

- 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
- 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

Assistance Office:  
 704-481-9119  
 Counseling Center:  
 704-472-1437



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

*Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries*

# THE BEACON

Volume 62, Issue 1

January 2020

*Merry*  
 CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY  
*New Year*

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



December 23-January 1  
 January 20

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Words from Wesley...

The beginning of the new year is a great time to reflect on the past year and look forward to the new. With the new year quickly approaching, I pray that we will look at both our individual lives and the corporate body of the church. Reflect and give thanks for what God has done, and is doing, and pray for God to help us see where to go and what to change in the coming year. Oh my! I realize I just said a bad word, change. Change is difficult and necessary.

In order for organizations like the church to change, there has to be individual, personal change. Robert Quinn, in his book, "Deep Change," says, "At the personal level, the key to successful living is continuous personal change. Personal change is the way to avoid slow death."

# Thoughts from our Staff.....

Quinn uses an illustration of a young boy at the playground who loves swings. When it was time to move on, the young boy would not let go of the swing. The boy's father knew that the carousel was just around the corner. He knew that his son loved the carousel, maybe more than the swing. However, when his father told him the carousel was just around the corner, the boy still would not let go of the swing. We, as leaders, cannot be afraid to let go of the swing. We must face our own fear of change also. Quinn says, "We resist reflecting on our own fear of change. Yet the truth is, we are exactly like the immature and selfish boy who refuses to leave the swing."

I have heard positive feedback from a series of articles I did last year from "Autopsy Of A Deceased Church," by Thom Rainer. Over the next few months, I plan to share another series of articles from another of his books, "Who Moved My Pulpit: Leading Change In The Church." I hear this comment a lot, "Our people do not want change." I think it is ironic that we, as the church, share The Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is all about change, and we are the least changing organization there is.

Rainer says this about change. "Change is absolutely necessary in our churches. Major change is needed in most of them. But change is very difficult in most churches. Church members have become complacent and comfortable. Many church members have become highly change resistant."

Are you holding too tightly to the swing? The carousel is right around the corner.

*"He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5*



I think all parents want to raise their children to be God fearing adults. Recently, I have been reminded that what my kids see is important to me will become important to them. One thing I want my kids to see me continually doing is sharing God's love with people around us in Shelby, in the US, and around the world. And what better way to do this than to be involved in missions. This summer I am planning to take my oldest along with me on our summer mission trip to Indiana. I would love for your family to join us for a life changing week. I recently ran across an article entitled "5 Reasons to Take your Family on a Mission Trip". The author shared his top reasons for taking his family on a mission trip:

1. We are fulfilling the great commission. Go and make disciples.
2. We are teaching our children that it truly is better to give than receive
3. We are giving our children the opportunity to serve and work hard.
4. We are opening the eyes of our children to other cultures and peoples.
5. We are planting seeds in our children's hearts.

I think it is great when our youth are able to go on mission trips with their youth group. But, I also encourage you to think and pray about what a wonderful thing it would be to serve alongside your child on a family mission trip. We will be having an interest meeting for our summer mission trip on February 18th. Please join us to hear more about this opportunity.

Katie



## **JESUS IN THE TEMPLE**

*Luke 2:48-49: "So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to him, 'Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously.' And He said to them, 'Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?'"*

1. What was the reason the Fathers brought their male children to the Passover party?
2. Did Jesus really get lost in Jerusalem or just begin to obey His Heavenly Father from the work entrusted to Him?
3. What does the Child Jesus tell us with His response to His earthly parents?

