

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  
 Mullis 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 12

December 2020

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Final Words....

"The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Colossians 1:15-16

Let's not forget Who is running the show. "Even when I don't see it, You're working." (WayMaker)

The last thought I'll leave with you is found in Ecclesiastes 4. The writer is referring to friendships and marriages, but I also believe it can apply to churches. Two are better than one. I believe it's better when several churches come together. That's why I believe in the Association. I pray that you will continue to support and encourage one another. An Association is what you as the pastors and churches lead, make it. I believe we have one of the best Associations!

Stop trying to go at this alone! Reach out to the churches around you. Pray for and with one another, often. The lost people in your communities are looking for Jesus, and don't even know it! Work together to share the Gospel and show the love of Christ.

God has given you everything you need in your churches to accomplish what He has for you. Surrender, trust, obey and follow Him.

Know that I am praying for you, and would covet your continued prayers for me. I'm thankful for each of you.

*"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor." Ecclesiastes 4:1*

*"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."*

*John 17:20-21*

Wesley

Rev. Leland Kerr will be joining our staff on December 1, 2020 as our Interim Associational Missionary. Please pray for our teams as they make decisions during this transition time.

# Thoughts from our Staff.....

October 21, 2020

GCCBA Personnel Team, Leadership Team, Business Affairs Team, Staff and Churches;

I was extremely humbled and considered it a great honor to be called as your Associational Missionary in March of 2016. I was overwhelmed by your confidence and support. I can recall several conversations after that evening with individuals sharing their excitement and encouragement. Some who shared they felt this would be a great thing for a long time to come. Even then, I remember continuing to share with them that I was simply being obedient to God's call on my life and ministry and that I would serve until he called me elsewhere. However, I would have never dreamed that my time with you would have been so short.

You have been patient with me and my family and prayed fervently with us as we have sought the Lord and His direction for our ministry over the past fifteen months. I have been so thankful for your continued support and encouragement from the very moment you found out that Bonnie was taking a job and moving out of Cleveland County. The past fifteen months have been hard, but God has given us the ability to endure. The main theme that has come from this season has been from Psalm 37. "Trust in the Lord and do good..." "Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart..." "...wait patiently for Him..."

The past four and a half years have been an awesome season of ministry! It has been an honor to serve alongside this great staff, our teams, pastors and churches. However, as the writer of Ecclesiastes writes, seasons come and go. There's a beginning and an end. I am excited to announce that a new season is beginning for both you and I. The Three Forks Association in Watauga County has called me to serve as their next Director of Missions. So, it is with both excitement and sadness, that I resign as your Associational Missionary. My last day will be Thursday, November 12.

Please continue to pray for us, and we will commit to continued prayers for you! I'm thankful for your continued partnership in the Gospel ministry!

"In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:4-6

With Love In Christ,  
Wesley Smith

One of my favorite musical lyrics is from a song from the musical *Wicked*. The song is entitled *For Good*. One part of the song says, "...People come into our lives, for a reason bringing something we must learn and we are led to those, who help us most to grow if we let them...I know I'm who I am today because I knew you, I have been changed for good." We all have people in our lives that change us, those people who teach us and challenge us to learn and to grow. God has placed these people in our lives to help us continue to grow into the person he has called us to be. There are 3 reasons why I bring this thought to you in this article. First, as you know Wesley will be leaving our office to continue to serve in ministry at another Baptist Association. As his time with us draws to a close, I want to thank him for being a person that changed me for the better. Second, I challenge you to take time to thank the person that has changed you. But I also want to challenge you to find someone that you can impact and change for the better. We all have people around us that need someone to invest in them.  
Katie



**Office will be closed**  
December 8—for the Toy Store  
Wednesday, December 23 through Thursday, December  
31. We will reopen Monday, January 4, 2021!

**KM/Grover Pastors Fellowship** will meet at the Carolina Crossings Restaurant on Thursday, December 3, at 8:30am.  
**Lattimore Pastors Fellowship** will meet at the Bulldog Quik Snak, Thursday, December 10, at 8:30am.



**Friday Lunch Program**

We continue to give out food on Friday's at our Friday Lunch Program.

At this time the meals are bag lunches. If you are interested in signing up to help provide food for this program please contact Katie.

**Compassion Ministry Report**

Assistance Type: **October 2020**

Food	20
Medicine	2
Power	32
Clothes	7
Other	1
Counseling	41
Total Assisted Units:	103

Go to our website to see the full listing and all available positions:

<http://gccba.org/available-positions/>.

- Oak Grove Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a permanent part-time pianist.
- Buffalo Baptist Church of Shelby seeks an Associate Pastor of Youth and Children to join its pastoral staff.

**Ministers Conference**

Monday, January 4, 2020

We will have Scott Ball with The Malphurs Group in January to share with us some strategy and visioning.

Make plans to attend!

Prayer Time 11:00am, Lunch 11:30am, Program 12:00pm

**Christmas Toy Store- December 8th**

We are still looking for a few more volunteers to help with our Toy Store on December 8th. It will be drive through to limit contact, but we will still have an opportunity to share the Gospel with these families that come through. Toy donations are needed by December 1st. For a list of toy suggestions please see below.

**Suggestions for toy donations to the GCCBA toy store:**

**For younger children (2-4):** picture books, pull toys, squeeze toys, riding toys, educational toys

**For girls (5-7):** dolls, tea set, storybooks, board games, puzzles, coloring books/crayons, radios, purses, writing/drawing pads, riding toys, dress up clothes

**For boys (5-7):** trucks & cars, model car kits, throw games, bats & gloves, storybooks, remote cars, baseballs, board games

**For boys & girls (8-10):** board games, DVD's, electronic games, books, cd players, bats, gloves, baseballs, football, basketballs

**For older boys and girls (11-12):** jewelry, jewelry boxes, makeup, perfume, vanity cases, curling irons, hair dryers, craft kits, jewelry making kits, watches, board games, card games, DVD-games, basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, cameras, tackle box, fishing gear, diaries/journals, clips/barrettes, hats, skateboards, photo albums, mp3 players

- Cost of gifts should be around \$15 (up to \$20 for older children)
- Please no toys that promote violence



**imb**

LOTTIE MOON  
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Rev. 7:9

Week of Prayer November 29– December 6

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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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