

The Link

Sandy Creek Baptist Association



January 2024

Until He Returns... Some Final Thoughts

It is hard to believe that 2023 is already coming to a close and also my time here at the Sandy Creek Baptist Association as your Association Missions Strategist (DOM as many refer to my roll). I have been blessed for almost 2 years now to serve our churches, pastors, and community as we have pursued the heart of God to fulfill the Great Commission together.

I am thankful for the many friendships that I have made over my time in this role and also the many opportunities that I have been afforded to have a front row seat to see God working in mighty ways.

You have truly been a blessing to Lynette and me through this season of our life as you have encouraged us, prayed for us and served alongside us. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as I begin my next season of ministry with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The mission of the organization is to see every coach and athlete in a growing relationship with God and His church. This will be greatly enhanced by praying for the bible study huddles that currently exist and those that will be started in the middle schools, high schools and colleges in Lee, Harnett and Moore counties. These will be the areas that I will be responsible for in my new role. If there was ever a time for greater Gospel influence and the making of disciples in our schools, it is now. If you would like to learn more about opportunities to support my efforts with the FCA, I would love to share that with you.

God bless you as you continue to serve our Lord through your families and churches of the Sandy Creek Baptist Association. Have a wonderful and Merry Christmas!

Blessings,
Barry Lawrence, SCBA Associational Missionary

Important Dates:

Mon. Jan. 1st: New Year's Day

Tues. Jan. 2nd: No Pastors' Roundtable this week

Tues. Jan. 16th: Pastors' Prayer Gathering at 10:30 am - SCBA Office

Fri. Jan 19th: Pastors and Wives Dinner 6pm @ Gigi's Creations in Sanford

SCBA WMU: January 1, 2024, the first day of the new year, symbolizes a new beginning as we step into “the days fashioned for [us], when as yet there were none of them” (Ps. 139:13-16). Knowing God has a plan for each of us (Jer. 29:11) gives great comfort as we watch the current pandemonium play out on this world’s stage. “We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose” (Rom. 8:28).

WMU NC works with several Ministry Partners. One is *Sisters Who Care* which has a “Becoming Workshop” scheduled for January 20 in Henderson. Contact Elder Lisa D. Jacobs for information at ljsevent@gmail.com.

The *Hispanic WMU*, another partner, has a mission trip to Costa Rica scheduled for January 20-29. Contact Raquel Garcia for information at raquelgarcia.09121975@gmail.com.

A third partner is *The NC Baptist Nursing Fellowship (NC BNF)*; the annual meeting is scheduled for March 1-4 at Camp Caraway. This is the only nursing fellowship that focuses on missions and exists to help nurses and medical workers be on mission for Christ. If interested, you may join online at www.wmunc.org/nc-baptist-nursing-fellowship or contact Penny Jones as noted below. NC BNF also offers scholarships for student nurses; applications are due May 1 each year. To apply, send a request to Rowena Mante at rowenamante@yahoo.com or Penny Jones at penjones@wakehealth.edu.

Learn more about our partner *NC Baptist Ministers’ Wives* at the NCBW website: <https://ncbminwives.wixsite.com/ncbmw> or connect on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NCBMW>.

Finally, don’t forget about Camp Mundo Vista and Camp Caraway. Register now for 2024 Summer Camps at www.caraway.org. A week at camp makes a great gift for any occasion.

Begin now to plan for the WMU NC Heck-Jones Offering and Week of Prayer February 12-18 and Focus on WMU Sunday the 18th. The theme is *Sharing Hope* (Rom. 15: 13); the goal is \$350,000 and will be the sole support for NC WMU missions and ministries.

In 2023, WMU NC hosted mission trips and joined local partner organizations creating expanded mission opportunities in Mexico, N. and S. Dakota, Montana, Armenia, Vermont, W. Virginia, and multiple opportunities to serve on Disaster Relief Teams. If you are interested in leading a NC WMU mission trip contact Sara Lamkin at slamkin@wmunc.org.

Self-guided online courses are available at ChristianLeaderLearning.com that offer a biblically based response to some of today’s pressing issues. Check them out to learn about WMU Compassion Ministries.

God has a plan. Ask Him where you fit; He will show you. My prayer is that you will find your place and have the courage to step into this year’s adventure with God. Don’t miss a single blessing He has for you in 2024!

