

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

Telephone: 919-776-9423 FAX: 919-776-8490  
Email: Sandycreekassn@windstream.net  
Web: www.sandycreekba.com

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

**“Strengthening Churches to BE the Church: Equip, Encourage, Engage”**

**Church Profile Training**

**Sunday, August 19, 2 - 4 pm and  
Monday, August 20, 12 - 2 pm**

This year Nancy Evans will be providing church clerks and secretaries the opportunity to have one-on-one training for the completion of the Church Profile. This training will be offered *Sunday, August 19, 2 - 4pm, and Monday, August 20, 12 - 2pm, by appointment only.* If you are a new church clerk or secretary or you would like help completing the profile online and would like this training please contact Nancy at 919.776.9423 to schedule your appointment. Other appointment times may be available upon request. If you do not have internet to complete the profile online, please return the completed profile to the Sandy Creek Baptist Association by Monday, October 8, and Nancy will key it in for you. If you are entering your profile online, please have it in by October 31.



Other appointment times may be available upon request. If you do not have internet to complete the profile online, please return the completed profile to the Sandy Creek Baptist Association by Monday, October 8, and Nancy will key it in for you. If you are entering your profile online, please have it in by October 31.



**“Pastor’s Network” Workshop**

**MILLENNIALS** (born 1980-2000) - the largest generation in America’s history is also the “missing generation” in most churches. Millennials are approximately 83 million strong; roughly 20 percent of America’s population. Only 10 percent of churches have congregations comprised of at least 20 percent Millennials, and 18 percent of churches have NO Millennials attending the church.

**WHAT CAN THE CHURCH DO** to reach the generation Thom Rainer said is “just too big to ignore”? That’s what this workshop, led by Thom Rainer via video, is all about.

**When:**

Thursday, September 6, 2018,  
Beginning at 11:00 am, with a “working lunch”,  
and ending at 1:00 pm.

**Where:**

SCBA office (2807 Sandy Creek Ch Rd., Sanford)

***In order to have enough lunch for everyone the deadline to register is September 4.***



**Ebenezer Christian Children’s Home** invites you to prayerfully consider becoming a Foster Parent. Prospective Foster Care Parenting Classes will be held in the Fall at Beulah Baptist Church (8454 Howard Mill Rd, Bennett, 27208). These classes are 10 meetings over a period of several weeks beginning on Thursday, August 9. For more information or to schedule an interview, please call Tracy Jackson at 336.581.3121 or 850.777.9443. Thank you for following God’s leading in this very important ministry.

The dates for the classes are:

- Meeting 1: Thursday, August 9
- Meeting 2: Thursday, August 16
- Meeting 3: Thursday, August 23
- Meeting 4: Thursday, August 30
- Meeting 5: Thursday, September 6
- Meeting 6: Thursday, September 13
- Meeting 7: Thursday, September 20
- Meeting 8: Thursday, September 27
- Meeting 9: Thursday, October 4
- Meeting 10: Thursday, October 11



Again, thank you and your churches for your interest in the Grace Haven Children’s Home in Siler City. We pray that this home will be a blessing in this community. Mission projects will soon be available for those interested in helping to get it ready for children.

**Association-Wide “Baptism Celebration” -  
Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 pm until,**

**at Jordan Lake’s Ebenezer Area Shelter # 8**

Please bring snacks and drinks for all to enjoy!!!

Each church will be baptizing those from their church.  
We invite EVERYONE to attend, and cheer and celebrate!

**Our Goal – 100 baptisms!**

**Fall Leadership Development Workshop,  
“The Nuts & Bolts of Deacon Ministry” -  
Tuesday, August 21, 6:15 pm – 8:00 pm,  
at East Sanford Baptist Church.**

- ◆ A delicious meal will be served at 6:15pm
- ◆ Deadline to register is Monday August 13, call 919.776.9423 or email domsoba@gmail.com
- ◆ FOCUS: Spiritual Life and Spiritual Maturity
- ◆ For current, inactive, and FUTURE deacons
- ◆ One book will be given to each church (additional copies can be ordered)
- ◆ This training is on-going, and will be offered in Spring and Fall 2019.

