



# THE LINK Newsletter

Sandy Creek Baptist Association

February 2016



Rev. Eric Davidson, Associational Missionary  
Mrs. Nancy Evans, Administrative Assistant

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Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Friday 9:00 am.—12:00 pm.  
Other Hours by Appointment

*An Association Of The Future; Rooted In Our Heritage And Growing Toward God's Design*

## Audio Training for NC Baptist Churches



February 5-6, 2016 at  
Jonesboro Heights Baptist  
Church,  
(316 W Main St. Sanford, NC  
27332)

Led by Mark Brady, church  
audio specialists.

These regional seminars address the skills that an Audio Technician needs to be effective in the local church.

Due to the high demand for this training, *only the Friday night "Basic Class" is still open for additional registrations.* Friday night registration begins at 5:30 pm, with instructional time from 6:00 pm until 9:30 pm. The cost for the class is \$20.00. This class alone will be a great help for anyone operating your church's audio equipment! Register ASAP online for this class at: [www.worshipaudio.org](http://www.worshipaudio.org)

**Baptists On Mission Region 4—Missions Rally Tuesday, February 9,** at Faith Baptist, Youngsville. Register by February 2nd at 1-800-395-5102 x 5596 or <http://baptistsonmission.org/events/region-rallies>

Come join in for a night of mission inspiration as you experience what God is doing through NC Baptist around the world. There will be worship, testimonies, videos, & information on mission opportunities. Supper—6:00pm & Program—6:50pm



## DEACON / LEADER SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP EQUIPPING TRACKS FOR 2016

Throughout 2016, your Association will provide training for deacons and other church leaders. We began this training in November with Ken Tan, Leadership Development Senior Consultant with the Baptist State Convention of NC, leading the first session. Each session will be independent from the others which will allow greater flexibility for those desiring to be a part of these spiritual leadership equipping tracks. Eric Davidson will be facilitating each future session.

The next spiritual leadership equipping track will be held on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm, and is entitled "*Lead Like Jesus*". The location is Sandy Branch Baptist Church (715 Sandy Branch Church Rd, Bear Creek, 27207)

Upcoming trainings for deacons and church leaders, and the topic discussed, are as follows:

Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
"Emotionally Healthy Leaders"

Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
"Building Powerful Ministry Teams"

Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
"Conflict Resolution"

## Ladies Day Out at Oakley Baptist,

(2300 Siler City Glendon Rd, Siler City, 27344)

When: March 5, 2016

Time: Registration begins at 8:30am.

Guest Speaker: Ellen Day

Theme: "For Such A Time As This"

Scripture Reference: Esther 4:14



Ellen's passion is to live for and share Jesus Christ no matter the place she lives or worships or serves—to live an obedient life of faith no matter the circumstances always thankful and in prayer. Her passion is also to encourage prayer at all times not just when a need arises.

Non-refundable registration fee is \$12.00 per person.

Must register by February 26th.

Checks made payable to: Oakley Baptist Church  
2300 Siler City-Glendon Rd  
Siler City NC 27344

## "MANAGING MULTIPLE PRIORITIES AND YOUR TIME"

As we begin a new year, there are many "resolutions" made that involve the use of our time. Three "truths" about time are: it's democratic (we all have the same amount of time), it expires (unused time is gone forever), and it's a prized resource (actually, if you don't decide how to use yours, someone else will decide for you). Each day offers each person exactly 86,400 seconds. It comes down to how we will spend those "seconds" every day because we can't save them for later, nor can we add to them.

Your Associational Missionary is periodically attending classes at Duke University in pursuit of a certificate in "Nonprofit Management" to help him in the administration of the Association. Eric recently attended a class entitled, "*Managing Multiple Priorities and Your Time*." He will be the first to admit he is NOT an expert in time management. In fact, he is a "recovering procrastinator". To add value to the training he received, Eric will be sharing what he learned with others interested in this topic of time.



The training will be held on  
Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am—12:00 noon at  
Loves Creek Baptist Church in Siler City.

This training is free.

Topics covered will include:

"Ten Common Time Management Mistakes",  
"The Priority Matrix", "The Action Priority Matrix", "Decision Matrix Analysis", what to do about controllable and uncontrollable time, how to effectively manage your use of time, effective scheduling, and more.