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

CHURCHES	November	YTD
Antioch	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Bear Creek	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Bennett	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
Bethany	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Bonlee	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Brookdale	\$ -	\$ 3,550.00
Brush Creek	\$ -	\$ 2,627.00
Centro Familiar Cristiano	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Cool Springs	\$ -	\$ 9,075.00
CoolWater Cowboy	\$ -	\$ 3,908.54
Cornerstone	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Cumnock	\$ 208.33	\$ 2,083.34
East Sanford	\$ -	\$ 1,253.78
Emmaus	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
Fall Creek	\$ -	\$ 2,100.00
Fellowship	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Flat Springs	\$ -	\$ 3,525.00
Filipino American	\$ -	\$ -
Grace Hill	\$ -	\$ -
Goldston	\$ 806.53	\$ 3,226.14
Good News	\$ 250.00	\$ 2,750.00
Gum Springs	\$ -	\$ 1,250.00
Hickory Grove	\$ -	\$ -
Hickory Mountain	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Hunt Springs	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Jonesboro Heights	\$ -	\$ 7,008.75
Joy	\$ 875.00	\$ 3,625.00
Juniper Springs	\$ -	\$ 3,375.00
Loves Creek	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,375.00
Mays Chapel	\$ -	\$ 840.00
Moncure	\$ -	\$ 3,267.80
Moons Chapel	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Mount Olive	\$ 500.00	\$ 5,500.00
New Life Bible Church	\$ 50.00	\$ 550.00
New Salem	\$ -	\$ 700.00
Oakley	\$ -	\$ 9,259.17
Pittsboro Baptist	\$ 843.81	\$ 11,257.40
Pleasant Hill	\$ -	\$ 900.00
Rives Chapel	\$ -	\$ 750.00
Roca Fuerte	\$ -	\$ -
Rock Springs	\$ -	\$ -
Rocky River	\$ 614.61	\$ 5,648.65
Sandy Branch	\$ -	\$ 2,406.15
Sanford, First	\$ -	\$ 12,125.00
Shepherd's Baptist	\$ 81.06	\$ 604.44
Siler City First	\$ -	\$ 2,083.30
Tramway	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,500.00
Tyson Creek	\$ 166.67	\$ 1,833.29
TOTAL CHURCH INCOME	\$ 4,871.01	\$ 135,007.75
OTHER INCOME	\$ -	\$ -
INTEREST INCOME	\$ 87.55	\$ 2,220.49
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 4,958.56	\$ 137,228.24
Expenses This Month	\$ 11,092.17	
Expenses To Date	\$ 101,267.92	
Budget Requirements Per Month	\$ 11,250.00	
Budget Requirements To Date	\$ 123,750.00	
SCBA FUNDS	11.30.23	
General Checking Account	\$ 134,655.60	
Designated Fund	\$ 106,679.45	
Certificate of Participation (8 Months)	\$ 201,768.26	
BUDGET 2023	\$ 135,000.00	



Happy New Year! We had 32 babies born to Clients in 2023! We thank God for what He has done in the last year and we ask that you pray for His blessings in 2024!

Needs: Diapers all sizes especially 3, 4, 5, & 6 and **Follow us on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/reachoutcpc>

Prayerfully consider giving to Reach Out Pregnancy Center today!

Online giving opportunities: <https://tinyurl.com/Meet-the-Need>
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KKK8XD90F5Y6?ref=wl_share
<https://reachoutcpc.networkforgood.com/projects/173913-supporting-life>

Isaiah 43:19 "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

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

Hickory Mountain Baptist Church is searching for someone to lead, organize and develop the musical aspects of worship in a traditional or blended style of worship music. We are a small, rural church seeking revitalization in the Silk Hope community. Please send resumes to:
car2brazil@gmail.com

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.

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
Siler City, NC 27344
riveschapelchurch@gmail.com

Mt Olive Baptist Church is searching for a Full Time Lead Pastor. We are aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention. Please send a cover letter and resume to:

Mt Olive Baptist Church
c/o Pastor Search Committee
5043 Mt Olive Church Road
Pittsboro, NC 27312
or
email to: christina@mtolivebaptist.com

JUBILEE ASSOCIATIONAL CHOIR

Meets Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the Cool Springs Baptist Choir Room. Must be 50 or older and love the Lord.

Please contact Jack Childress for more information. (919) 770-3204

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Cor. 5:17

May God bless you this New Year!

Pastors and Wives Dinner

Friday, January 19, 2024

6 - 8 pm

Gigi's Creations
143 Charlotte Ave., Sanford

Pastors, please bring your wives and join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship! Please RSVP by 1/12/24. sandycreekassoc@gmail.com or (919) 776-9423

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Administrative Team would like your recommendations for a candidate that would serve as our next Interim Associational Missionary as well as recommendations for candidates to serve on the Search Team for our next Associational Missionary. Please visit our website at www.sandycreekba.com, scroll to the middle of the page and click on the **MAKE A RECOMMENDATION** button to fill out the form and share potential candidates with us. Or, here is a direct link to the form [Make a Recommendation! \(ministryforms.net\)](https://ministryforms.net) We appreciate your input!