## **“Your Missionary’s Musings” for August - “We can do more together”!!! Eric**

I’m continuing the series introduced to you in June, “12 Reasons Millennials are OVER Church.” Thom Rainer said this about Millennials, “They are just too big to ignore”, referring to the fact this generation is now the largest generation in America’s history. Millennials are some 83 million people, roughly 20 percent of the population. They are between the ages of 19 to 39 years old.

The author of this article (a Millennial), is attempting to articulate the collective feelings of Millennials regarding “why Millennials don’t like church”. He begins with a statement about Millennials or Church, and he then offers the “solution,” according to Millennials.

His previous points of his “12 Reasons Millennials are OVER Church” are:

**“Nobody’s Listening to Us.”**

**“We’re Sick of Hearing About Values & Mission Statements**

**“Helping the Poor Isn’t a Priority”**

**“We’re Tired of You Blaming the Culture”**

**“The ‘You Can’t Sit With Us’ Affect”**

(See the June and July issue of “The LINK” for his solutions.)

### **7. We Want to Be Mentored, Not Preached At**

Preaching just doesn’t reach our generation like our parents and grandparents. See: millennial church attendance. We have millions of podcasts and Youtube videos of pastors the world over at our finger tips.

For that reason, the currency of good preaching is at its lowest value in history.

Millennials crave relationship, to have someone walking beside them through the muck. We are the generation with the highest ever percentage of fatherless homes.

We’re looking for mentors who are authentically invested in our lives and our future. If we don’t have real people who actually care about us, why not just listen to a sermon from the couch? (with the ecstasy of donuts and sweatpants).

#### **Solutions:**

\* Create a database of adult mentors and young adults looking for someone to walk with them.

\* Ask the older generation to be intentional with the millennials in your church.

### **8. We Want to Feel Valued**

Churches tend to rely heavily on their young adults to serve. You’re single, what else do you have to do? In fact, we’re tapped incessantly to help out. And, at its worst extreme, spiritually manipulated with the cringe-worthy words “you’re letting your church down.” Millennials are told by

this world from the second we wake up to the second we take a sleeping pill that we aren’t good enough. We desperately need the church to tell us we are enough, exactly the way we are. No conditions or expectations. We need a church that sees us and believes in us, that cheers us on and encourages us to chase our big crazy dreams.

#### **Solutions:**

\* Return to point #1: Listening.

\* Go out of your way to thank the people who are giving so much of their life to the church.

### **9. We Want You to Talk to Us About Controversial Issues (Because No One Is)**

People in their 20’s and 30’s are making the biggest decisions of their entire lives: career, education, relationships,

marriage, sex, finances, children, purpose, chemicals, body image. We need someone consistently speaking truth into every single one of those areas. No, I don’t think a sermon-series on sex is appropriate for a sanctuary full of families, but we have to create a place where someone older is showing us a better way because these topics are the teaching millennials are starving for. We don’t like how the world is telling us to live, but we never hear from our church either.

#### **Solutions:**

\* Create real and relevant space for young adults to learn, grow and be vulnerable.

\* Create an opportunity for young adults to find and connect with mentors.

\* Create a young adults program that transitions high school youth through late adulthood rather than abandoning them in their time of greatest need.

\* Intentionally train young adults in how to live a Godly life instead of leaving them to fend for themselves.”

My intent in sharing this article is to help make churches more aware of this missing generation’s reasons for being absent from church by learning more about Millennials’ feelings surrounding the Church, and to encourage discussions in churches about how the Church can become more welcoming and inviting to this large generation.