## “Your Missionary’s Musings” for February

In December, I began to explain the five foundational pillars that will support and enhance your Association’s relevance to the churches of the Sandy Creek Baptist Association (SCBA) as your Association strives to become “An Association of the Future; Rooted in Our Heritage and Growing Toward God’s Design”. These five foundational pillars are: church revitalization, church planting, disciple-making, building collaborative relationships, and developing leaders.

Last month I wrote in length about the absolute necessity of church revitalization. This month my emphasis will be on the **absolute necessity of church planting**. Again, as I have said for some time now, it’s not “either/or” but “both/and”! The reality is, we must attack the “darkness” on two fronts – church revitalization and church planting – in order to make the biggest impact in the shortest amount of time.

Maybe the most glaring statistic, and reason we must immediately engage in church planting, comes from a 2013 report by missiologist Dr. James Slack. According to Dr. Slack’s findings, there are almost 48,000 unchurched people in Chatham County and almost 43,000 unchurched people in Lee County. This equates to approximately 91,000 people, and roughly 75% of the overall population, that are unchurched. Put another way, almost eight out of 10 people we encounter on a daily basis are unchurched! Those numbers are even higher in 2016! In the battle to reach people for Christ, we are losing ground every day because the population continues to grow. Despite the fact there are 48 SCBA churches in both counties, plus churches of other denominations, we need more churches in the SCBA so we can make a bigger impact on lostness in our area!

Bruce McNicol reported in Christianity Today that “... newly planted churches evangelize better than older, established churches.” He wrote, “... among evangelical churches, those under three years old will win ten people to Christ per year for every one hundred members. Those ranging from three to fifteen years old will win five people per year for every one hundred church members. But once a church reaches fifteen years, the figure drops to three people per year for every one hundred members.” Statistics tell us, on average, that newly planted churches reach more people for Christ than do established churches. ***It doesn’t have to be that way, regardless of the church’s age, but this is our reality!***

In his book, *The Nuts and Bolts of Church Planting*, Aubrey Malphurs wrote – “... starting new churches is vital to the future of the church in America. The point is simple. No church plants – no church. Like all organizations, churches have an organizational life cycle. They’re born or planted and experience early growth due to a natural emphasis on outreach. However, problems begin to arise along the way, and far too many churches shift from an outreach to an in-reach mentality as they attempt to solve their problems. This, in turn, slows growth. Should churches ignore or fail to correct the situation, their growth stymies and they plateau. If they continue in failing to correct the situation, they experience early decline that if ignored will turn into later decline and ultimately death. The bad news is that in time all churches will fail and die.”

Let’s be very clear about this – the SCBA does NOT plant churches. **Churches plant churches.** The SCBA, and the Baptist State Convention of NC, will assist in church planting by way of coaching, assessments, training, fellowship, and peer support, but it is the church’s responsibility to plant new churches! In fact, ***the SCBA wants to be a church’s partner in church planting!***

Therefore, we must be diligent, determined, and dedicated in our church planting efforts. Let’s begin this process with a question. ***How long has it been since your church planted a new church?*** Actually, every church in the SCBA was a church plant. We must remember that church reproducing should be included in the DNA of every church.

***I believe NOW is the time to begin a church planting move-***

***ment in the SCBA!*** After all, these are the “roots” of our historic Association.

Will you join this movement? ***Will you begin praying about your church planting a new church?*** Your Association is ready and eager to help you begin this process, including identification of a “pocket of lostness” in our area!

February is called by some the “month of love”. We have the opportunity to show our love to the unchurched by way of a new church plant that will be dedicated to loving the unloved, the unlovely, the “lost”. ***May we never forget, “For God so loved the world....”***

Eric

### **“Hope Boxes” 2016**

You are once again invited to be part of a mission for you and/or your church! Help is needed to make “Hope Boxes”, and people are needed to serve on distribution teams. Several teams will be deployed across south-eastern Kentucky on March 28<sup>th</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions about making a “Hope Box” or being a part of a mission team, please contact the deployment coordinator, Tanya Walls, at: [hope.tw11@yahoo.com](mailto:hope.tw11@yahoo.com); or (336) 672-1376. You can also visit the website, [www.hopeforappalachia.com](http://www.hopeforappalachia.com), to learn what items should be placed in a “Hope Box”.



### **REACHOUT CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER** **“Empowering women and men to make informed, life affirming choices.”**



February will be quickly upon us. We feel it necessary to share with you what these last few weeks have wrought, not wanting to forget one blessing this year has already produced. January was filled with many ministry opportunities *in* and *out* of our office.