Hope for Appalachia Emmaus Baptist Church

Planning has begun for next year's Hope For Appalachia mission trip, which will take place April 8th-11th, 2024. As in years past, we will travel to the mountains of Kentucky to hand out Hope Boxes and share the Gospel to about 1200 children in Knott County.

The churches of the Sandy Creek Baptist Association have been instrumental in preparing these boxes to hand out, and we hope that we can count on your participation again this year. We have the boxes on hand and will soon be ready to hand them out to all who wish to fill them. Please prayerfully consider taking some boxes to fill and to pray over. If you are so led, reach out to us here at Emmaus Baptist Church with the number of boxes you wish to fill. You may contact the following for more information or to request boxes:

Pastor Steve Moore - emmauspreach@emmausnc.net

Associate Pastor John Hill – emmausap@emmausnc.net

DISCIPLE- MAKING CONFERENCE

Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Mallard Creek Rd.,
Charlotte, NC

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 2024

What if your church was known more for multiplying disciples than adding worship attenders? At the 2024 Disciple-Making Conference, you will be inspired and equipped to become a church on mission to win, build and send missional disciples.

REGISTER HERE: [2024 Disciple-Making Conference - Baptist State Convention of NC | Brushfire](#)



FIVE WAYS

To Pray for the Middle East Conflict
[Middle-East-Prayer-Guide-2.pdf](#)
([baptistpress.com](#))



SAVE THE DATE!



Free wheelchair ramp construction trainings!

For more information, please visit:
[Baptists on Mission - Construction Training](#)

February 10, 2024 - Cary
9:30 am - 11:30 am



\$200,000 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

YOUR INVESTMENT IN A
CHILD'S LIFE IS **DOUBLED**
UNTIL JAN. 31, 2024!



[BCHFAMILY.ORG/GIVENOW](#)

BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES FOUNDATION

FAITH • FAMILY • FULFILLMENT

Baptist Retirement Homes Foundation is proud to assist older adults in NC who cannot afford the care they need and deserve. Every dollar contributed directly supports recipients through this generous benevolence program. For more information, please visit: [www.thrivemorenc.org/foundation](#)

Stephanie Moody Shaffer, Church Relations Manager, would be happy to share more information with you or schedule a program for your church or fellowship group. Email: sshaffer@thrivemorenc.org or call 919.413.4614

Church Bus For Sale

- 2007 33 passenger bus
- Chevy C500 diesel
- 48,000 miles
- Good condition and regularly serviced
- Asking Price \$30,000

Contact Karl Shaffer at
(919) 244-1984 for more
information.

Register Here



Bible Conference | Hickory Mountain
BC (hickorymtnbaptist.wixsite.com)



JUNIPER TREE Conference

FEBRUARY 8TH-10TH

Location: 1094 Mt Vernon Hwy Mt Rd, Siler City NC
Information: 423-794-8250 Hickorymtnbaptist@gmail.com

JUNIPER TREE Conference

February 8th-10th 2024



NEAL JACKSON



JASON GOLDEN



STEVE DAGENHART



GEORGE TOWNSEND



SAM ROACH



BRIAN UPSHAW



JEREMIAH PARKER



QUINTELL HILL



CODY BULLMAN



TANNER MUNDY



STACEY LAYNE



FBC Sanford

Program begins Jan 2024

After School Care

Do you....

Love Kids?

Love Jesus??

Love making a difference??

