

Allen Memorial
 Battleground
 Beaver Dam
 Bethany
 Bethany Hispanic
 Bethel
 Bethlehem
 Boiling Springs
 Buffalo
 Calvary
 Camps Creek
 Carpenter's Grove
 Casar
 Christ Covenant
 Christian Freedom
 Christopher Road
 City of God
 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 63, Issue 4

April 2021

THOUGHTS FROM LELAND . . .

We as Baptists often speak of financial giving as "tithes and offerings". A tithe is a percentage of one's income (10% or more, hopefully) that is given to the work of ministry in the local church. I remember when my father, a Baptist Pastor, taught me about tithing. I was about 10 or 11 years old and I mowed my neighbors' grass and earned \$10.00. I was so proud that I had earned my own money. Dad sat me down on the front steps of our home and said he was proud of me for earning the \$10.00 and that \$1.00 of it belonged to God. My reaction was less than agreeable or Christlike when I asked Dad why \$1.00 belonged to God when I had done all the work! He very lovingly, and carefully explained to me the Biblical principle of tithing and why as a follower of Christ, I should want to tithe. I have recalled that particular setting and conversation many times for nearly 60 years. An offering is typically thought of as financial gifts above the tithe amount given to other causes – ministry activity fundraisers, missions, benevolent concerns, etc. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines "offering" in this way . . .

". . .to present something as an act of worship or devotion: SACRIFICE"

In our Baptist Churches, we have the opportunity to give to multiple offerings throughout the year. One of the major annual offerings is the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) for North American Missions**. Note this information about the **AAEO**:

What is the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering?

The offering was started in 1895 by Woman's Missionary Union® (WMU) to benefit the work of the Home Mission Board (now [North American Mission Board](#)). In 1934, it was named in honor of Annie Armstrong, a bold missions advocate and WMU's first national executive leader. Today, more than \$1 billion has been donated by Southern Baptist churches and individuals.

How are the gifts used?

Every dollar given goes to train and resource thousands of missionaries involved in church planting and compassion ministries who share the life-transforming gospel of Jesus Christ across the United States, Canada and their territories. For more information visit [Your Gifts at Work](#).

What is this year's theme, scripture verse, and national goals?

The 2021 theme is "The Mission Moves Forward". The scripture verse is 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the Lord's work, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." The national goal is \$70 million.

writing continued on next page

Thoughts from our Staff.....

How your gifts fund the North American Mission Board:

3 Main Sources of Revenue
50%. Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
35%. Cooperative Program
15% Other Revenue

Allocation of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering:

53%. Missionary Mobilization
39%. Church Planting
8%. Evangelism

We as NC Baptists have a long tradition of supporting the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. The Baptist State Convention of NC gave the second highest amount of all state conventions to this Offering last year and were number one in gifts for 8 of the last 10 years. I encourage you and your churches to give generously and sacrificially to this Offering this year. Your gifts will change lives!

Giving and serving with you,
Leland Kerr

I have recently been reading the Jesus Calling devotional. I love these quick words of encouragement because I can keep them on my bedside table to reach for before I fall asleep or when I wake up. It seems each one is written just for me at the time I needed to hear it. One particular devotion really spoke to my heart about my deep need and reliance on Jesus. My natural instinct is to take care of the things that need to be done, whether I do them or I find someone to do it for me (I will stop here and give my husband credit for willingly picking up and putting down everything I ask him to!). But this is not the way God has called us to live our lives. We are supposed to have a deep dependence on him. This devotion says it this way, *"You need me every moment. Your awareness of your constant need for Me is your greatest strength. Your neediness, properly handled, is a link to My Presence."*, it also says *"Make Me central in your consciousness by praying continually: simple, short prayers flowing out of the present moment. Use My Name liberally, to remind you of My Presence."* My goal over the next few weeks is to use Jesus' name often to remind me that He is here.

Serving together,
Katie

LET US CONFIRM OUR FAITH IN THE MIDST OF THE PANDEMIC

1 THESSALONIANS 3:13." That your hearts may be affirmed, irrepensible in holiness before God our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints."

