

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

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Website: gccba.org



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries

THE BEACON

Volume 61, Issue 1

January 2019

Merry
 CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
New Year

You are a gift from God to your community, and we are thankful for you!

Wesley Smith

Katie Harris

Jeff Smith

Nicole Masley



December 24-January 1
 January 21

""Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with a joyful and humble attitude, praising God and having favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved." Acts 2:46-47

Ways To Partner: Part 2- People

Last month, I elaborated on the first way to develop partnerships by praying. The second way to develop partnerships is people. "Here is the church, here is the steeple, open the door and here's all the people." You may have said that little saying with your hands then as you open your hands your fingers represent the people.

Thoughts from our Staff.....

Some of the churches that need partners may not have the people to do ministry in their communities or worship services. This could be sharing musicians, or doing events together. Fall Festivals, Vacation Bible Schools, Block Parties, Prayer Walking, etc.

During our Associational mission trips, we take our teams and join churches on mission in their communities. Sometimes the people just need some encouragement to get out into their communities. Having people help you in ministry is encouraging. Locally, I have found that this concept is more difficult. Pastors are afraid they will lose church members, and church members don't want others coming in to "take" their ministries. This is sad. I pray that our attitudes about being partners and having partners will change. If we love God, we will not be afraid. John says perfect love casts out fear. We should not be afraid. Fear is a tactic of the enemy.

Please pray and consider partnering with churches by doing events together in your community, or sending help in needed ministry areas. We need to share our resources. We're in this together! Next month we will look at partnering with provisions.

"There is no fear in love; instead, perfect love drives out fear...." 1 John 4:18

Together, In Christ, Wesley.

††††††††††††

CHRISTMAS: A TIME TO GIVE THANKS

Psalm 9

Christmas has arrived and with it also happiness. The year has almost come to an end, leaving a brief time to reflect. Were you really an instrument of God during 2018? Did you really come to express with joy and love "I will praise you, O Jehovah, with all my heart" for having been faithful, constant, teachable, strong, and triumphant daily over death? Did you come to tell God, I will sing to you all the wonders, and I will rejoice and rejoice in you; I will sing your name, oh so high? Do you have a spirit of thanks for what the Lord has done in your life this year? Did you allow Him to use you each day to impact His Kingdom? We have arrived at Christmas 2018. You know that the wonders of God were all those souls who were rescued from their bad way of living. You know how wonderful are all those we managed to baptize. You know how amazing all the intimate moments we had with God have been--reading His Word, meditating on His Word, writing of His Word, teaching His Word, and sharing a genuine love with the members of your congregation. Christmas, a moment of peace in life, when we reflect on all the wonders of God in our lives. I have never been able to see gifts for God's work at Christmas time. We all give each other gifts, but we never have a check for the work of God in our congregations. This moment of celebration is a time to see the enemy who retired. His Word says that they fell and perished before us, because God in His mercy has maintained His right and has defended our cause; God is still sitting on His throne judging with justice. Today we celebrate Christmas amid the chaos of nations where their governments have gone astray. We are confused and wandering in the way of evil. We celebrate, but not recognizing that God rebukes the nations because He wants to destroy evil. We celebrate and forget that the Creator has erased the names of thousands of governors who went away from his commandments, disappeared eternally, perished, and were left desolate. Let us celebrate thinking that we need the King's permission, always, to continue in His redemptive plan. We celebrate because Jehovah remains forever in the lives of His faithful. We celebrate that He has thrones disposed for His judgments, because He will judge the world with justice

Thoughts from our Staff.....

and the rebellious peoples with righteousness. But, we celebrate in the confidence that Jehovah is the refuge of the poor, especially in times of anguish, "those who know Your name will trust in You, trustingly, I will wait because my Lord has never forsaken me." So, we celebrate Christmas in the confidence of a powerful God, a true and faithful God. "I will sing to Jehovah in Zion. I will publish your death to the Gentile peoples. I will continue to claim the blood of the innocent who, deceived by evil, goes to Sheol. I will celebrate confidently knowing that you do not forget my cry to Your presence. I will celebrate in the midst of so much affliction. I will celebrate with the simple of heart in its holy place." Blessings.

Respectfully, Rev. José. A. Espinal, Hispanic Language Missionary



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.



RETURNING SOON!!!!

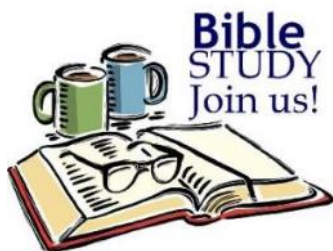


I would love to come to your church and teach Financial Peace. If you are not familiar with this, it's a 9 week class that teaches how to handle money God's way by teaching about saving, paying off debt, and giving. This class has been life changing for my husband so I am excited to be able to share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

Katie



Save The Date: **Associational RA Derby Race** Wednesday, March 13th, 2019 at 6:30. We are excited that this year's derby will be on a Wednesday night and will include supper and a missions program. We will need to know if your group is planning to attend by the end of February. GA groups are also invited to enter a car in the race and come for supper and join in on the fun. Official RA Race rules can be found on the NC Baptist Men's Website.



