

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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October 2020

Words from Wesley...

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith..." Hebrews 12:1-2*

Normally this time of year we are looking forward to and talking about the change in the season. The air is getting cooler, the leaves are changing colors, and pumpkin spice is in the air. I know someone just rolled their eyes at that last comment. Change is not always something that we can control, especially not the seasons. How are you handling the current changes that are happening around you?

Thankfully, I have come to appreciate change, and embrace what I cannot control. How we react to change is key. We can fight it. We can worry about it. Or we can embrace it and allow God to change us in the midst of it. Yes, I know, some change is not always good, but that doesn't change how we react to it. Our reaction should always be to seek the Lord, and trust Him. If we are seeking the Lord, trusting Him and following in obedience, then the change around us is really irrelevant. Let's be honest, in order for things to be different, change has to take place. Is that not true? We cannot expect change, all while staying the same.

The people of Israel wanted change. They were tired of being oppressed and enslaved. They cried out to God for help (Exodus 2:23). God heard their cries and answered their prayers, but by overthrowing Pharaoh and leaving the Israelites in Egypt. He raised up Moses. They lived through plagues, and then he had them travel. Not just travel, but He led them the long way through the desert (Exodus 13:17-18). It wasn't long before the people began to gripe, grumble, and complain, about two months to be exact (Exodus 16:2). "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt..." Exodus 16:3. God led the people of Israel on a journey of faith and trust. Staying with them, and providing for them along the way, He led them to the promised land. The journey wasn't about the promised land. It wasn't about the rules and regulations that came from that journey. It was and is about God. God and His relationship with His creation. His prize creation, humanity. It is always about God. I pray that we do not lose that. Stay focused. Know that God is with us, always. He is faithful and will accomplish what He desires to accomplish. Nothing can thwart His plan.

*"The Lord is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God and I will exalt him. The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name." Exodus 15:2-3*

Assistance Office:  
704-481-9119

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704-472-1437

# Thoughts from our Staff.....

Recently, I wrote a blog post on how churches can have a safe Fall Festival and I wanted to share some of that information in this article. I know that Fall Festivals have always been a great community outreach for churches. It gives you an opportunity to invite the community to come to your church to participate in a safe and fun event. One of the suggestions was to use this time to empower your families to do ministry in their own neighborhood. You can do this by providing them with supplies and tools so that they can host their own neighborhood fall festival. Create a Fall Festival in a Box where you provide promotional material, tracts, small crafts, game supplies or games ideas. Your encouragement can help your church members feel prepared and ready to share Christ's love to those that live around them. This type of event is truly allowing the church to bring Christ out in the community. I pray that God will give your church direction and ideas on how to safely continue to minister this fall.

Katie

## Pastors:

### Ministers Conference

Monday, October 5, 2020  
Fellowship/Lunch 11:30am,  
Conference/Online at 12:00pm.  
Please RSVP for box lunch.  
Dr. Wayne Stacey will be joining us  
virtually, sharing "For This Cause:  
Christians in Crete."

**KM/Grover Pastors Fellowship** will meet  
at the Carolina Crossings Restaurant on  
Thursday, October 1, at 8:30am.

**Lattimore Pastors Fellowship** will meet at  
the Bulldog Quik Snak, Thursday, October 8,  
at 8:30am.

**Upper Cleveland/Waco Pastors  
Fellowship** will meet at Hwy 18 North on  
October 15, at 11:30 am.

Pastors are human—they face the same challenges that their people do, with some additional ones! They grow tired in ministry, are tempted to sin, and may find it difficult to balance their many roles and responsibilities. They need the encouragement and support of those they lead. Pray for your Pastor!



### GCCBA 2020 Fall Deacon Training

Tuesday, October 13, 2020  
at 7:00pm  
Sign up at <http://gccba.org/deacon-training/>

### Greatest Treat Festival Save the Date October 24th

We are very excited about our plans for the festival this year. We will be hosting the event at the Hounds Drive-in in Kings Mountain. Like always the popcorn, movie, and candy will all be free to the community. We need churches to donate items for the treat bags we will hand out. We are including candy, pencils, small packs of crayons, and gospel bracelet kits. If you are interested in being involved please contact Katie.



### Greatest Treat Festival @ the Drive-In

Featuring the movie: The Lion of Judah  
This year we are taking the Greatest Treat Festival on the road:  
Saturday October 24, 2020  
Hounds Drive-in, 114 Raven Circle,  
Kings Mountain,  
Gates open at 5:00 pm  
Enjoy music from King's Highway, Movie starts at dark (approximately 7:45), Cost: FREE and open to everyone (maximum 800 cars)

Sponsored by the Baptist Churches of Cleveland County & the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association

*Join us!*

Drop-In/Open House, Pastor & Messenger booklet pick up Thursday, October 22, 4-6pm.

Monday, October 26, 2020; 6:00pm  
 Associational Report & Celebration  
 via Zoom and Facebook Live



Unite with others and pray for 30 days toward revival and spiritual awakening during October. "God's Great Hope" devotional prayer guides are available for you to order or download.

- Visit [store.ncbaptist.org/pray-for-30-days](http://store.ncbaptist.org/pray-for-30-days) to purchase printed guides for yourself or your church.
- Email [praync@ncbaptist.org](mailto:praync@ncbaptist.org) or call (800) 395-5102, ext. 5513.

Other Digital Resources:

- Receive daily prayer prompts via text messaging during October by texting the phrase "PRAY30Days" to 313131.
- Receive daily prayer prompts and devotionals by email during October by registering at [ncbaptist.org/prayeremail](http://ncbaptist.org/prayeremail)

### Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: **August 2020**

Food	16
Medicine	1
Power	10
Clothes	2
Dental	1
Other Medical	1
Other	2
Counseling	34
Total Assisted Units:	67

### Friday Lunch Program

I am so thankful for the many churches that responded to my request to fill the open dates for 2020. I quickly was able to fill up the schedule for the rest of the year. I am now working to sign up groups for 2021. If your group is interested in helping provide food, please contact Katie.



### Christmas Toy Store

We are still praying about the plans to safely hold our annual Christmas Toy Store. Please watch for more information about how you can be involved.



**Week of Prayer for Baptist Associations**  
**October 18-24**  
**2 Corinthians 4:18**

**Red Box Christmas gifts** that WMU NC sends to the women in the state prison. Toothpaste tubes **must be 6-9 oz** and be left in their original box and/or packaging. It does not matter the brand but it **has to be 6-9 oz** or they will not take it. We still need 850 dropped off by September 26th!



Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association, Inc.  
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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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