The faith of the people has grown greatly during the Covid Pandemic, but science has also rapidly advanced knowledge because it has assumed that the process of making a vaccine requires a maximum of 5 years and the minimum of 3; and today science has achieved it with the Covid vaccine in less than a year. We have nothing left to say thanks to the science which also comes from God. If science is advanced, we too full of confidence and faith, confirm the knowledge that God has come to activate the heart of the Church and awaken thousands of men that the enemy has locked in depression, in anguish, and even prostrate as if the last thing that will happen to them is that they will die affected by the pandemic. It is time to be fundamentally active in prayer, at all times, in every place, for those who are in authority, for those who control the laboratories, and those who dictate ordinances to close and open businesses, companies, factories, and restaurants. We must, therefore, emphasize that we have been chosen as Saints of God to guide and activate the heart of the Church here in Cleveland County. If we unite in pleadings and petitions before God, our heavenly Father, I am convinced that God will hear us and heal this earth. We will have opportunity, if we turn to Him. We will be restored. Paul's writing to the Thessalonians urges them to revive and affirm the foundation of faith, that their hearts would be willing, clean, irrepensible, and unspotted. Each and every one of us should prepare to come before His Sanctuary with a correct and sanctified attitude through prayer and His Word. For it is our turn to continue preaching, to continue speaking, to continue carrying the seed of the Gospel. We must continue in the purposes of God, His plans do not stop. Our Father is eager to hear us again that we would sing a song or say a prayer in His sanctuary. It is time to reopen the doors of the soul and also that of our temples in Cleveland County and to hear melodies of love and gratitude to Christ the Redeemer. Thank God for people who are ready to reopen all congregations in this county.
Love, Pastor Jose A. Espinal.

Education and Network Opportunities

You're invited!

Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association Bi-Annual Session Monday, April 26, 2021, Facebook Live 6:00 pm

Call To Order and Devotion..... Dr Tim Hendrick, Moderator
Leadership Team Report..... Dr Tim Hendrick, Moderator
Associational Missionary Search Team Report Dr Tim Hendrick, Moderator
Association Staff Report..... Rev. Jose Espinal, Hispanic Missionary
Mrs. Katie Harris, Mission and Ministry Team Leader,
Rev. Leland Kerr, Interim Associational Missionary
Guest Speaker. Dr. Chris Gambill, Director, The Center For
Congregational Health, FaithHealth Ministries Division, Wake Forest Baptist
Medical Center
Closing Prayer..... Rev. Mike Shumate, Vice Moderator

Ministers Conference
Monday, April 12, 2021
Prayer Time 11:00am, Lunch
11:30am,

Join us on Monday April 12th for a fellowship picnic in the parking lot. We will have the food so you can just come and enjoy. We appreciate if you can let us know that you are coming to help as we prepare the food.

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

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

Search Team Update

Your Associational Missionary Search Team is at work. At this point, our monthly meetings consist of prayer, training and planning. We extend many thanks to Leland, Nicole, and Katie for their efforts in preparing the team for the search. To date we have finalized the first portion of an associational assessment tool that will gauge the effectiveness of our association in the fulfillment of our mission. We are currently working on a second part of the survey that will help us gain insight into the desired qualifications of our next Associational Missionary. Before long you will have an opportunity to give input to the team by way of the assessment tool. Please continue to pray for our work.
Tim Hendrick

Please Pray for the Associational Missionary Search Team

The Associational Missionary Search Team held its first meeting by Zoom on Tuesday, December 15. The Team chose Dr. Tim Hendrick as Chairman, Alex Carroll as Vice-Chairman, and Beth McDaniel as Secretary. Will you join others in our Association and pray daily for each of these team members?

