

- 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
- 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 City
- Pleasant Grove
- Pleasant Hill
- Pleasant Ridge
- Polkville
- Poplar Springs
- Ross Grove
- Sandy Plains
- Shelby First
- Sunrise
- Temple
- Trinity
- Union
- Victory
- Waco
- Wallace Grove
- Washington Missionary
- Westover
- Westview
- Westwood Heights
- 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 12

December 2018

Assistance Office:  
704-481-9119

Counseling Center:  
704-472-1437

*"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14*

Merry Christmas!! What a wonderful time of the year to worship and praise the Lord! Christ has come! Immanuel, God with us!

We continue to think about and talk about partnerships. In our Fall Deacon Training, we talked about needing a "fishing" partner. In my October article, I shared with you three ways that your church can partner, Prayer, People and Provisions. In November's article, I shared about what we are partnering for, the Gospel. At our Fall Bi-Annual Meeting, you heard more about the "Pockets of Lostness," in Cleveland County and how we can "flip" a pocket.

This month, I want us to begin to think about the first way you can partner with churches, prayer. In all of Paul's Epistles, he begins with a word of thanksgiving, and in most of those instances, he mentioned how he was praying for recipient of the letter. Whether it was Timothy, Ephesus, Corinth, Colosse, Thessalonica, or Philippi. 1 Corinthians 1:4, Ephesians 1:16, Philippians 1:4, Colossians 1:9, 1 Thessalonians 1:2, 2 Timothy 1:3, Philemon 4, and in Romans 15:31, he asks them to pray for him. In Acts, the early church, "devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42

One of the greatest things you can commit to do is pray for a sister church. Send them encouraging notes letting them know you are praying for them. Our sister churches in Eastern North Carolina need some prayer and encouragement. Many of them were hit very hard by Hurricane Florence. Even though this storm hit in October, they are still cleaning up. They're lives have been changed forever. Please consider becoming a prayer partner with a church. We have partnered with the Atlantic Baptist Association, and the Eastern Baptist Association. I have the names of five churches that really need partners. If you would consider being a prayer partner for one of those churches, please let me know.

I encourage you to pray for the churches in your community. The church in Acts prayed for boldness in Acts 4. After they prayed, the place where they were was shaken! Pray for the church to be bold in their witness for Jesus. Let the light of Jesus shine through you!

*"In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it." John 1:4-5*

Wesley

# Thoughts from our Staff.....

## Thanksgiving Day

*"For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee." Psalm 84:11-12.*

This month is of great importance for all who live in the United States. Knowing the history, we realize that we are a people of diversity since the inception of a variety of people, immigrants from many groups set sail on the sea in the search of an adventure, to seek new horizons in a ship called the Mayflower and the Pilgrims settled in Plymouth Harbor. They were traveling from Europe from a place called Luden, Holland. The American Indians, the Wampanoag, possibly helped them survive the raw winter. This group came fleeing the English Roman Catholic Church who at that time was in corruption. They were part of a group called the Puritans. These religious groups remained very attached to Biblical truth, and sought to not be corrupted by participating in practices and traditions that were against the Bible. As they came in search of religious freedom, this first Thanksgiving celebration was shared with the regional eating, according to the story, venison, ham, lobster, clam, berries, fruit, pumpkin, squash, some believe that they also ate corn, turkeys, and deer, as a gift, which the natives made for them. At the beginning of this paper, I put Psalm 84:11-12. For us, today, as we celebrate and understand that Jehovah has been for His people a light (Sun) and protection (shield) that will protect us from all harm, of all deceit, of all evil of the enemy, Jehovah of the armies will always be with each one that is determined to follow His principles, His laws and commandments. And we do not allow this world to dictate our actions. Let's celebrate also this precious time, let's give thanks; mainly because as Latinos we are foreigners, we are newcomers in this prodigal Earth, but around us there is an immense group of people who came from almost from all four cardinal points. Today, we can tell these people that we trust that the Lord can do everything, in Jesus Christ. Just as we are happy to trust in God, they also can reach the mercy of the Almighty. This land does not belong to us, no matter what everyone of us expresses. Certainly, naked we came out of the womb of our mothers and naked we will return to Sheol. Blessings. Happy Thanksgiving day.

Respectfully. 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 missions in Nicaragua. To schedule his group to cook a meal, please contact Katie Harris.



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

### Would your church like to know more about the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association?

We would love to share our story! Some churches have invited us to come and be a part of their worship time and share what God is doing in our association. Our staff would come and share as time allowed in a Sunday Morning or Sunday Evening worship service. Contact us today to set up a time!

# Education and Network Opportunities

## Ministers Conference:

Monday, January 7, 2019,  
11:30am Lunch/Fellowship/Prayer  
12:00pm—Dr. Sandy Marks-  
"Pastor As Disciplemaker"  
Join us for this time of learning! All  
pastors and staff are encouraged to attend.



## Ministers & Spouses Christmas Dinner Monday, December 3, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Elizabeth Baptist Church

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.

