The Link
Sandy Creek Baptist Association

February, 2023

Until He Returns….

Hey there! I hope everyone's year has gotten off to a great start and here we are already at the beginning of February 2023. February 1st marks the one-year anniversary of me being your Associational Missionary. The year has gone by so fast and has been a year where I have seen God at work in so many ways in the Sandy Creek Baptist Association. I am so thankful for all the Kingdom work that is happening and the lives that are being changed for eternity because of those efforts.

February is a month many associate with love as it contains the Valentines holiday. As Christians, we as well are marked by the characteristic of love as God showed the greatest act of love by sending His own Son to this earth as a ransom for our sins. I pray that each and every day, that this would be what motivates us to live daily lives surrendered to God in every moment. How great is His love for us! Take time to read Philippians 2:1-10 as a reminder of the great love that God has shown to us through Jesus.

Take time to check out the Sandy Creek Baptist Association website that has been recently updated. It is a great source of information. Just go to www.sandycreekba.com.
The month of February has several events for pastors that I hope that you will take the time to attend that will be of great benefit to you.

- Feb 6-8, Hickory Mountain Baptist Church is hosting a Bible Conference that you can find more information on at their website and in this newsletter.
- February 21st , The SCBA is hosting a Church Strengthening Conference from 6:30-8:00 pm at Bethany Baptist. This is for church leadership and will feature a free meal and a time of testimonies and information. Those attending must pre-register ASAP at www.sandcreekba.com. More information can be found in this newsletter.
- Feb. 27 at 9:30-1:00, Pittsboro Baptist is hosting a Strengthening Pastor's Conference. More information can be found in this newsletter.
- February 28th, the NC Baptist Region 4 Missions Rally is being hosted at First Baptist Church, Sanford. Registration information can be found in this newsletter.
- February 20th is the NC Baptist Disciple Making Conference in Winston Salem.
- Also please check the calendar for our monthly SCBA pastor's fellowship and Roundtable.

Blessings, Barry Lawrence, SCBA Associational Missionary

SCBA WMU:

It's mid-winter and February promises more cold weather along with interesting holidays and events: National Freedom Day and No Politics Day (1st), Ground Hog Day (2nd), Superbowl Sunday (12th), Valentine's Day (14th), and President's Day (20th). I'm all for that first holiday being celebrated all year round, but doubt that will ever happen. One day this will be our reality when Christ returns according to His promises.

February 12th-19th is the NC Heck-Jones Offering and Week of Prayer. The theme this year, Living Hope is based on 1 Peter 1:3-4 which reads in part: *"…who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ…"* Named in honor of beloved founders and leaders of WMU NC, Miss Fannie E.S. Heck and Mrs. W.N. Jones (Sallie Bailey), this offering provides the sole support for WMU NC missions and ministries. To donate toward the $350,000 goal or for free resources visit wmunc.org.

The February issue of *Missions Mosaic* (MM) offers a list of ideas for promoting Focus on WMU Sunday (19th) on page 10. These ideas can be used throughout the year to highlight WMU and influence others "to make disciples of Jesus who live on mission."

Don't forget to register for the Zoom leadership luncheon scheduled for February 15th at wmunc.org. The topic this month is "Creating Lasting Change."

Changes at the NC WMU: The state office is now located in the Baptist State Convention on 205 Convention Drive, Cary, NC 27511. The mailing address is P.O. Box 4249, Cary, NC 27511-4249. For details about the move, go to wmunc.org and click on FAQs.

Looking for a way to teach children about missionaries and missions? Check out "Missions in a Box" at wmustore.com. This month the "box" features information about Nigeria and contains everything you need. Additional activity booklets may be purchased if using for a children's group. "The inside cover of February MM features details about the box.)

The NAMB Emphasis and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is coming March 5th-12th. This offering goes entirely to support missionaries in N. America. At wmunc.org click on "More" and scroll down for resources and ordering information.

Don't forget to encourage others on Valentine's Day with a card, visit, or phone call. Those who are homebound or living in residential homes can feel isolated and invisible, especially if they have no family or visitors. February's MM has an excellent article beginning on page 5 to help with ideas for year-round ministry. A valentine/ note may be just what is needed to warm a heart that shivers in the cold of being forgotten or feeling invisible.

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you…being confident…that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it…" (Phil. 1:3-6). Valentine's Day Blessings to All!

Director: Susan T. Ferguson, fergusonst@earthlink.net, or (919) 548-0115

Important Dates:

Reconstruct Conference: Jan. 24th - Kings Cross Church, Greensboro

Bible Conference: Feb. 6th, 7th and 8th - Hickory Mountain Baptist Church (See flyer for times)

Pastor's Fellowship: Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. - Bestfood Cafeteria

Disciple Making Conference: Feb. 20th Doors Open at 8 a.m., Main Session at 9a.m. - Calvary Baptist, Winston Salem

SCBA Church Strengthening Conference: Feb. 21st at 6:30 p.m. - Bethany Baptist Church

Strengthening Pastors for Effective Ministry Conference: Feb. 27th 9:30-1 p.m. - Pittsboro Baptist Church

Pastor's Roundtable: Feb. 28th at 10 a.m. - SCBA office 205 N Steele St. Sanford.