- Sunday – Dr. Tim Hendrick, Pastor of Patterson Grove Baptist Church, Kings, Mountain
Alex Carroll, Youth and Children's Minister , Waco Baptist Church, Waco
- Monday – Beth McDaniel, member of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Kings Mountain
- Tuesday – Rev. Will Davis, Pastor of Polkville Baptist Church, Polkville
- Wednesday – Joey Hamrick, member of Flint Hill Baptist Church, Shelby
- Thursday – Josh Hamrick, Minister of Music, Oak Grove Baptist Church, Kings Mountain
- Friday – Rev. Michael Moore, Pastor, City of God Church, Shelby
- Saturday – Rev. Missy Smith, Children and Family Pastor, First Baptist Church, Shelby

We are grateful these Team Members are willing to serve on the Search Team.
"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)

Missions Opportunities



Why is the Food Roundup so vital?

You provide meals and snacks to boys and girls in Baptist Children's Homes' care who often come to us from traumatic situations of abuse and neglect. Many children have gone without eating regularly. Your participation keeps our shelves stocked and children's bellies -- and hearts -- full.

How does my church make an impact?

When children see cars and trucks full of food and necessities pull into our statewide locations, they see God's love in action. Being a part of the Food Roundup is not only about collecting food -- it's about shining the light of Jesus into the darkness boys and girls, many who are unchurched, have endured.



April 2021
bchfoodroundup.org

Have all food & gift cards dropped off at the GCCBA Office by April 16th!
Check out their website to get a list of the needs they have.

North Carolina Operation Inasmuch- (NCOIAM) is a one-day missions blitz in your community. Imagine your whole church active in missions to your community on April 24 or May 8, 2021



Indiana Mission Partnership Update:

Though we are not hosting our association wide summer mission trip to Indiana we have received requests for assistance from a few of the churches we partner with there. One church is looking for a group of 12-15 to help host backyard Bible clubs/sports camps and a block party. This church will provide housing in a lodge. They are looking to do this in June or early August. Another church is looking for a group that can come to help paint their sanctuary. Both of these projects could be done in a 3-5 night trip by one church or members from several churches. If you have an interest in either one of these mission opportunities, please contact Katie.

Construction Skills Training

Men, Women, and Students can learn to:

Hang/Finish Drywall
Install Flooring
Wheelchair ramps
and more!

Shelby Mission Camp
April 24

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Cost:

Training Only: \$10.00

Training with Overnight
Housing (Friday-Saturday):
\$21.00



Friday Lunch Program

Thank you to the groups that have signed up to provide food for our lunch program. We still have some open dates in 2021. Scan this QR Code or contact Katie to sign up.



Missions Opportunities

Meals of Hope:

Our association is participating in the Meals of Hope program where we will pack several thousand shelf stable meals to be used in our county. Set up will be on May 7th & food packing will be on May 8th. Volunteers will be needed on both of these dates. Churches that volunteer will be able to use the food in their food ministry, backpack ministry, or in other ways they minister to their community. Please scan this QR Code or contact Katie to sign up to volunteer for Meals Of Hope.

