

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  
 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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Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

*Uniting congregations in effective missions and ministries*

# THE BEACON

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May 2020

Words from Wesley...

"They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work." Nehemiah 2:18

My how quickly things have changed. No pun intended. In my article this month, we will continue our series of articles from Thom Rainer's book, "Who Moved My Pulpit?: Leading Change In The Church." If you haven't been following or would like to go back and read, you can see our archived copy online at our website, <http://gccba.org/newsletter/>. We are continuing with the stages of Rainers, *Road Map To Change*. Let me remind to, this article or previous articles just hits the highlights. I would highly recommend you read the book in its entirety. I had hoped to finish the final four stages in this article, but there is too much. I'll hit the final two in next month's article. Let me also add that if you were working toward change prior to March 11, 2020 and that desired change hasn't happened yet, don't give up. Keep working. However, keep in mind that many things have changed recently and fast. You may consider moving slower and giving some time for the current changes to set in.

**5. Deal with People Issues-** The courage to handle people blockage, both staff and church. This component was very deep and had SEVERAL layers to it.

- a. Love People- "If you love change more than you love people, you have already failed as a leader."
- b. Expect Opposition- "...if you are a change leader, you will have to deal with critics and opposition."
- c. Eager Coalition- having key leaders who will be a buffer between the church and the pastor.
- d. Eating an Elephant- "How do you lead change at a church. One careful step at time." I would love to have room to print the percentages of change ratio, but I'll encourage you to read the book. It was helpful. Just keep in mind that 25% are resistant to change and 20% are highly resistant to change.
- e. Not delaying people decisions- When having to make changes in staff or volunteer positions, don't delay. "If you know you have to make a difficult decision with someone, don't delay. The situation will only worsen."
- f. Losses- Some will not be able to make the changes. Sadly, there will be losses.
- g. Ongoing Prayer- "Prayer should be the centerpiece of our lives as we lead people toward change."

Assistance Office:  
704-481-9119

Counseling Center:  
704-472-1437

# Thoughts from our Staff.....

6. **Move from Inward Focus to Outward Focus-** "Over time the efforts of the church typically move inwardly." "Many churches move from a dynamic Great Commission body to a religious country club. The members pay their "dues," and you better make certain they are happy and well served." Rainer says that change will not happen without an intentional outward movement. He gives four action items for churches to move outwardly.

- a. Outwardly Focused Leader- "Whether you are a pastor, elder, staff person or lay leader, you can't lead change without embodying change." How do you become a more outward focused leader? Rainer says it can be as simple as becoming accountable to someone for Great Commission behavior.
- b. Outwardly Focused Budget- Look and see what money is used for in the church budget. Is it for the community, or for the church members?
- c. Outwardly Focused Increments- Lead change incrementally to prepare church for the greater change.
- d. Outwardly Focused and Low Hanging Fruit- "Think about major changes or change your church needs to make. What low-hanging fruit can you find that is a step toward those changes?" Make a "first step," toward desired change.

"I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success." Nehemiah 2:20

††††††††††



National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 7, 2020. There are normally gatherings at Shelby City Hall, Cleveland County Administration Building, Waco Town Hall, Boiling Springs Town Hall, Casar Town Hall, Grover Town Hall, and Kings Mountain City Hall. Ring your church bell for a call to prayer at 12:00pm. If we are still not able to gather, look for a virtual experience either from your local community or on our Facebook page.

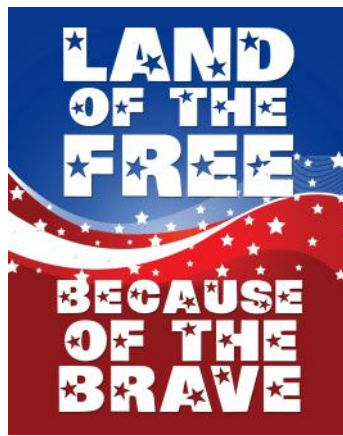
## ***Indiana Mission Trip***

We are prayerfully continuing to make plans for the Indiana Mission trip. We are in communication with the churches in Indiana so that we will be prepared when we are able to go on the trip. We know that the state of our country may affect the number of people who will be able to travel with us but we know God will work out the details. If you are planning to go on the mission, trip please watch for more information about a virtual Zoom meeting.

I ♥ VBS

What about VBS? VBS is one of the biggest outreach events of the year! Is your church making plans for VBS to be a little different? How are you recruiting and training leaders during this crisis? Just some things to consider. Contact us if you'd like to talk about that.

May is normally the month we recognize our volunteers and ministry assistants. We're thankful for and appreciate them and will honor them when we're able.



**Thank you!**



At this time all originally planned in person meetings, and events have been postponed until after the Governor's Stay At Home Order is lifted.

**Compassion Ministry Report**

Assistance Type:	<b>Mar. 2020</b>
Food	39
Medicine	9
Power	53
Clothes	8
Counseling	42
Total Assisted Units:	151



We are rescheduling the **Food Roundup** from April to later this year. We will communicate with you as soon as we have more details. Here's how your church can ensure our food and funding do not run out:

1. Pray: Ask God to lead you and others to help with the need. He is able!
2. Give by check or online: This is the most essential way your church can help. Your financial offering will allow us to purchase the food and supplies that are most-needed throughout our statewide ministries. Make out a check to Baptist Children's Homes or give online at [www.bchfamily.org/givenow](http://www.bchfamily.org/givenow)
3. Send gift cards: Gift cards, especially to stores like Walmart and Food Lion, will help us purchase the most-needed food and supplies.



RightNow Media Partnership  
 We are excited to be partnered with RightNow Media. All of your pastors and church staff were given subscriptions. We have offered your church a three month membership on us to try out! We're praying this helps you make disciples during this critical time. [www.rightnowmedia.org](http://www.rightnowmedia.org)  
 Contact us for more info!

Two new **available positions** have been added to our website:

1. Boiling Springs Baptist Church Daycare Director Submission Deadline May 8, 2020
2. Zoar Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a permanent, part-time worship leader

Go to our website for the full listings:  
<http://gccba.org/available-positions/>



Wishing you the very best this Mother's Day!

Sunday, May 10



Wake Forest Baptist Health  
**Mother's Day Offering**  
 Week of Prayer ~ May 3-10

100% of gifts are a witness to Christ's love, helping patients with special needs pay their hospital bills. [www.mothersdayoffering.org](http://www.mothersdayoffering.org)

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# THE BEACON

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Please visit our website, [www.gccba.org](http://www.gccba.org) and other social media sites for information, training, and mission opportunities. Join one of our Facebook groups for your area!



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