Millennials are, generally, the largest group of people missing from most churches. *In fact, 18 percent of churches have NO Millennials in attendance.*

**To help pastors and churches address the absence of Millennials in the church, your Association is offering a “Pastor’s Network” workshop on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the SCBA office.**

**This will be a “working lunch” with a meal provided. The deadline to register for this “Pastor’s Network” is Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**I’m praying we will have many of our pastors in attendance, including our churches’ other “staff pastors”!!!**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

**“SCBA Fall Gathering”,** Sunday, October 21,  
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Emmaus Baptist Church  
(2430 Silk Hope-Gum Springs Rd, Pittsboro)  
Music Concert by “New Direction” [two 30 minute “sets”,  
**beginning at 2:45 pm**]  
Sermon by Larry Martin, Shepherd’s Flock Baptist Church

**“YOUTH Fall Gathering”,** Sunday, October 21,  
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, **GYM** at Emmaus Baptist  
Praise band, dynamic speaker, and, *of course*,  
FOOD and fellowship!!!

**For youth, college age, young adults, young at heart!!!**



### **Fall Senior Fellowship**

September 11, beginning at 11:00am, at Oakley Baptist, (2300 SilerCity-Glendon Rd, Siler City).  
Topics: My Prayer Life for All My Life, and The Spiritual Practice of Simplicity.

CHURCHES	June	YTD
Antioch	\$ -	\$ -
Bear Creek	\$ 200.00	\$ 700.00
Bennett	\$ -	\$ -
Bethany	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00
Bonlee	\$ -	\$ -
Brookdale	\$ -	\$ -
Brush Creek	\$ -	\$ 1,147.00
Centro Familiar Cristiano	\$ -	\$ -
Cool Springs	\$ -	\$ 3,375.00
CoolWater Cowboy Church	\$ 72.74	\$ 72.74
Cornerstone	\$ -	\$ -
Cumnock	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00
East Sanford	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00
Emmaus	\$ -	\$ 4,400.00
Fall Creek	\$ 350.00	\$ 2,100.00
Fellowship	\$ 150.00	\$ 900.00
Flat Springs	\$ -	\$ 1,063.50
Filipino American	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Goldston	\$ -	\$ 574.00
Good News	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,500.00
Gum Springs	\$ -	\$ 625.00
Hickory Grove	\$ -	\$ -
Hickory Mountain	\$ -	\$ -
Hunt Springs	\$ 330.00	\$ 1,716.00
Jonesboro Heights	\$ -	\$ 5,004.00
Joy	\$ -	\$ 1,300.00
Juniper Springs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Kingdom Builders of Christ	\$ -	\$ -
Loves Creek	\$ 143.75	\$ 862.50
Mays Chapel	\$ -	\$ 840.00
Moncure	\$ -	\$ 597.93
Moons Chapel	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Mount Olive	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
New Life Praise	\$ 50.00	\$ 300.00
New Salem	\$ -	\$ -
Oakley	\$ -	\$ 2,179.00
Pittsboro Baptist	\$ 417.99	\$ 3,667.30
Pleasant Hill	\$ -	\$ -
Primera Iglesia Bautista	\$ -	\$ -
Rives Chapel	\$ -	\$ -
Roca Fuerte	\$ -	\$ -
Rock Springs	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Rocky River	\$ 587.22	\$ 4,487.44
Sandy Branch	\$ 964.16	\$ 7,196.44
Sanford, First	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Shepherd's Flock	\$ 268.00	\$ 650.35
Siler City First	\$ 375.00	\$ 2,250.00
Tramway	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,800.00
Tyson Creek	\$ -	\$ 100.00
<b>TOTAL CHURCH INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 10,808.86</b>	<b>\$ 66,708.20</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME - DIVIDEND</b>		<b>\$ -</b>
<b>INTEREST INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 6.96</b>	<b>\$ 38.74</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 10,815.82</b>	<b>\$ 66,746.94</b>
Expenses This Month	\$ 11,437.11	
Expenses To Date	\$ 75,957.67	
Budget Requirements Per Month	\$ 14,819.50	
Budget Requirements To Date	\$ 88,917.00	
<b>SCBA FUNDS</b>	<b>6/30/2018</b>	
Capital Bank - Checking	\$ 9,745.26	
Capital Bank - Restricted	\$ 37,487.06	
<b>BUDGET 2018</b>	<b>\$ 177,834.00</b>	

**SCBA WMU:** The “dog days of summer” officially end on the 11<sup>th</sup> and once again “working up a sweat” may begin requiring more activity than walking across a parking lot during daylight hours. Even so, summer provides a myriad of opportunities to spend time with family and exploring the community to recognize needs. One such activity might be prayer walking. The article on page 5 of the August MM offers suggestions to help begin this ministry.

