamont Littlejohn, Pastor,
Mt. Calvary Baptist, Shelby, NC.

Join us for this time of learning! All
pastors and staff are encouraged to attend.



Spring Bible Study

March 6-April 10, 2018. Wesley Smith,
"Flickering Lamps: Christ and His
Church" book by Richard Blackaby and
Henry Blackaby (Book cost is \$10)
Please let Nicole know if you would like
to order a book for the class.

Round Table Discussions will give ministry leaders the ability to discuss and talk about their ministries. What's working, what's not working? How we can improve, and work together, and also talk about how the ministry helps your church accomplish its mission and vision.

All Meetings will be held at the GCCBA OFFICE

Youth and Children's Ministry - Monday, February 12, 6:30pm

Men's and Women's Ministry - (WMU & Brotherhood included) Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 6:30pm

Retired Ministers - Monday, March 19, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Sunday School Directors/Small Groups Coordinators - Monday, April 30, 6:30pm

**UPCOMING
Events**



The **Associational RA Race Car Derby**
will be on Saturday, March 3rd at 10:00
am and location will be announced soon.
Please come join us for fun and fellowship.

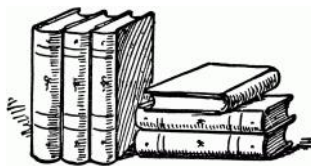
Spring Deacon Training

Monday, March 12, 6:30pm
Location: TBA

The **Associational Bible
Drill** will be on Sunday,
March 25th at Beaver Dam
Baptist Church at 3:00 pm!



**BIBLE
DRILL**



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 Guides.

Sr. Adult Music Day 2018!

Thursday, March 8th at Flint Hill Baptist Church
9:00 AM until 1:00 PM

Rehearsals in the Sanctuary and Meal in the Family Life Bldg.
Fun! Fellowship! Door Prizes! Great Food! Etc.

*Please register with the Associational Office, by Monday,
March 5th. (*please meet the deadline*) \$8 per participant
Gospel Songs From the Good Old Days! Created and arranged by
Marty Parks /lillenas.com Book- #978-0-8341-8241-7 Listening CD
#-65762-16062-0 Other Items Available too! *you may order
from MartyParks.com or wherever you buy your choral books

Rehearsals

THURSDAY, MARCH 8 – Flint Hill 9 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 10- Elizabeth Bapt. 10 AM

Band rehearsal- Sat. Elizabeth @ 1 PM

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

March 11-Elizabeth 6 PM.

Save the Date: **GCCBA Senior Adult Rally**
April 12th at Boiling Springs Baptist. More
information will be shared soon.

Missions Opportunities



Please join us for a **Mission Trip Interest Meeting** on February 1st at 6:30. We will discuss information for our Indiana and

Nicaragua mission trips. We would love for you to join us on mission this year.

Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We are signing up groups to help with our Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program. We need groups to help by bringing sandwiches, chips, and cookies for 75 people. We have several dates for the rest of the year.



Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type:	Dec 2017
Food	19
Medicine	9
Rent	0
Power	32
Clothes	16
Dental	1
Other Medical	0
Hotel	2
Other	3
Counseling	37
Total Assisted Units:	119



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR "OPERATION INASMUCH 2018," APRIL 28TH or MAY 5TH ! GET YOUR CHURCH COORDINATORS NOW, AND LET US KNOW WHO THEY ARE AND HOW TO CONTACT THEM. COUNTY TRAINING TO BE ANNOUNCED.

2018 Heck-Jones Offering
WEEK OF PRAYER
 for WMU of North Carolina
Goal: \$400,000

WMU NC Heck-Jones Offering and Week of Prayer is February 11-18 , 2018



The Day of Giving for Children's Homes of Cleveland County is February 4, 2018. Our agency is very close to beginning construction on the new facility that will include transitional housing for youth aging out of the foster care system. Yet, there are still many needs and there are many ways that churches and missions groups can be helpful. If you would like to help just call 704-484-2558 and ask for Margie.

Making "small" BIG
 Partnership Projects that Change Lives

Making Life for Older Adults...The Best of Times

North Carolina Offering for Older Adults

February 4-11, 2018
Goal: \$600,000



BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES
 OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED
 PROUDLY SERVING OLDER ADULTS SINCE 1951

www.brh.org

Every dollar contributed is used to financially assist Older Adults who cannot pay the total cost of their care

Missions Opportunities

DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION

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.

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

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

Cleveland County Potato Project

2017 was a good year for the CCPP with 117,900 pounds of potatoes being distributed, mostly in Cleveland County. We would like to thank everyone who supported the Project this year. Your support came in the form of donations, prayer, and hard work. We would like to extend a special "Thank You" to Union Baptist Church. They grew and harvested a crop of their own and distributed the potatoes to needy people through their own contacts. We encourage other congregations to do the same. Boiling Springs Methodist has grown a crop for the past several years on a piece of land beside the church. We would love for other churches who have large plots of land to consider using part of their land to help feed the hungry and needy. You don't even have to have large plots of land, First Baptist Shelby, built boxes that sat in a vacant lot behind their church. They grow numerous vegetables that they hand out to the hungry and needy in their community. If you would like more information on how your church can be a part of this great ministry, please contact us.