#### **In the Office...**

So far this year we’ve had 2 two abortion vulnerable/minded clients choose life after an ultrasound with us! We’ve had a Parenting Class client pray to receive Jesus as her Savior! These are significant moments for this ministry. Examples of what and why you support this life saving work.

We’ve had clients begin Parenting classes and those finishing the course- now really ready for their baby’s delivery. We’ve begun the process of moving into our 2 room suite – God so beautifully provided each aspect of that need! Praise Him!!!

#### **Out of the Office...**

We expect the flurry of extra activity each year surrounding Sanctity of Human Life Month. This year, we had more churches take us up on our offer of Bulletin Inserts and “Miracle of Life” DVD than ever before. With area church’s responses for the Inserts and DVD, came invitations to visit and present the ministry of Reach Out throughout the month – including Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Debbie and I both representing and speaking...it’s been busy- good. We are so blessed to close the month out with the **SCBA Banquet on Thursday, the 28<sup>th</sup>** at First Baptist Siler City! Our hearts are thank- full.

#### **What’s Next?**

God knows what February holds. Isn’t that a wonderful thought? It’s not just a sweet thought...it’s a true thought. It’s a comforting thought. His heart is for us, producing a let’s go boldly through what’s ahead thought! We thank God for what He is doing with and through Reach Out.

In His Service, Barbara Flag

**ROC Pregnancy Center** —  
507 N. Steele St. Rm 306  
Sanford, NC 27330  
Web: [www.reachoutcpc.com](http://www.reachoutcpc.com)

**ROC Pregnancy Center** —  
1565 Gulf Road,  
Gulf, NC (919) 898-2923

**Hours of Operation:**  
Monday—Thursday: 10am - 3pm  
**Phone:** (919) 777-0236

**Hours of Operation:**  
*Appointments Only*  
[reachoutcpc@embarqmail.com](mailto:reachoutcpc@embarqmail.com)



CHURCHES	December	YTD
Antioch	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Bear Creek	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Bennett	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Bethany	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,050.00
Bonlee	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Brookdale	\$ -	\$ 1,475.00
Brush Creek	\$ 548.78	\$ 2,252.47
Centro Familiar Cristiano	\$ -	\$ 400.00
Cool Springs	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,625.00
Cornerstone	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Cumnock	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,500.00
East Sanford	\$ 1,186.38	\$ 6,487.52
Emmaus	\$ -	\$ 8,800.00
Fall Creek	\$ 350.00	\$ 4,200.00
Fellowship	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,000.00
Flat Springs	\$ -	\$ 3,153.00
Filipino American	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00
Goldston	\$ -	\$ 1,984.00
Good News	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,200.00
Gum Springs	\$ 625.00	\$ 2,500.00
Hickory Grove	\$ -	\$ 2,005.00
Hickory Mountain	\$ -	\$ 850.00
Hunt Springs	\$ 285.33	\$ 2,448.21
Jonesboro Heights	\$ -	\$ 5,278.92
Joy	\$ -	\$ 2,600.00
Juniper Springs	\$ -	\$ 3,550.00
Kingdom Builders of Christ	\$ -	\$ -
Loves Creek	\$ 320.00	\$ 3,520.00
Mays Chapel	\$ -	\$ 840.00
Moncure	\$ -	\$ 2,686.93
Moons Chapel	\$ -	\$ 767.96
Mount Olive	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
New Life Praise	\$ 50.00	\$ 600.00
New Life Hispanic Mission	\$ -	\$ -
New Salem	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Oakley	\$ 2,527.50	\$ 9,898.07
Pittsboro Baptist	\$ 712.50	\$ 6,654.67
Pleasant Hill	\$ -	\$ 456.44
Primera Iglesia Bautista	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Rives Chapel	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Roca Fuerte	\$ -	\$ -
Rock Springs	\$ -	\$ 919.73
Rocky River	\$ 974.19	\$ 11,228.94
Sandy Branch	\$ 1,591.18	\$ 14,286.81
Sanford, First	\$ -	\$ 9,000.00
Shepherd's Flock	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,674.27
Siler City First	\$ 750.00	\$ 4,500.00
Tramway	\$ -	\$ 5,235.09
Tyson Creek	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00
<b>TOTAL CHURCH INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 11,770.86</b>	<b>\$ 144,378.03</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME - DIVIDEND</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,408.03</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 62.50</b>	<b>\$ 62.50</b>
<b>INTEREST INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 5.10</b>	<b>\$ 134.24</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 11,838.46</b>	<b>\$ 150,982.80</b>
Expenses This Month	\$ 17,126.35	
Expenses To Date	\$ 172,580.74	
Budget Requirements Per Month	\$ 14,528.25	
Budget Requirements To Date	\$ 174,339.00	
<b>SCBA FUNDS</b>	<b>12/31/2015</b>	
Capital Bank - Checking	\$ 67,442.73	
Capital Bank - Restricted	\$ 49,072.06	
Capital Bank - CD (Close to Checking)	\$ -	
<b>BUDGET 2015</b>	<b>\$ 174,339.00</b>	

