

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

Volume 62, Issue 8

August 2020

Words from Wesley...

Who's tired? This season has probably been the toughest season Many of us have ever been through, especially our pastors. However, I realize that everyone is dealing with a lot. I pray that you've been in prayer for your pastor and church leaders. I also pray that you have shown grace to them in this season. The decisions being made right now are not easy. Trying to honor God in the gathering of believers, while also being obedient to governing officials, and balancing that with the health and safety of people that we love and are called to shepherd and care for, not to mention trying to console the grieving and minister to the sick at a distance, are all difficult things to consider. Hearts are heavy. Anxiety is growing. Hope is waning. How long can this go on?

Here's a great reminder of God's strength that will carry us through, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

Now is the time to show and live out the hope we have in Jesus! This is not to be done arrogantly, or in a mean spirit. Paul writes to Timothy in chapter one of First Timothy warning him of some in Ephesus who were teaching a false doctrine or adding to the Gospel with useless genealogies and myths. There was not a loving spirit, pure heart, or good conscience. What they were teaching and living out was taking away from the work of the Gospel. They were misusing the law. He said that such teaching promoted, "controversial speculations rather than advancing God's work --which is by faith," (1 Tim. 1:4). I pray that we are not misusing the law or developing false doctrines that are adding speculation rather than advancing the Gospel. I pray that we are living out our hope in the mercy and grace that God has shown us. May we live out love in a pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith.

"The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith." 1 Timothy 1:8

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Reminder of Meetings in August.



Enlistment Team Meeting, August 8 at 11:45am
Leadership and Business Affairs Teams- August 25 at 11:45am

Assistance Office:
704-481-9119

Counseling Center:
704-472-1437

Thoughts from our Staff.....

I am very excited to report that our new Block Party Trailer has arrived and is ready for you to start using. The Block Party Trailer has been a great ministry tool since we purchased the first one 15 years ago. On our website, we will be including great information about hosting block parties, instructional videos, and other evangelism materials. I recently found a great packet about hosting block parties. It used the BLESS Method to remind you why and how you have a block party.

B- Begin with prayer. Start each step of the planning and execution with prayer.

L- Listen with care. During the block party you will meet many new people, listen to what they say so you will know who they are and how you can help meet their needs in order to share Christ with them.

E- Eat Together. Every good block party includes some good food! But be sure not to just serve food, but have volunteers that sit down to eat with those who attend.

S- Serve with love. Be sure to show those who attend that you love them so that they can see God's love through you.

S- Share your story. Once you start building a relationship with someone, you will have an opportunity to share with them your story about what God has done for you.

But then don't forget the most important B:

B-Bring. Once you start a relationship with those who attend your block party, then invite them to join you at church, a small group, or a Bible study. A block party is not a one time ministry event, but the start of a relationship between your church and the community that surrounds it.

Serving together,
Katie Harris

August 3, **Ministers Conference**
11:30am at the GCCBA Office. Special guest, Alan Wildes with Generis will be sharing with us; "Beyond COVID-19, Facilitating Kingdom Growth." We will have a box lunch so RSVP is required for lunch. An online option will be available as well. Email or call Wesley for those details.

Pastors:

August 27- E3 Ministry Training

10:00am-11:00am (Virtual or In Person) Join Dr.

Sandy Marks and Wesley as we discuss and share

how to best help the church in the interim using three components: Engage,

Evaluate, and Explore. Call the office, email Wesley or register online at <http://gccba.org/e3-ministry-training/>. If you'd like to get a recording to watch later, please go ahead and register.



NO AREA PASTORS FELLOWSHIPS THIS MONTH. We will look at the possibilities of returning to these in September.

A new **available position** has been added to our website: **Polkville Baptist Church Administrative Assistant:** Polkville Baptist Church is in search for a part-time Temporary Administrative Assistant. The position requires a 20-hour week, Monday – Thursday. To apply visit www.polkvillebaptist.com and follow the instructions.