Mission Rally Region 4: Feb. 28th - First Baptist Sanford. Meal at 5:45 p.m. Rally 6:30-8:30 p.m. (Registration ends Feb. 20th - see flyer.)

Senior Luncheon: March 2nd at 11 a.m. - Bestfood Cafeteria, Siler City. Pastor Matt Garrett will speak. Each person will pay for their own meal. Please RSVP on our website (www.sandycreekba.com) beginning Jan. 25th or call the office at (919) 776-9423 to let us know that you are coming.

Life Unique Training: March 13th and 14th. For any pastors that are interested in taking this course, please register on our website (www.sandycreekba.com) beginning Jan. 25th and Barry will follow up with you.

The deadline for articles and / or event fliers to be turned in to the office, for THE LINK Newsletter is the 15th of each month prior to the published month.

CHURCHES	December	YTD
Antioch	$ -	$ 250.00
Bear Creek	$ -	$ 1,500.00
Bennett	$ -	$ 3,000.00
Bethany	$ -	$ 1,000.00
Bonlee	$ -	$ 800.00
Brookdale	$ -	$ -
Brush Creek	$ 657.25	$ 2,619.25
Centro Familiar Cristiano	$ -	$ 600.00
Cool Springs	$ -	$ 11,275.00
CoolWater Cowboy	$ -	$ 4,501.18
Cornerstone	$ -	$ 1,000.00
Cumnock	$ 416.64	$ 2,500.00
East Sanford	$ 95.53	$ 8,599.33
Emmaus	$ -	$ 10,000.00
Fall Creek	$ 2,100.00	$ 4,900.00
Fellowship	$ 400.00	$ 2,400.00
Flat Springs	$ 1,175.00	$ 4,700.00
Filipino American	$ -	$ -
Grace Hill	$ -	$ -
Goldston	$ -	$ 2,784.00
Good News	$ 250.00	$ 3,000.00
Gum Springs	$ 625.00	$ 2,500.00
Hickory Grove	$ -	$ -
Hickory Mountain	$ -	$ 1,000.00
Hunt Springs	$ 100.00	$ 1,000.00
Jonesboro Heights	$ 2,336.25	$ 9,015.15
Joy	$ 750.00	$ 3,000.00
Juniper Springs	$ 1,125.00	$ 4,500.00
Kingdom Builders of Christ	$ -	$ -
Loves Creek	$ 125.00	$ 1,500.00
Mays Chapel	$ -	$ 840.00
Moncure	$ -	$ 2,380.57
Moons Chapel	$ -	$ 1,200.00
Mount Olive	$ 500.00	$ 6,000.00
New Life Bible Church	$ 100.00	$ 600.00
New Salem	$ -	$ 2,000.00
Oakley	$ -	$ 9,134.08
Pittsboro Baptist	$ 565.40	$ 6,555.59
Pleasant Hill	$ -	$ -
Primera Iglesia Bautista	$ -	$ -
Rives Chapel	$ -	$ 1,000.00
Roca Fuerte	$ -	$ -
Rock Springs	$ -	$ -
Rocky River	$ 363.51	$ 5,859.89
Sandy Branch	$ 154.76	$ 154.76
Sanford, First	$ -	$ 12,500.00
Shepherd's Flock	$ 46.30	$ 565.08
Siler City First	$ 416.66	$ 2,499.96
Tramway	$ 131.25	$ 1,575.00
Tyson Creek	$ 166.66	$ 2,272.75
TOTAL CHURCH INCOME	**$ 12,600.21**	**$ 143,081.59**
OTHER INCOME	**$ -**	$ -
INTEREST INCOME	$ 164.17	$ 451.02
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**$ 12,764.38**	**$ 143,532.61**
Expenses This Month	$ 13,525.04	
Expenses To Date	$ 104,390.86	
Budget Requirements Per Month	$ 12,349.06	
Budget Requirements To Date	$ 148,188.72	
SCBA FUNDS	**12.31.22**	
General Checking Account	$ 297,026.39	
Designated Fund	$ 40,684.48	
Church Emergency Fund	$ 60,053.73	
BUDGET 2022	**$ 148,188.78**	

Reach Out Pregnancy Center

403 Carthage Street
Sanford, NC 27330
919-292-2657

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened" Eph. 1:18

The "eyes" of your heart means that your heart will see those in need and that you will be moved or enlightened to help. This is a great prayer to pray for ourselves and others in our life and in our community! May God use you this month to make a difference for Him.