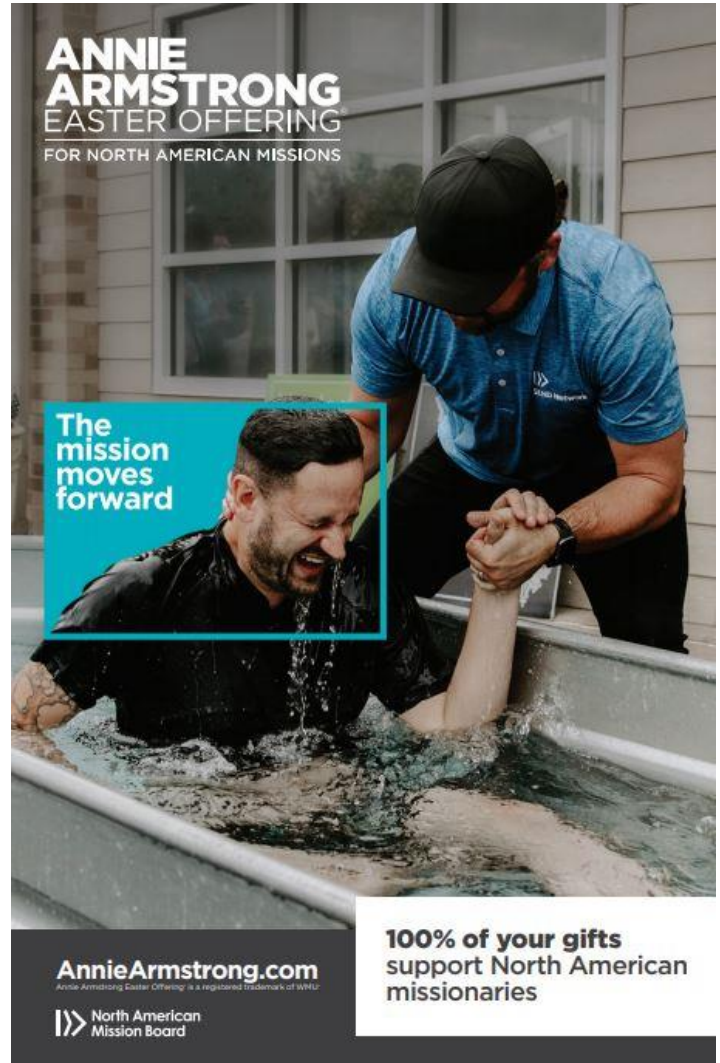


Please pray for Association churches and pastors for April:

- City of God Ministries** Michael Moore
- Community** Scott Caldwell
- Crestview** Artie Hubbard
- David** Brian Taule
- Double Shoals** Brian Johnson
- Double Springs** Bill Fryar
- Dover** Ervin Price
- Eastside, K.Mtn.** Ron Caulder



Friday April 23, 2021
10:00 am – 2:00 pm at GCCBA
Clean out your closets it is time to shred!!



Compassion Ministry Report

Assistance Type: **February 2021**

Food	10
Other	1
Power	24
Clothes	1
Dental	1
Counseling	35
Total Assisted Units:	80

GCCBA FOOD PANTRY NEEDED ITEMS:

**** DIAPERS ALWAYS NEEDED ****

- Spaghetti sauce
- spaghetti noodles
- peanut butter
- cereal
- macaroni and cheese
- Canned Meat
- Toiletries: toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, clothes detergent



The pantry always needs everything, but the items listed are what we go through the fastest!

GCCBA Bulletin Board

Pastors Anniversaries for April

Community:

Scott Caldwell, 6 years

Flint Hill:

Shane Kirby, 11 years

Poplar Springs:

Andy Oliver, 10 years

Zion Hill:

Roger Fuller, 29 years



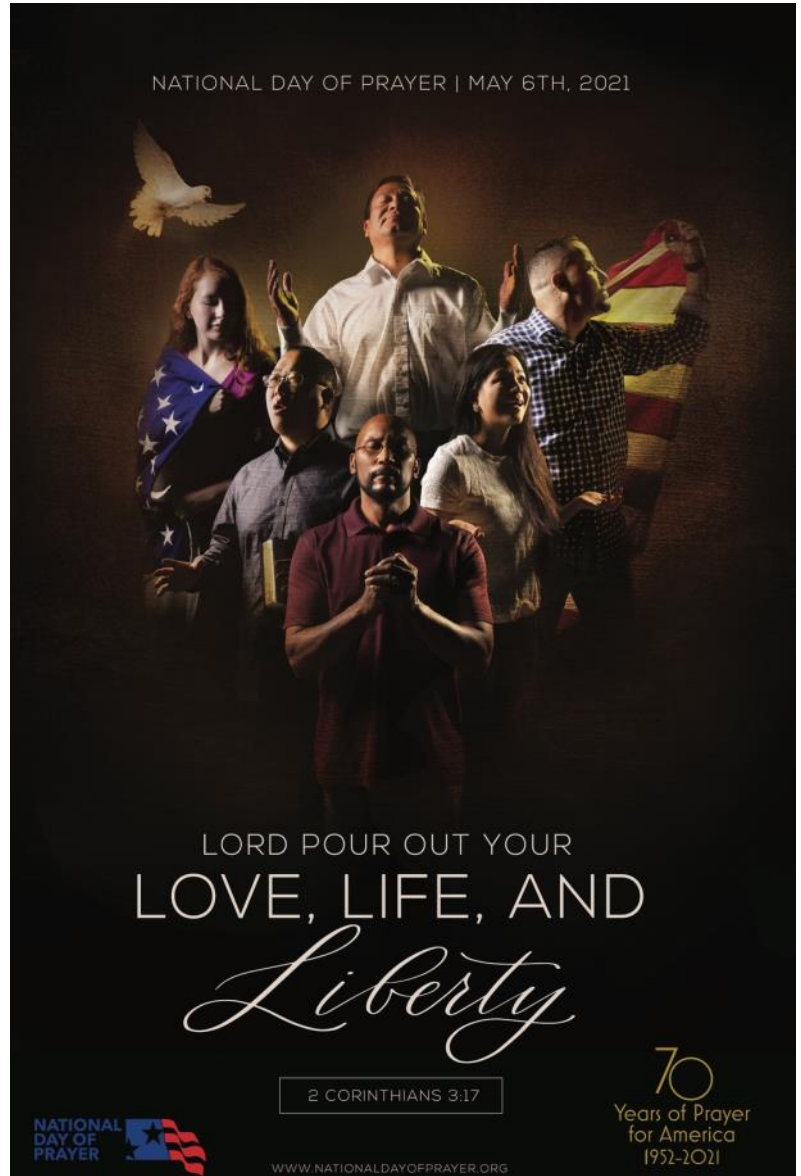
Pray for churches who are seeking a pastor.

Allen Memorial ~ Boiling Springs ~
Calvary ~ Camps Creek ~ Carpenter's
Grove ~ Lattimore ~ Lawndale ~ Mulls
Memorial ~ New Camp Creek ~
Normans Grove ~ Plains View ~
Pleasant Hill ~ Temple ~ Zoar



Block Party Trailer

If you are interested in using our Block Party Trailer for an outreach event or VBS please call asap.



If any of these positions have been filled, please let me know at nicole@gccba.org



Office Closed:

Easter Monday, April 5

Afternoon of
Monday, April 12
All Day April 13-14
for the Associational
Missions Conference

Buffalo Baptist:

Buffalo Baptist Church of Shelby seeks an **Associate Pastor of Youth and Children** to join its pastoral staff. The ideal candidate will have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, will strive to meet the pastoral qualifications for pastors found in the New Testament, and will possess a clear calling to minister to youth and children. The candidate will have 3-5 years of ministry experience and must possess a Bachelor's degree in a relevant field. Possession of a Master's degree or working toward a Master's degree from an accredited Southern Baptist seminary is preferred. Starting pay is \$35k-\$45k depending on education, experience, and qualifications. Buffalo Baptist is a conservative Baptist church affiliated with the BSCNC and SBC. We wholeheartedly affirm BFM2000. For a complete job description and more information about our church, visit buffalobaptistchurchofshelby.com. Send resumes to BuffaloBCsearchcommittee@gmail.com

Church Needs.....

Calvary:

Calvary Baptist Church, Shelby NC, is seeking someone to lead our music on Sunday mornings. This would entail weekly leading the congregation in 4-5 traditional hymns during the worship hour. This might be a great opportunity for a retired individual who has experience in leading worship or someone who just loves music and would enjoy the opportunity. Responsibilities may be expanded at a later date, depending on the leadership of the Lord. If interested, please email cathy@visitcalvaryonline.com.

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 Full job description on our website

Lattimore Baptist Church is seeking candidates for the **position of Children's Ministry Leader**. The ideal candidate for this role will have a deep and growing relationship with Jesus and a calling to work with children. We seek an effective leader who possesses the skills to develop, organize, and supervise all aspects of the Children's Ministry for the purpose of making and growing children into disciples for Jesus Christ. The position of Children's Ministry Leader is a part time position with a focus on children Pre-K – 5th grade. Interested candidates should submit a resume, personal statement regarding interest and qualifications for the position, and contact information for three references.