# Thoughts from our Staff.....

Last week, we spoke briefly about Mary's life. She was an excellent woman, who was virtuous, faithful, and obedient. She was a good mother to her children. History reveals to us that as a family they went to Jerusalem every year for the Passover feast. This was an annual party that was intimately linked to Pentecost. This was also called the ceremony (Bar Mitzvah). This refers to the age of 13, which marked when a Jewish male was recognized as a man before society. Now, Jesus was twelve, so this was His last Passover as a child. It could be said that this was where Jesus accepted His call to ministry. Mary likely realized this as later the passage states that "she pondered these things in her heart." Today, we have many men called to the ministry. Some called do not have the power to explain what their call means. Some are called without preparation. We do know, however, that it is God who calls us. Jesus understood this as a young child. His parents did not understand. They came, did their business, and followed the crowd home. They were so caught up in the routine that they missed what God was doing. They eventually realized what they were missing and went back to see their son doing His Father's work. They still don't understand, until He explains it to them. They knew that God had a plan for their Son. They did not know that this plan was already beginning to take shape. Jesus was preparing for a life of ministry. Thousands today jump into ministry, but few learn to pray fervently. Jesus understood early in life. He lived his life under His Father's advice, but He also lived in obedience to His mother and father on earth. They helped shape Him into a man and allowed Him to grow in wisdom. No one taught in the way Jesus taught. Jesus was never lost in Jerusalem. He was obeying God's early call on His life. I pray that we all do the same. Blessings. Pastor Jose A. Espinal, Hispanic Missionary Blessings.

## Education and Network Opportunities

### Pastors:

#### Ministers Conference

Monday, January 6, 2020  
Dr. Chuck Campbell,  
Strategy Coordinator, NCBSC  
Prayer Time 11:00am, Lunch 11:30am,  
Program 12:00pm

Hey Pastors! Do you have a personal disciple making strategy? Would you like one? We are starting new G3 Disciple Making Groups. If you're interested, contact [wesley@gccba.org](mailto:wesley@gccba.org), 704-751-1028

#### **Monthly Pastor and Youth Pastor Fellowships.**

See back side calendar for times and locations.

**1st Thursday**- Grover/Kings Mtn. Pastors Fellowship

**2nd Thursday**- Lattimore Pastors Fellowship

**3rd Thursday**- Polkville/Waco Fellowship

#### **Pastor and Youth Pastor Prayer Time**

YM Prayer Time **3rd Tuesday** 12:00 PM

**Pastors Prayer Times**- Monday, January

6, 2020 at 11:00am, and Wednesday,

January 15 at 10:00am.

#### **Leadership and Business Affairs Teams Meeting**

Jan. 28, 2020 at 11:45 am in the downstairs conference room

**SAVE THE DATE!!!!**

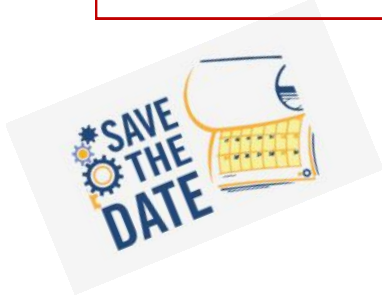
**More information coming soon!**

UNITE Youth Worship Weekend, March 6-7

Spring Deacon Training, March 16, Mark Mirza, Common Thread Prayer Ministries, location to be announced.

Senior Adult Musical Performance, Sunday, March 15. Time and Location, TBA

Senior Adult Rally, Monday, April 20, location TBA



# Missions Opportunities

## Indiana Mission Trip

We will have an interest meeting for our Indiana Mission Trip on February 18th at 6:30. Please come to hear details about our annual trip. We would love to have children (with parent involvement), youth, and adults join us to serve alongside churches in Indiana. The trip is tentatively scheduled for July 11th-17th. We hope to have this date confirmed in a few weeks.



## Associational Children's Missions Race Car Derby Coming in March

We will serve supper, have a missions presentation, and then race. We will need all groups to RSVP by March 5th so we can prepare for supper. You can register by calling our office or through our website at [www.gccba.org](http://www.gccba.org). When you register please have information about how many racers you will have in each category. All Girls & Boys mission groups are invited to race.

**All groups must have a Mission Project Display in order to race.**

The **Associational Bible Drill** will be on Sunday, March 22 at Beaver Dam Baptist at 3:00 pm!