**SCBA WMU:** February brings Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, and this year, Leap Day. The WMU NC Calendar of Events includes the Heck-Jones Offering (HJO) and Week of Prayer (7-14), Focus on WMU (8-14), and Children's ministry Day at CMV (13). All in all, a month filled with opportunities for fun and missions.

The 2016 theme for the HJO is A BEAUTIFUL THING based on Mark 14: 9 (NIV): "I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she had done will also be told in memory of her." Donations to the HJO support ministry and mission opportunities sponsored by WMU NC. (See below.) You can help ensure quality missions education and opportunities to serve will continue by prayerfully considering giving this year to help meet the \$400,000 goal. Materials are available on line or call (866) 210-8602. (Although WMU NC promotes and distributes materials for the LMCO and the AAEO, and promotes the NC Missions Offering, it does not receive any funding from them.)

Congratulations are due to Mrs. Tana Hartsell, who has faithfully served WMU NC for more than 25 years, on her election as National WMU Recording Secretary in June 2015. This is the first time a North Carolinian has held a national office since Miss Fannie E.S. Heck served as President (1892-1894, 1895-1899, 1906-1915).

WMU NC is sponsoring several mission trips this year to Ocean City, Maryland, Guatemala., Wales, Missions Carolina (NC), California, NY, South Africa and Kenya to name a few. Trips begin as early as mid-May. If you are interested in participating, contact the state office for information at (866) 882-2344 or [www.wmunc.org](http://www.wmunc.org).

Let's take note of Miss Heck's final message to WMU: "Plan for the years, not the year. Think long thoughts." She lived her life sold out "to the only cause that was worth her life and resources." An example worthy of remembering and following. *PRAY, LEARN, GIVE, GO. . .*

WMU Director: Susan Ferguson, (919)742-4993  
[fergusonst@earthlink.net](mailto:fergusonst@earthlink.net)

### 2016 NC Offering for Older Adults February 7—14



**BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES**  
**OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED**  
 PROUDLY SERVING OLDER ADULTS SINCE 1951

Baptist Retirement Homes is a not-for-profit, church-related long-term care organization that provides all levels of care for Older Adults, including special programs for Older Adults with dementia-related disorders like Alzheimer's Disease.

### "Reaching Visitors With a Simple Online Strategy"

Did you know, each month, 18 million people look for a church online? Would you like to increase your church's rate of visitors by 19% by using one easy-to-understand digital strategy? The most powerful digital outreach strategies are often the simplest! In this workshop you will learn a straightforward online strategy that can be used to position your church as the "obvious choice" in your community. Even if you're not a "techie", you will find this information useful and transferable!



Eric Davidson will be leading two workshops on *Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>*. One workshop will be held at the SCBA office beginning at 10:00 am, and the second workshop will be held at Fellowship Baptist Church (120 Fellowship Church Road, Siler City) beginning at 7:00 pm. The workshop will last approximately an hour and 15 minutes, and is open to pastors, deacons, church leaders, and anyone interested in learning more about how to use this "digital leverage point" for your church's advantage.



**Interested in Disaster Relief Training?**

Register at this website:  
<http://baptistsonmission.org/Training>

The dates and regional locations for the 2016 Disaster Relief Training are listed below.

Region 2	February 26-27	Lenoir County
Region 4	March 18-19	Wake County
Region 6	April 1-2	Stanly County
Region 8	May 13-14	Catawba County
Region 10	May 20-21	Cherokee County

**Swann Station Baptist Church** in Sanford is seeking a person (from outside the church) to fill the part time position of Administrative Secretary for approx. 16 hrs / week @ \$12 per hour. Referrals or questions may be addressed to Personnel Committee Chairman Chris Tacia, (919) 356-5377 or Secretary Keith Betts, (919) 721-5506. Job description and application for part-time employment is available in the church office. Resumes may be emailed to [office@swannstationbaptistchurch.org](mailto:office@swannstationbaptistchurch.org) or faxed to (919) 498-3199.