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

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

"Church Beginnings," study from the book of Acts. Wesley Smith will be leading. Books will be available for \$6 each, if you'd like to purchase one, please see Nicole.

Missions Opportunities

Share the Warmth

The **Share the Warmth** Round Up program offers customers 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



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.

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.



Block Party Trailer: Please remember our trailer calendar fills up fast for the Spring and Summer.

If you already know your block party and VBS dates you need to call and reserve the trailer now! This is a wonderful tool that our churches can use to minister to their communities.

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



Christmas Toy Store:

I am so grateful for everyone who helped with the Christmas Toy Store. Even though it was full of changes because of the winter weather we were still able to help over 300 children from over 100 families. I appreciate Eastside Baptist for allowing us to hold our Toy Store in their facility at the last minute because of the change in date. I am excited to say that we had at least one person accept Christ while going through counseling at the Toy Store. We heard many other stories that broke our hearts and truly showed the need of the people in Cleveland County. I appreciate that our churches are so generous to help children in need and because of your gifts many people heard the good news that Jesus loves them.

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!

Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We are currently working on the 2019 schedule for the Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program. If your church is interested in providing sandwiches, chips, and cookies for 75 people please contact Katie Harris to schedule a date.



Operation In As Much 2019

Interest meeting, Thursday, January 17, 6:30pm.

Are you and your church interested in a one day missions blitz? Have you been looking for a way to get your church involved in local missions? This is a great way to do that! Join us as we talk about this great day!

Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type:	Oct 2018
Food	32
Medicine	6
Power	24
Clothes	16
Other	2
<u>Counseling</u>	<u>40</u>
Total Assisted Units:	121

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

Spaghetti sauce
spaghetti noodles
peanut butter
cereal
macaroni and cheese
Canned Meat
Toiletries: toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, clothes detergent



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

GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries for January

Carpenter's Grove:

Jason Allen, 4 years

Christopher Road:

Mike Tucker, 2 years

Gethsemane Hispanic:

Jose Espinal, 10 years

Sunrise:

Dennis Harmon, 17 years

Trinity:

Mike Frazier, 6 years



Pray for this couple on their special day in January:

Peach Street – Bobby and Nancy Callahan-Steen—9th



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

The Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association is seeking a warm and compassionate receptionist for our Community Assistance Office. The employee will work approximately 15 hours a week, answering the phone, making appointments, assisting clients with intake forms, and working in our assistance office. The person must be able to lift approximately 5-10 lbs, and be able to use a computer. Please send a resume to 1175 Wyke Rd. Shelby, NC 28150, or email to info@gccba.org by January 7, 2018.

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.

Buffalo:

Buffalo Baptist Church in Shelby, North Carolina is seeking a **full time pastor** called by God to serve our church and community. We are a Southern Baptist congregation believing that the Bible is the inerrant Word of God and are seeking a dedicated, energetic and caring pastor sharing our belief. The pastor will need to lead 3 services each week, (Sunday morning, Sunday night and Wednesday night). Our pastor should be a man of the highest Godly character with God guided leadership and vision. He should have a minimum of 5 years ministry experience with a seminary degree. Please submit resumes including details of spiritual journey and calling by God to be a pastor, to: Pastor Search Committee, Buffalo Baptist Church, 108 Buffalo Church Road, Shelby, N.C. 28150 or via email to Bflopastorsearch@gmail.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

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

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 resume 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

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.
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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, 704-751-1028—
wesley@gccbba.org

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

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

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

- 1**— GCCBA Office Closed
- 3**— Grover & KM Minister's Fellowship, Carolina Crossing 8:30 am, KM Youth Minister's Fellowship, Love's Fish Box 1:00 pm
- 4**— Hungry program at First Baptist Shelby, 12:30 pm
- 7**— Pastor's Cohort 2 10 am, Minister's Conference 11:30 am
- 10**—Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
Shelby Youth Ministers Fellowship at Jammin J's, 12:00pm
- 11**—Hungry program at First Baptist Shelby, 12:30 pm
- 16**— Pastors Prayer Time, GCCBA, 10 am
- 17** - Polkville and Waco Minister's Fellowship at Hwy 18 North Cafe
OIAM Interest Meeting at GCCBA, 6:30 pm
- 18**—Hungry program, at First Baptist Shelby, 12:30 pm
- 21**—GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED
- 25**—Hungry program, at First Baptist Shelby, 12:30 pm
- 29** — Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:00
Leadership/Business Affairs, 11:45 am

January