WE ARE

HIRING

Send Resume & Letter of interest to:
susanstalder@fbcsanford.com

**Love Kids? Love Jesus? And love making a difference in the lives of children???

**Our After School Care program is coming back in January and we need YOUR help!

**Email susanstalder@fbcsanford.com for details!!

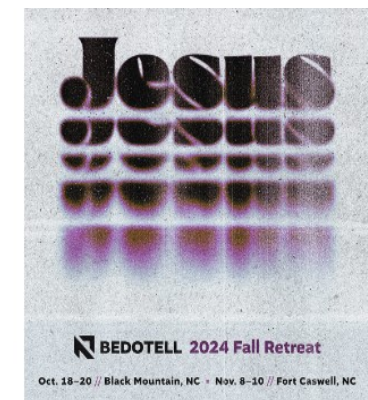
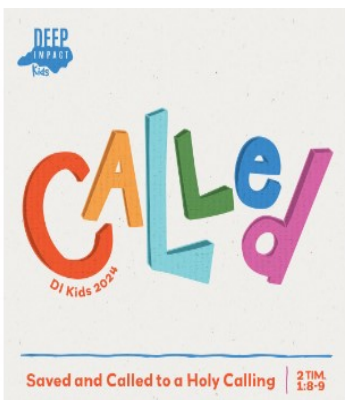
We are looking for a team of fun, Jesus-loving people who want to help families by caring for their children a few hours each afternoon. If you're a responsible teen w/transportation, or maybe your children are grown and you still have lots of love and energy to share, or you're someone who enjoys driving a small bus for a few minutes each day (no CDL required), then I would love to hear from you!

*Background check required.



N.C. Baptist leaders are calling on churches across North Carolina to commit a week next August to serving others in their local communities through a special initiative called ServeNC. For more information, please visit [ServeNC | Baptist State Convention of North Carolina \(ncbaptist.org\)](https://www.ncbaptist.org)

For more information on these and many other upcoming events, please visit [Events | Baptist State Convention of North Carolina \(ncbaptist.org\)](https://www.ncbaptist.org)



2024 TRUETT RETREATS



January 13-15: Winter Youth Retreat

Grades 6-12: Youth Groups can bond, make memories, and encounter the Gospel in a fun, friendly environment.

February 9-10: Marriage Matters

An amazing event for a husband and wife to improve their relationship through Biblical guidance and a weekend getaway.

March 22-24: Women's Conference

Ages 18+: An event for women to connect, be encouraged and equipped to follow the Lord closer.

April 5-7: Mother & Daughter Retreat

Ages 6-12: Invest in your relationship in a fun setting that continually points participants towards Jesus.

April 26-28: Grandparent Camp

Ages 6-12 w/ a grandparent: Bridge the generational gap by making lasting memories with a retreat that appeals to all ages!

May 3-5: Father & Daughter Campout

Ages 6-12: Get outside and unplug from the worries of daily life to grow in relation to the Heavenly Father.

June 6-8: Western Happiness Retreat

All ages: An event for people of all ages with developmental disabilities to enjoy a weekend of fun, friendship, and faith!

October 4-6: Father & Son Warrior Weekend

Ages 6-12: Dads fight for your sons in the battle for being a man after God's own heart while enjoying great outdoor recreation.

November 1-3: Forged Man Camp

Ages 18+: Come be men with great outdoor recreation and iron sharpening iron in the beautiful fall mountains.

August 16-18: Grandparent Camp

Ages 6-12 w/ a grandparent: Bridge the generational gap by making lasting memories with a retreat that appeals to all ages!

Retreats repeat annually on the same weekend.

Revive

Isaiah 57:15

We are the ideal place to retreat from the burdens of daily life. Here, you will feel God's presence. Our staff will take excellent care of you. The end result is that you will be more alive in Christ than before.

Refresh

Philemon 1:7

Spend time in fellowship with others. Deepen your friendships. All your needs will be met, allowing you to rest and adventure as much as you wish!

Renew

Isaiah 40:30-31

Encounter the transformative power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Thousands of guests have had their hearts renewed and transformed to be molded more into the image of our Savior.



SUMMER CAMP 2024



Week 1
June 10-14: Girls Camp #1

Week 2
June 17-21: Boys Camp #1

Week 3
June 23-28: Youth Camp #1

Week 4
June 30-July 5: Youth Camp #2

Week 5
July 8-11: Children's Church Camp

Week 6
July 15-19: Boys Camp #2

Week 7
July 21-26: Youth Camp #3

Week 8
July 29 to Aug 2: Girls Camp #2

Girls Camp & Boys Camp (Ages 7-17) \$240 per person

These incredible overnight camp experiences allow campers to build strong friendships, grow through outdoor adventure, and encounter the transformative power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The weeks run from Monday to Friday.

Youth Camps (Ages 12-17) \$350 per person

Youth Camps are designed for churches to attend together. The weeks run from Sunday to Friday and consists of mission projects, outdoor recreation, small group devotions, white water rafting, preaching from the Word of God, and worship. All activities, food, and lodging included in the price!

Children's Church Camp (Ages 6-11) \$275 per person

Churches can bring kids to camp to experience the thrill of a summer camp week (Monday-Thursday). More importantly, each one will encounter the transformative power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The cost includes all activities, lodging, meals, and more!

Scan for more info/to register.



Scan for more info/to register.



NC BAPTISTS

177 Truett Lane, Hayesville, NC 28904
828-389-8828
www.truettcamp.org



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