**A Few upcoming dates of interest...**

Apr.6	Mission Dev. Team Mtg. at Sandy Branch
Apr.9	ONE DAY training - New Bern
Apr.19	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
Apr.21	Last delivery date for BCH Round-up at SCBA
Apr. 24	The Spring "Gathering"
May	Senior Rally ?
May.11	Mission Dev. Team Mtg. at SCBA office
May.16	Executive Council Mtg
May.15-22	Week of Prayer for SCBA
May.17	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
May.26	"Emotionally Healthy Leaders" Trng.
May.30	Memorial Day...Office Closed
Jun.8	Mission Dev. Team Mtg. at Sandy Branch
Jun.14-15	SBC Annual Mtg - St. Louis, Missouri
Jun.21	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
Jun.20-25	Deep Impact
Jul.4	Office Closed
Jul.19	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
Jul.20	Mission Dev. Team Mtg. at SCBA office
Jul.25	Executive Council Mtg
Aug.10	Mission Dev. Team Mtg. at Sandy Branch
Aug.16	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
Aug.20	ONE DAY training - Statesville
Sep.	Senior Adult Revival ?
Sep.14	Mission Dev. Mtg. at SCBA office
Sep.16-17	Ladies Conference at Brookdale
Sep.20	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
Sep.22	"Building Powerful Ministry Teams" Trng.
Sep.26	Executive Council Mtg
Oct.12	Mission Dev. Team Mtg. S.Branch
Oct.16-18	"Church Revitalization Conf." at Mt. Olive
Oct.18	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
Oct.23	The Fall "Gathering"
Nov.7-9	NCBSA Conference at Fort Caswell
Nov.13-20	Week of Prayer for BCH
Nov.14-15	BSCNC Annual Mtg, Greensboro
Nov.17	"Conflict Resolution" Trng.
Nov.24-25	Thanksgiving...Office Closed
Nov.30	Mission Dev. Team Mtg. at SCBA office
Dec.1	Pastor/Spouse Christmas Dinner
Dec.4-11	Lottie Moon & Week of Prayer
Dec.20	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
Dec.23-27	Christmas...Office Closed

**VBS Discovery Day - Saturday, March 5, All Day Event (10-9) at Lifeway Christian Store, 5250 Capital Blvd, Raleigh.** Come and preview Lifeway's Submerged resources and VBS materials from Group, David C. Cook, Concordia, Brentwood Music, Standard, Cokesbury, and Regular Baptist Press. Learn how you can order your materials to have ready for you to pick up at the store, or have them shipped to your church. Contact the Raleigh Store (919.872.2578) for more information!



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**Sandy Creek Baptist Association**  
 (Affiliated with SBC and NCBSA)  
 2807 Sandy Creek Church Rd  
 Sanford, NC 27330-9458

The deadline for articles to be turned in to the office, for THE LINK Newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to the published month.

February—Calendar of Events		
2	2:30-4:30	SCBA Secretary Sisterhood Mtg. at Brush Creek
4	10-12pm	Time Management Training at Loves Creek
5-6		Audio Training for Churches Jonesboro Heights
8-14		WMU Focus Week
9		NCBM Region 4 Missions Rally—Youngsville
10	10:00am	Missions Development Team Mtg. at Sandy Branch
16	12 Noon	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
18	6:30 pm	"Lead Like Jesus" Training at Sandy Branch
29		Disciple Conf. at Lawndale Baptist, Greensboro
March—Calendar of Events-		
?		RA Race Day
5		Ladies Day Out at Oakley
6-13		Week of Prayer for North Americans Missions
9	10:00am	Missions development Team Mtg. at SCBA office
15	12 Noon	Pastor's luncheon at Best Food Cafeteria
17	10:00am	Reaching Visitors W/Online Strategy-SCBA Office
17	7:00pm	Reaching Visitors W/Online Strategy-Fellowship
18-19		Region 4 Disaster Relief Training – Wake County
20	3:00pm	SCBA Bible Drill at Jonesboro Heights
21		Executive Council Mtg. at
27-28		EASTER...office closed