**BIBLE  
DRILL**

*Race Categories Include:*

Boys – 1st-3rd grade	Girls – 4th-6th grade
Girls – 1st-3rd grade	Boys- 7th-12th
Boys – 4th grade-6th grade	Girls – 7th-12th grade



## 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



Jose and Maria Espinal are

available to come cook a meal for your church. The church in Nicaragua greatest need right now is transportation. All the proceeds will go to help them purchase a vehicle, so they can bring people to church. To schedule his group to cook a meal, please contact Katie Harris.

## Friday Feed the Hungry Lunch Program

We are currently working on the 2020 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.



## Block Party Trailer

The 2020 Associational budget includes funding to purchase a new Block Party Trailer. The new trailer will include the same ministry tools along with some great additions. The cost to rent the trailer will remain \$100 and this will include all the supplies needed. Please remember to call and reserve your date to use it.



## 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, PO 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 with higher utility bills!

## Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: **Nov. 2019**

Food	42
Medicine	3
Power	37
Clothes	24
Dental	1
Hotel	1
Other	3
Counseling	59
Total Assisted Units:	170

## 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 January**

Carpenter's Grove:

Jason Allen, 5 years

Christopher Road:

Mike Tucker, 3 years

Gethsemane Hispanic:

Jose Espinal, 11 years

Sunrise:

Dennis Harmon, 18 years

Trinity:

Mike Frazier, 7 years



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

FBC Shelby ~ New Bethel ~ Oak Grove ~  
Zoar



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

Calvary ~ Temple

## **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!

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

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

*Happy  
Anniversary*



Please make a note that the Association office will now be closed every Friday.

We will be open Monday-Thursday  
8:00-5:00 pm

You can reach us by email or voicemail at any time.

## **GCCBA Website**

Please visit [gccba.org](http://gccba.org) to stay up to date with GCCBA events and important announcements.

## **Church Needs.....**

### **Bethany:**

Bethany is seeking an inspired person **to lead a contemporary worship style**, to develop and organize the praise time and individuals. Contact Pastor Richard 704-300-1730

### **Bethlehem:**

Bethlehem Baptist Church is seeking a **full-time Director of Children and Youth Ministries** to enhance its children and youth ministry programs by overseeing and providing Christ-centered activities that encourage spiritual growth and group involvement. The Director of Children and Youth Ministries Christ-centered activities that encourage spiritual growth and group involvement. The Director of Children and Youth Ministries will engage children, youth, and their families in order to help them grow and participate in the life and ministry of the church. Send resume's to [bbckmnc@aol.com](mailto:bbckmnc@aol.com) Full Job Description at [gccba.org](http://gccba.org)



# Church Needs.....

## ***Crestview:***

Crestview Baptist Church in Shelby is searching for a **musical accompanist** (piano) to serve in a permanent part-time position. This will involve Wednesday nights and Sundays, plus planning/practice time. Send resume to: Crestview Baptist Church, 1090 Old Boiling Springs Road, Shelby, North Carolina 28152

## ***Lattimore***

Lattimore Baptist Church is seeking a **part time organist**. This position includes playing during Sunday morning worship services and coordinating special music with the pianist. This person should have the ability to work well with others. This person also needs to be willing to play at weddings and funerals when requested and fill in for the pianist when she is absent. Lattimore Baptist Church services use the Baptist Hymnal and are traditional in style of worship. If interested, please email resume to: lbcsecretary2016@gmail.com by January 6, 2020.