Don't forget the FIRMLY PLANTED LEAERSHIP GATHERINGS across NC beginning on the 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information visit [www.wmunc.org/training](http://www.wmunc.org/training) or call (866) 210-8602 ext. 208.

Ever wonder about domestic violence or families affected by PTSD and how to become part of the solution? Check out pages 22-24 of MM this month for helpful insights into these areas of need.

Above all, spend time in prayer “For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and His ears are open to their prayers” (1 Peter 3:12). Prayer is the antidote for anxiety, the harbinger of peace, and results in divine protection for the Christian's mind and heart according to Philippians 4: 6 -7. Perfect reminders to God's children that prayer is necessary to our spiritual well-being.

SCBA WMU Director: Susan Ferguson, (919) 548-0115, [fergusonst@earthlink.net](mailto:fergusonst@earthlink.net)

### “Sharing and Listening Tour”

30 to 40-minute presentation about our Association, followed by “listening” to the church.

We especially want to know, “*What do you need?*” and “*How can we help?*”

To schedule for your church, contact Eric at 919-776-9423 or [domsca@gmail.com](mailto:domsca@gmail.com).

### PASTOR'S HOLY LAND TRIP



The SCBA would like to invite all our pastors to be part of a trip to the Holy Land in 2019. **We are asking our churches to consider including a line item in your 2019 budget to assist financially in providing a once in a lifetime experience for your pastor.** What a great “Pastor Appreciation Month” gift over the next two years!!!

*Here are the details of our Holy Land trip (as of May 2018):*

Departing RDU – December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

Length of trip – 10 days (in Bethlehem on December 7<sup>th</sup>)

Cost (including airfare) approximately \$3,500.00 (plus baggage fees)

The SCBA will also be *establishing a designated fund for the “Pastor's Holy Land Trip”*. Churches and individuals can donate to this fund to financially assist pastors. The money received will be divided equally among the pastors participating in the trip. Donations designated for this trip will be tax deductible.

More information and details will be forthcoming.





**REACHOUT CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER**  
*"Awakening the Heart of a Protector"*



Star was pregnant and scared. She was 17 years old and felt her future would be ruined by having a baby. Afraid of how her boyfriend would take the news she called a pregnancy hotline to obtain information about abortion. What happened in the following weeks underscores an important and much overlooked truth: Fathers matter! Still undecided, she finally shared the news with her boyfriend. He was stunned, but told her he wanted to marry her and help care for their baby. He immediately started searching for a job and an apartment. Research finds that the father of the baby is (by far) the most influential factor in a mother's decision to keep or abort her child. Sadly, so many fathers either push the mother to abort, or leave the decision to her, essentially stepping away from their responsibility. Research overwhelming indicates that father involvement is essential to providing a child with the best chance to thrive. In fact, 24 million children, 1 out of every 3, lives in a home in which their biological father does not live. And among those children living in father-absent homes, 1/3 has no contact with their dads, and another 1/3 has contact once per month or less. Empowered by her boyfriend's support, Star visited her local pregnancy center for an ultrasound. The moment she saw the baby she was filled with joy and her decision was sealed. Much more needs to be done to involve fathers in a positive way in pregnancy decisions. Too many women are convinced to have abortions (directly or indirectly) by men not ready to be dads to their unborn children. At Reach Out we understand "Fathers do matter!" We encourage clients to involve and invite fathers to be part of their pregnancy journey. At Reach Out, fathers have the opportunity to attend parenting classes with the mom or by participating in our Men's Fraternity program. The Men's Fraternity program provides men with an encouraging process that teaches men how to live lives of authentic manhood as modeled by Jesus Christ and directed by the Word of God. At present we need male volunteers who would be willing to oversee this program. If you are interested or want more information, contact us. What an awesome month of ministry at Reach Out! We had open house, pregnancy test clients were doubled from previous months, several volunteers are now facilitating our EWYL classes, several churches are participating in our Baby Bottle Drive, and a visit from The Sanford Harold. Thank you LORD!