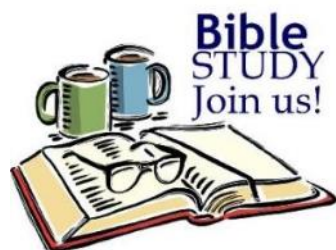
Please call or email Nicole and make  
your reservation by November 26!



I would love to come to your church and teach  
Financial Peace. If you are not familiar with  
this, it's a 9 week class that teaches how to  
handle money God's way by teaching about  
saving, paying off debt, and giving. This class  
has been life changing for my husband so I am  
excited to be able to share it with others.

Katie

Save the Date: **Associational RA  
Derby Race** will be Wednesday  
March 13th at 6:30 pm. Please note  
that the race will be moved to a  
Wednesday night and will be  
incorporated with a missions  
celebration and supper!



**Bible  
STUDY**  
Join us!

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:  
Tuesdays, January 29-February  
5, 2019. 10:00am-11:30am**

Winter Bible Study- Title TBA,  
Led by Wesley Smith



## 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.**

# Missions Opportunities



Thank you to the 12 churches and numerous community organizations that participated in the Greatest Treat Festival. It was an amazing ministry event where over 4,000 people heard about God's love for them. As you looked over the grounds of the park, you saw many Gospel conversations taking place as families played, ate, and had their pictures taken. We are grateful to God that this ministry continues to grow and makes a positive impact on the community.

## **DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION**

Share the Warmth was established in 1985 to assist Carolina's 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**

The **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 time this year and need a little extra help at this time with higher utility bills!

**imb**

LOTTIE MOON  
CHRISTMAS  
OFFERING®

Week of Prayer December 2 - 9

### **Chrismon Ornaments Needed**

Two churches in the Atlantic Baptist Association lost all of their Chrismon Ornaments during Hurricane Florence. As you put up your tree this year, please see if you have any extra ornaments that you could donate. Contact [wesley@gccba.org](mailto:wesley@gccba.org) 704-751-2018 if you would like to donate.

# Missions Opportunities



## Christmas Toy Store:

Our Christmas Toy Store will be December 11th and 12th at the Shelby Mission Camp. We are in need of people to volunteer to help counsel families and be personal shoppers to assist the parents. If you are interested in helping in either of these ways please contact Katie. Please pray during these days for the families. All toy donations are due by December 10th. A list of toy suggestions are below.

Are you searching for a mission project? Check out the Independent Living Program Registry on the WalMart Gift Registry to assist Children's Homes of Cleveland County prepare the transitional apartments for occupancy in January. Young people leaving the foster care system will have the opportunity to live in one of the apartments for 6-12 months to practice their independent living skills. The apartments need all kinds of basic items to furnish them. Choose one or several items that you would like to purchase to help these young people as they begin their move to adulthood. For more information, please contact Charity Davis at 704-484-2558.

## 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

## Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

Thank you to all of the churches who supported our Friday Feed the Hungry lunch program during 2018. This ministry continues to make an impact as we feed 50-60 people each week. I am beginning to work on the schedule for 2019 so please consider signing up to provide food and/or to help serve.



## Toys due at GCCBA by December 10th

## Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type:	<b>Oct 2018</b>
Food	20
Medicine	11
Power	38
Clothes	14
Other Medical	1
Other	3
<u>Counseling</u>	<u>41</u>
Total Assisted Units:	128

## 2018 GCCBA FOOD PANTRY NEEDED ITEMS: \*\* DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED \*\*

Spaghetti sauce  
spaghetti noodles  
peanut butter  
cereal  
macaroni and cheese  
Canned Meat



The pantry always needs everything, but the items listed are what we go through the fastest!

Toiletries: toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, clothes detergent

# GCCBA Bulletin Board

## *Pastors Anniversaries for November*

Eastside KM:

Ron Caulder, 9 years

New Prospect:

Chris Devine, 2 years

Patterson Grove:

Tim Hendrick - 17 years



## *Pray for churches who are seeking a pastor.*

Lattimore ~ FBC Shelby ~ New Bethel ~  
Pleasant Grove ~ Zoar



## *Pray for the following churches in the interim.*

Oak Grove ~ Polkville ~ Temple

## *Pray for these couples on their special day in December:*

Calvary – Tony and Camilla Sisk - 17<sup>th</sup>

Patterson Grove - Tim and Rita - 18<sup>th</sup>

Mt. Sinai – Tim and Lisa Trexler - 19<sup>th</sup>



## Church Needs.....

### *Beaver Dam:*

Beaver Dam Baptist Church is seeking an experienced **part-time pianist**. 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, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, 123 Beaver Dam Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152.

### *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

### *Lattimore:*

Lattimore Baptist Church is seeking a **Pastor** who is a sincere spiritual leader. Our Pastor will work with our Minister of Music, Youth Leader, & Children's Leader to help our church members and community grow in our relationship with Christ. He will be a genuine, loving, people person as well as a strong preacher, teacher, & encourager; and have a desire to lead the church family toward growth. We prefer someone with a Masters Degree and at least 5 years experience. We are excited to see what God has in store for our church. The church is located in Lattimore, NC (6 miles west of Shelby, NC). A parsonage is available if needed. Please send Resumes and DVDs to: Lattimore Baptist Church, Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 188, Lattimore, NC 28089.