## ***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

## ***Oak Grove:***

Oak Grove Baptist Church believes that God is calling one man to be the **pastor** for us, and we are focused on finding His will to locate this person. We have seen God at work within our church and believe that God's choice will bring Him honor and glory here at OGBC. While we are not putting restrictions on God's choice for us, we believe that His choice will have some theological training, believe the Bible to be the infallible and inerrant Word of God, and will provide messages and teachings reflecting this. We believe that God's choice will also be a kind and loving person who can share that love while providing biblical based preaching and teaching. He will work with a Minister of Music (part-time), a Minister of Youth/Children (part-time), and lay people on a full time basis to strengthen our commitment to God, His teachings and to our community, nation and world. Oak Grove Baptist Church is aligned with the Baptist State Convention of NC, and the Southern Baptist Convention. Applicants should apply by email at ogbcsearchcomm@gmail.com or mail to Krista Smith, Chairperson Pastor Search Committee, Oak Grove Baptist Church, 1022 Oak Grove Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Oak Grove Baptist Church is seeking an individual for the position of **Organist/Accompanist**. This is a 4 – 6 hour per week, part-time, salaried position. Position includes playing music for Sunday morning & evening services, choir practices and special planned events (cantata, revival, etc.) The qualified candidate should have a proficiency in playing the organ, have a knowledge of organ range of skills, the ability to sight read accompaniments. You should be self-motivated, have strong interpersonal skills,

work well with other and be flexible with changes in work hours during the Christmas and Easter seasons. If want additional details, ease email them to ogbcsearchcomm@gmail.com Please submit your resume, reference, and video/audio sample of you playing (if possible) to: Oak Grove Baptist Church Attn: Music Committee 1022 Oak Grove Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or email to ogbcsearchcomm@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.

## ***Shelby First:***

First Baptist Church, Shelby, NC, is seeking a **Lead Pastor** to guide our church into its next stage of worship and ministry. Those interested in applying should send a letter of interest and resume to firstbaptist-churchshelby@gmail.com. FBC Shelby supports the mission agencies of the Cleveland County (NC) Baptist Association, the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Southern Baptist Convention. Full Job Description at gccba.org

## ***Westview:***

Westview Baptist Church is seeking a **Part Time Minister of Outreach and Assimilation**. The new position is designed for the person God calls and has gifted to reach others with the gospel. The position will require 25 -30 hours per week and would involve assisting the Pastor and Staff in weaving the church together in a seamless process in the community. This position will require organizational and administrative skills while implementing new ministries and enhancing existing ones through creative outreach, technology and media, while maintaining a missionary mindset. Please submit a written resume by mail to Westview Baptist Church, 500 Melody Lane, Shelby, NC 28150 on or before October 10, 2019, or by email to millie@wbcselby.org.

## ***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 resumes 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 of Shelby is currently seeking a **part time youth leader**. This position consist of 10 hours per week. The duties include but are not limited to, leading Sunday morning and Wednesday night youth bible study. For a complete list of responsibilities interested candidates should send questions and or resumes to: youthsearch@zoarchurch.com or Zoar Baptist Church Youth Committee 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.  
1175 Wyke Road  
Shelby, NC 28150

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
SHELBY, NC 28150  
PERMIT NO. 40  
Return Service Requested

**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@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

- 2** – Grover & KM Minister's Fellowship, Carolina Crossing 8:30 am
- 3** – Hungry program *Volunteers Needed*, at Shelby First, 12:30 pm
- 6** – Pastor's Cohort 3, GCCBA 10:00 am  
Pastor's Prayer Time, GCCBA 11:00 am  
Minister's Conference, GCCBA 11:30 am
- 9** – Lattimore Minister's Fellowship at Bulldog Quick Snack, 8:30 am
- 10** – Hungry program *Volunteers Needed* at Shelby First, 12:30
- 15** – Pastors Prayer Time, GCCBA, 10 am
- 16** – Polkville and Waco Minister's Fellowship at Hwy 18 North Café, 11:30 am
- 17**—Hungry program with Peak Resources volunteers at Shelby First, 12:30
- 20**— GCCBA OFFICE CLOSED for Martin Luther King Day
- 21** – Youth Minister's Prayer Time, GCCBA 12:00 pm
- 24**—Hungry program at with Beaver Dam Volunteers Shelby First, 12:30 pm
- 28**—Leadership Business Affairs Team Meeting, GCCBA 11:45 am