Go to our website to see all listings:
<http://gccba.org/available-positions/>



WHY IS THE FOOD ROUNDUP SO VITAL?

The Food Roundup in April had to be postponed because of COVID-19. As a result, our pantry shelves in our children's cottages are becoming bare.

HOW WILL MY EFFORTS HELP THE CHILDREN?

You will ensure our shelves are restocked so boys and girls, many who were never fed regularly before coming to Baptist Children's Homes, have plenty to eat. As you fill their plates, your love fills their hearts.



Friday Lunch Program

At this time, our Friday lunch program is bag lunches only. We are asking churches to fix bag lunches and deliver them to First Baptist. If you have volunteers that want to stay and hand them out, they can or you can just drop them off. We have several dates left this year so please call Katie to sign up your group.



Fair Ministry

As you have probably heard, the 2020 Cleveland County Fair has been canceled, so we will not be having our scheduled Fair Ministry Meeting. Please begin to pray now about how your church can be involved in our 2021 Fair Ministry.



Prayer Walk

FOR OUR SCHOOLS



School Prayer Opportunity

At this time, it's uncertain what the 2020/2021 school year will look like, but what is certain is that students, teachers, school staff, and parents are in need of prayer. We want to encourage our churches to reach out to schools in their area to partner to pray for them whether that be through a Zoom meeting, an outside prayer walk, or by other means. Also consider asking church members to write encouraging notes to the school staff. Church/School partnerships create a wonderful relationship in which the church can show the community that they love and care for them.

Missed the era of barn raisings and corn shuckings?

Some of you may be too young to remember the days when neighbors helped neighbors with big projects such as "raising a barn" or a "corn shucking". People got together to get a job done that would have no return for the volunteers, sort of like the Cleveland County Potato Project. Those folks removing weeds for the next few weeks will not get the potatoes. But neighbors will. Something we do in July and August can help feed someone in November. What if a civic club, service club, business, Sunday School Class, bunch of buddies, male or female, etc. met on a Saturday morning and worked for an hour and shared breakfast for an hour? Each group could use its own imagination for breakfast. covered dish, Bojangles, grill on site, food flown in from NY, or whatever? If you are interested in creating such an event, let me know and CCPP will help with the details.

Doug Sharp- 704-472-5128, dwsharp428@aol.com

Greatest Treat Festival

At this time, we are still making plans to hold our annual Greatest Treat Festival. The festival will take place on Sunday, October 25th at Shelby City Park. Please watch for more information about how your church can be involved.

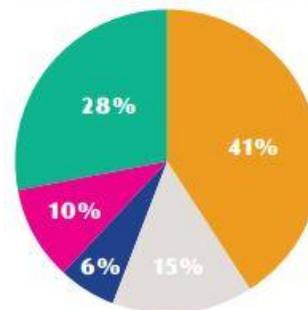


Mission Partnerships

Due to the virus, we have had to cancel both of our yearly mission trips to Indiana and Nicaragua. Our ministry partners continue to minister to their communities and we ask that you continue to pray for them. We all look forward to the day that we will be able to return to these mission fields.

ARE YOU *compelled by love?*

YOUR GIFTS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA MISSIONS OFFERING HELP:



- Spread the gospel.
- Relieve suffering.
- Plant new churches.
- Mobilize people in missions.
- Minister during disasters.
- Treat the sick.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Baptists on Mission | \$ 856,720 |
| Church Planting | \$ 596,000 |
| Mission Camps | \$ 313,080 |
| Associational Projects | \$ 210,000 |
| Mobilization Ministry Projects | \$ 124,200 |

NCMISSIONSOFFERING.ORG

Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: **June 2020**

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Food | 22 |
| Medicine | 2 |
| Power | 13 |
| Clothes | 4 |
| Counseling | 40 |
| Total Assisted Units: | 81 |

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THE BEACON

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Please visit our website, 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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