Prayer & Praise:
Praise God for a new Year! New adventures and new beginnings! Pray for new Clients to come to Reach Out.

Needs: WE NEED diapers sizes 3, 4, 5, & 6

Thank you for your prayers & support!

Copy & paste this link for new online giving opportunities:

https://reachoutcpc.networkforgood.com/projects/173913-supporting-life

In Ministry for ***LIFE***,
Dianna Andrews
Executive Director

Music Ministry Position Opening

Flat Springs Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Minister of Music, who will help our ministry team lead our community closer to Jesus Christ through music. Our church is a midsize church with traditional worship, open to thoughtful inclusions of different worship experiences. Responsibilities include overseeing and integrating music for adults, youth, and children. Interested applicants please use this email address: flatspringspersonnel@gmail.com

Rives Chapel Baptist Church

is searching for a Full Time Pastor.
Please send a Letter of Interest and Resume to:

Rives Chapel Baptist Church
4338 Rives Chapel Church Road,
riveschapelchurch@gmail.com

Full Time Senior Pastor Position

Rocky River Baptist Church, located in a rural area outside of Siler City, North Carolina, is seeking a full time Senior Minister. Our congregation prefers that the applicant have at least 8 to 10 years experience in pastoral ministry with a degree from an accredited Baptist Seminary or Divinity School. Rocky River's congregation is dually aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and affirms women in ministry. We are a fellowship of Christian believers who celebrate our rich heritage as we strive to minister to the spiritual needs of our congregation and community that we serve. If you feel led to apply for this position, please send your resume to: Pastor Search Team, Rocky River Baptist Church, 4436 Siler City Snow Camp Road, Siler City, NC 27344.

The deadline for submission is February 28, 2023.

Kentucky Ministry

Emmaus Baptist Church will deliver 1200 gift boxes to children in at least four schools in Kentucky on their upcoming mission trip in April. They are asking area churches to assist them in packing these boxes to help spread the gospel and share the love of Jesus to these children who have lost everything in recent floods.

Emmaus will provide the 7.5 quart boxes which will include a Bible and a tract along with a packing list of what items to include for each grade/ages. If your church decides to participate, please contact Pastor Steve at (919) 623-1316 or emmauspreach@emmausnc.net and let him how many boxes you would like to fill. They will deliver the boxes to your church and will pick them up once the boxes are packed. The boxes need to be filled and ready for pickup by March 15th.

Church strengthening conference

When: Tuesday, Feb. 21st
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8p.m.
Where: Bethany Baptist Church
503 Alton King Rd, Goldston, NC

This seminar will be on strengthening churches by providing resources and opportunities for growth through revitalization for churches of all sizes and health. Also, bring any church leaders you think this would be valuable for. There will be testimonies from other churches that have been through the process and also a time for Q&A. A free meal will be provided. Please RSVP all attendees at this link Pastor's Seminar (ministryforms.net) by February 14, 2023.

REGION 4

MISSION RALLY

FEBRUARY 28TH

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
202 SUMMIT DR. SANFORD

FREE MEAL AT 5:45 P.M.

RALLY 6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

REGISTER AT: https://baptistsonmission.org/bom/regionrallies/region-4-nc-missions-rally-2023—-sanford/6136

THE CUT OFF DATE FOR RESERVING A MEAL FOR THE RALLY IS ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT.

A TIME OF RENEWAL AND REVIVAL

BIBLE CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 6TH, 7TH & 8TH. 2023

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY MORNING 10AM

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY EVENING 7PM

Stephen Dagenhart
Calvary Baptist Church
Taylorsville NC

Stoney Benfield
Prospect Baptist Church
Albemarle NC

Kevin Marritt
Charity Baptist Church
Ponitoc, MS

Cameron McGill
Lake Church
White Lake NC

Scott Walker
Tysons Creek Baptist Church
Bear Creek, NC

Wesley Thomas
Hunt Spring Baptist Church
Sanford NC

Jason Payne
Liledoun Baptist Church
Taylorsville NC

Stacey Layne
Solid Rock Baptist Church
Morganton, NC

Cody Bullman
Morganton NC

HICKORY MOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH

ADDRESS
1094 MT VERNON HCRY MT RD
SILER CITY, NC

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
PASTOR CASEY RAYFIELD
423-794-8250

Join us for a morning of worship, Bible preaching, and encouragement designed for Pastors.

Conference is FREE! Fellowship Lunch Provided.

Location: Pittsboro Baptist Church (Fellowship Hall)

121 West Salisbury Street Pittsboro, NC 27312

Contact: Pastor Peter McDonald (336) 504-4887

pastorpeterpbc@gmail.com

WE'RE HIRING!

JOIN US THIS SUMMER AT TRUETT APPLY TODAY!!!

Help bring kids to an authentic and personal relationship with Jesus.

Receive great training and certifications.

Have tons of fun growing your personal relation, and leadership skills.

TRUETT NATION