Need-Full size stroller (not umbrella) for a baby boy & bottled water.  
 Thank you for your prayers and support!

**ROC Pregnancy Center** —  
 403 Carthage St  
 Sanford, NC 27330  
**Web:** [www.reachoutpc.com](http://www.reachoutpc.com)

**Hours of Operation:**  
 Monday—Thursday: 10am - 3pm  
**Phone:** (919) 292-2657  
[reachoutpc@gmail.com](mailto:reachoutpc@gmail.com)

**East Sanford Baptist** hosts a three year Bible College through Faith Bible Institute. We are now taking enrollment for the fall semester. First semester cost is \$150 after July 1 and \$86 each semester after. Family discounts for multiple students in same family. Classes are on Thursday 9:00a - noon or 6:00p - 9:00p. Contact Robbie Gibson at 919-776-3241 for more info or visit [www.fbiclass.com](http://www.fbiclass.com) for a preview.



Seven years ago, Larry & Kathy Martin joined 30 other Baptist in Sanford, NC to plant Shepherd's Flock Baptist Church. Growing to 120 members today, the church broke ground June 23rd on its first building. Larry Martin said "The Lord's been in this every step of the way. We've had struggles, but this

day makes it worth every bit of it. We just want to win some people to Jesus and we want to minister to people who are suffering and need help. That's what we're about. The main thing we want to do is to give God the glory, because what you see being done, He has done it."



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 2807 Sandy Creek Church Rd  
 Sanford, NC 27330-9458

<b>August—Calendar of Events-</b>		
2-5		Powell River Baptist Assoc. Show Fair Mission Trip
7	2:30pm-4:30pm	SCBA Sisterhood Secretary mtg. at Emmaus
12	3pm-6pm	Jordan Lake Baptism for SCBA Churches
16	12 Noon	Pastor's Luncheon at Golden Corral, Sanford
21	12 Noon	Pastor's Luncheon at Best Food, Siler City
21	6:15-8:00pm	Nuts & Bolts of Deacon Ministry at East Sanford
<b>September—Calendar of Events-</b>		
3		Labor Day—Office Closed
6	11:00am	Pastor's Network-What About Millennials? - SCBA office
11	11:00am	Sr. Adult Fall Fellowship at Oakley Baptist
13	1:00pm	Executive Council Team Mtg. SCBA office
18	12 Noon	Pastor's Luncheon at Best Food, Siler City
19	1:00pm	Mission Development Team Mtg. at SCBA office
22-23		Chance Walters Crusade at Civic Center, Sanford
<b>October—Calendar of Events-</b>		
2		SCBA Sisterhood Mtg. at SCBA Office
11		Pastor's Luncheon at Golden Corral, Sanford
16		Pastor's Luncheon at Best Food, Siler City
21		Fall Gathering—at Emmaus Baptist
<b>November—Calendar of Events-</b>		
5-6		BSC of NC Annual Meeting at Koury Conv. Center
8		Executive Council Team Mtg. SCBA Office
12-14		NC Baptist Secretaries Association at Caraway
15		Pastor's Luncheon at Golden Corral, Sanford
20		Pastor's Luncheon at Best Food, Siler City
22-23		Thanksgiving—SCBA Office Closed
28		Mission Development Team Mtg. at SCBA office
<b>December—Calendar of Events-</b>		
11		Pastor's Luncheon at Best Food, Siler City
13		Pastor's Luncheon at Golden Corral, Sanford
24-26		SCBA Office Closed for Christmas
Jan.1		SCBA Office Closed

Thank you **Tramway Youth** for coming to the SCBA office to meet the need of cleaning and trimming scrubs. You are a in our book!!!



Would you consider receiving the **LINK Newsletter** by email? If you are willing, email me your name & address and I make the changes at [sandycreekassn@windstream.net](mailto:sandycreekassn@windstream.net). Thank you. Nancy

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.