The Annual Potato Project Dinner will be held on Thursday, February 8 at the Baptist Mission Camp on Sharpton Dr. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm. The cost is \$8.00 per person. If you would like to learn more about the Potato Project, please attend this dinner. Make reservations by February 5. Contact Doug Sharp at 704-480-1608 or dwsharp428@aol.com.

Sincerely,
Doug Sharp
Potato Project Director

2018 GCCBA FOOD GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

**** DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED ****

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

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

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

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

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

KINGS MOUNTAIN: 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 nonperishable fruit!

GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries February



Elizabeth:
Rit Varriale, 13 years
KM First:
Chip Sloan, 30 years
Normans Grove:
Keith Huss, 9 years
Northside:
Neal Efird, 19 years
Oak View:
David Turner, 3 years
Pleasant City:
Bryan Glisson, 19 years

Pray for our Pastor less Churches

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



Block Party Trailer

As your church is making plans for your summer events please remember to call and make your reservations for our Block Party Trailer. The calendar fills up very fast for the spring and summer.

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

Eastside Baptist Church of Shelby, NC, is seeking a **full-time Associate Pastor/Youth Minister**. Preferred qualifications are experience in student ministry, seminary education and ordination. Please send cover letter and resume to officeebc@carolina.rr.com or to Attn Personnel Committee, Eastside Baptist Church 1165 Wyke Rd. Shelby NC 28150.



Tuesday Bible Studies

Summer Bible Study- July/August Rev. Richard Stroup will teach a Survey of the Minor Prophets. Dates TBA. Class begins at 10am

Fall Bible Study- September/October
Leader and Dates TBA. Class begins at 10am

GCCBA Senior Adult Rally

April 12th at Boiling Springs Baptist. More information will be shared soon.

Deacon Trainings

Fall Deacon Training- Monday, September 10, 6:30pm
Location: TBA

Church Leadership Training

Sunday School Leadership Training- September 17, 2018,
6:30pm Location TBA

Church Financial Trainings

Church Financial Seminar- Monday, March 5, 2018, 6:30pm
with Davis Blount NC Baptist State Convention. Location:
GCCBA Office

Hispanic Church Training (Led by Pastor Jose Espinal)

Monday's 6:00 PM- 8:30 PM at the GCCBA Office

January/February/March Starts: January 1, 2018 Ends: March 26, 2018	September/October/November Starts: September 3 Ends: November 26
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May/June/July
Starts: May 7
Ends: July 30

Church Needs.....

Flint Hill:

Flint Hill Baptist Church is seeking a **part-time Pianist** to play for worship services, choir rehearsals, and other occasions in support of the music ministry of the church. Anyone interested in this position may send a resume to: Flint Hill Baptist Church Attention: Personnel Committee 2207 Flint Hill Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152
If you wish to send electronically, please email to janethrn@carolina.rr.com.
Resumes will be accepted through January 31, 2018.

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.

New Prospect:

We are prayerfully seeking a **part-time worship leader** to help lead an engaging time of worship for our congregation. We would like to have a service including both contemporary songs and hymns. The ideal person should have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and be willing to share their testimony. The candidate would be responsible for choosing music and leading the choir and congregation in worship on Sunday, special events and choir practice on Wednesday evenings. We desire this person to be a part of our faith family. Please send resumes to the church: 1960 New Prospect Church Rd., Shelby 28150

Oak Grove:

Oak Grove Baptist is looking for a **part time youth director**. Please send resumes to Oak Grove Baptist Church 1022 Oak Grove Rd., Kings Mtn., NC 28086.

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.

Shelby First:

Custodial/Maintenance

First Baptist Church of Shelby is seeking an individual with custodial and light maintenance experience who will deliver high quality cleaning services efficiently and effectively. The right individual will be willing to take direction, hardworking, dependable, trustworthy, and have the ability to work flexible hours. Must have valid NC Driver's License, pass criminal background check & drug screening. Full-time or part-time will be considered. We are a smoke free facility. Good salary and benefits. To apply send your resume to business@fbcshelby.org or fax to 704-482-1137, Attn: Business Manager.

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.

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

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

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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

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

February

- 1**— Grover & KM Minister's Fellowship, Carolina Crossing 8:30 am, KM Youth Minister's Fellowship, Love's Fish Box 1:00 pm
Mission Trip Interest Meeting, GCCBA Office, 6:30 pm
- 2**- Hungry program with Beaver Dam Volunteers, 12:30 pm
- 5**— Minister's Conference 11:30 am, GCCBA
Bi-vocational Ministers 6:30 pm at GCCBA
- 6**— Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:00 am, GCCBA,
- 8**— Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
Shelby Youth Ministers Fellowship at Jammin J's, noon,
- 9**— Hungry program, with Crestview volunteers, 12:30 pm
- 12**—GCCBA, Youth & Children's Ministry Round Table 6:30, GCCBA
- 15**—Polkville and Waco Minister's Fellowship at Hwy 18 North Café, 11:30 am
- 16**— Hungry program, with Beaver Dam Volunteers 12:30 pm
- 20**— Men's and Women's Ministry Round Table, 6:30 pm, GCCBA
- 21**—Pastors Prayer Time
- 23** -Hungry program, 12:30 pm