### *Lily Memorial:*

Lily Memorial Baptist Church is in need of a **pianist accompanist** for Sunday morning worship, Sunday evening worship and Wednesday night prayer service. Music is for traditional worship. Send resumes to Lily Memorial Baptist Church, 406 Whitener St. Shelby, NC 28152



Office will be closed Monday, December 24 through Tuesday, January 1. We will reopen Wednesday, January 2, 2019!

# Church Needs.....

## ***New Bethel:***

New Bethel Baptist Church in Lawndale, North Carolina is seeking a **full time pastor** who God is calling to serve our church and community. We are a conservative, mission minded, Southern Baptist Church family with strong ties to the community. Our church has traditional Sunday School and worship services. The pastor will lead 3 services each week (Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday evening), while working alongside a minister of music and a minister of youth and children to create the growth of the kingdom. Our pastor will be a man of the highest Godly character with God guided leadership and vision. He should believe the Bible is the true and inerrant word of God. After prayerful consideration, please submit resumes including details of your salvation experience and calling by God to be a pastor to; Pastor Search Committee, New Bethel Baptist Church, Post Office box 5 Lawndale, NC 28090. Resumes are currently being accepted.

## ***New Prospect:***

We are prayerfully seeking a **organist**. The organist would be responsible for playing the organ Sunday morning worship and choir practice on Wednesday evening after Bible Study. We welcome you to be a part of our church family. Please send resumes to the church: 1960 New Prospect Church Rd., Shelby, NC 28150

## ***Pleasant Grove:***

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Shelby, North Carolina is seeking a **full time pastor** who God is calling to serve our church and community. We are a conservative, mission-minded, Southern Baptist church family with strong ties to the community. Established in circa 1870's, our church has traditional Sunday School and worship services with an average attendance of 75-80. The pastor will lead 2 services each week (Sunday morning and Wednesday evening) He will work alongside a minister of music and a minister of children and youth. Our pastor will be a man of the highest godly character with God guided leadership and vision. He will work alongside a minister of music and a minister of children and youth. Our pastor will be a man of the highest godly character with God guided leadership and vision. He should believe the Bible is the true and inerrant word of God. We are requiring 5-10 years of pastoral experience with a Master's degree from an accredited seminary. After prayerful consideration, please submit resumes, including details of your salvation experience and calling by God to be a pastor to : Pastor Search Committee at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church , 3932 Pleasant Grove Church Road, Shelby NC, 28150 OR submit by email to our church office at : pgbc3932@gmail.com.

## ***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.

## ***Sandy Plains:***

Sandy Plains Baptist Church in Shelby, NC is seeking a **part-time Youth Minister**. The ideal candidate is someone who can work to foster a strong sense of Christian community within the youth group while finding ways to welcome more youth into that community. This person should have the ability to teach the bible in dynamic ways, encourage spiritual growth, and help the youth navigate the challenges of life that teens and pre-teens face in today's world. The most important qualification is someone who will love our youth, who will help them to love others, and help them to be loved by God. Sandy Plains is located in a rural community about 15 minutes from Gardner-Webb University. We are currently renovating a designated youth space. All interested applicants should submit a current resume and letter of interest to sandyplainsshelby@gmail.com

## ***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 28152

Zoar Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a **permanent, part-time worship leader**. We are a loving, mission and community minded church. Applicants should be willing to lead both traditional choir and praise team in a blended style worship. Please send resumes to wlsc@zoarchurch.com or mail to Worship Leader Search Committee, ZBC, 1740 South Lafayette St. Shelby, NC 28152.

**If any of these positions have been filled please let me know at [nicole@gccba.org](mailto:nicole@gccba.org)**

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.  
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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***

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wesley@gccba.org

Missions & Ministry Team Leader:  
Katie Harris, 704-751-1069—katie@gccba.org

Hispanic Missionary:  
Jose Espinal, 704-751-1088—  
jose.espinal231@gmail.com

Office Administrator:  
Nicole Mosley, 704-751-1087—  
nicole@gccba.org



- 3-** Pastor's Cohort 2, GCCBA, 10:00 am, Ministers & Spouses Christmas Dinner, 6:30 pm, Elizabeth Baptist Church
- 6-** Grover & KM Minister's Fellowship, Carolina Crossing 8:30 am, KM Youth Minister's Fellowship, Love's Fish Box 1:00 pm
- 7** – Hungry program with Mulls Memorial Volunteers, 12:30 pm
- 11-12-** Toy Store Opened, Shelby Mission Camp
- 13** –Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am  
Shelby Youth Ministers Fellowship at Jammin J's, 12:00pm
- 14**—Hungry program with Beaver Dam Volunteers 12:30 pm
- 18** – Pastors Cohort 1, GCCBA, 9:00 am
- 19** — Pastors Prayer Time, GCCBA, 10 am
- 20** - Polkville and Waco Minister's Fellowship at Hwy 18 North Café, 11:30 am
- 21**—Hungry program with Crestview Volunteers, 12:30 pm
- 24—Jan 1**—GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS
- 28-** Hungry program with Calvary volunteers, 12:30 pm