Email: lbcchildrensprog@gmail.com, Subject line: Children's Ministry Leader Position or Mail to: Lattimore Baptist Church, Attn: Children's Ministry Search Committee, PO Box 188, Lattimore, NC 28089

Lily Memorial:

Lily Memorial Baptist Church is in need of a **pianist/choir accompanist**. Music is traditional. Responsibilities would include Sunday morning service at 11:00, Sunday afternoon choir practice at 4:30, Sunday evening service at 6:00 and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:00. Resumes may be mailed to Lily Memorial Baptist Church, 406 Whitener St. Shelby, NC 28152.

Oak Grove:

Oak Grove Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a **permanent part-time pianist** that can read music and play traditional hymns and contemporary music. Responsibilities include Sunday morning & evening Worship Serve and choir practice. If interested, and more information, please mail resume to: Oak Grove Baptist Church 1022 Oak Grove Rd. Kings Mountain, NC 28086 Attn: Josh Hamrick. You may email to ogbc1022@gmail.com.

Patterson Grove:

Kings Mountain, NC Patterson Grove Baptist church seeking a **part-time Youth Minister**. This person should have the ability to teach the Bible, encourage spiritual growth, and help the youth with the challenges of life that teens and pre-teens face in today's world. The position requires this individual to be a born again Christian who believes the Bible is the infallible work of God. Someone who will love our youth, who will help them to love others, and help them to truly believe that they are loved by God. If you are that person, please send your resume by email to ffice@pgbakm.org and mark to the attention of the personnel committee or by mail to Patterson Grove Baptist Church, 301 Oak Grove Road, Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086 to the attention of the Personnel Committee.

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

Pleasant Ridge:

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Shelby NC (located 2 ½ miles from Gardner-Webb University) is seeking a **part-time Church Organist** who will serve in consultation with the Minister of Worship and Discipleship as well as the worship planning team in a way that reflects our church's mission, values and theology. This person would provide musical accompaniment for all worship services and would provide support for all scheduled adult choir rehearsals. Two weeks of paid vacations each year are included in the salary package. If you are interested in receiving a more comprehensive Job Description or you would like to offer a resumé, please contact the church office at 704-434-6431 or contact us by e-mail at Dr.JEDavis@gmail.com.

Part-Time Worship Leader:

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Shelby NC, is seeking an energetic worship leader who will demonstrate a strong commitment to Jesus Christ while developing and implementing a music ministry for our church family. Pleasant Ridge is only interested in candidates who offer strong leadership and organizational skills. We are seeking the right person who possesses the ability to blend traditional and contemporary music styles into our Sunday Morning Celebration Worship Service. In addition, this person would be coordinating our entire Music Ministry. We are seeking someone who has educational and experiential qualifications. This is a part-time position and a background check (provided by the church) will be required. In addition to video recordings of your musical ability (leading musical groups, conducting congregational singing, playing an instrument or singing), please send résumés, and inquiries to the Music Ministry Search Team c/o Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, 198 Pleasant Ridge Church Road, Shelby, NC 28152 or to Dr.JEDavis1@gmail.com by April 25, 2021.

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.

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 résumés 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 is seeking a **part time administrative assistant**. The Administrative Assistant is directly responsible to the pastor for organizing the tasks and functions of the church office. In addition to general office duties, the administrative assistant will be responsible for assisting all staff and church leadership in the tasks of ministry. Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher and general bookkeeping skills are desired. Please submit resumes by mail to: Attention: Personnel Committee Zoar Baptist Church, 1740 S. Lafayette St., Shelby, NC 28152

Zoar Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a **permanent, part-time worship leader**. We are a loving, mission and community minded church. Applicants should be willing to lead both traditional choir and praise team in a blended style worship. Please email or mail resumes to: wlscozar@gmail.com or Worship Leader Search Committee 1740 South Lafayette Street Shelby, NC 28152

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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

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nicole@gccba.org

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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