The Link

Sandy Creek Baptist Association

December 2025

Oh, Come and Worship Him!

Matthew 2:6 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' " (NKJV)

These are words shared with inquiring king Herod who had been roused to the whereabouts of Israel's new young king. Jesus is the king, and His star had been seen in the east by wisemen who traveled from afar to find and worship Him. The wisemen would find the young king of the Jews living in Bethlehem. This city-of-David address had been prophesied by Micha the prophet in Micah 5:2-4. Matthew relates to us a summary of Micha's prophecy. Here it is in full.

Micah 5:2-4 2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting." 3 Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel. 4 And He shall stand and feed His flock In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth;"

Merry Christmas! We have such a King in Jesus! Prophets foretold Jesus is eternal God "Whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting," v2. And, Jesus will shepherd his people, "He shall stand and feed His flock..," v4.

Our Eternal Shepherd King has come!! Hallelujah!!

Luke's Gospel records the ancient night of our Eternal Shepherd's coming to us. Lowly shepherds tending their flocks outside Bethlehem are astounded by an angel appearing, and glorious light gleaming in the dark night, heralding "good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger" (Luke 2:10b-12). Heavenly Hosts then fill the sky giving glory to God, and the shepherds quake at the sin shattering news that the Savior, Christ the Lord is born that night, and they get to go see! And they do go see, and they worship Jesus, and become his first evangelists making "widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child," (Luke 2:17b).

Jesus our Eternal *Shepherd* King was worshiped first by *lowly shepherds*. Beyond that reality being ever so poetic, what do we learn from Jesus' humble arrival and humble first worshipers? Some have noted that shepherds belong to a meditative class of men, accustomed to the sweet silences of nature, are naturally invited to quiet communion with their own hearts, apart from the bustle and stir of cities. David as shepherd learned the art of worshipful psalm while shepherding. It would seem that these shepherds were men of the spirit of Simeon who waited for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. The shepherds quickly understand the message and respond at once, as though this is what they had been waiting for, "Let us go and see!"

Let us this season, and throughout the new year brush aside busyness to worship Him, think of Him, be with Him in His word, go to Him in prayer, sit at His feet in worship and communion. Oh come and worship Him! And, be as the shepherds in telling others of Jesus. Resolve in 2026 to witness for Christ your Savior and Lord. Pray for the lost and share with them Jesus the Savior, our Eternal Shepherd King.

Jason Golden, Associational Missionary

Important Upcoming Dates:

Pastor's Roundtable: Tue, Dec 2, 10:30am, SCBA Office

SCBA Senior Luncheon: Thur, Dec 4, Bestfood Cafeteria

"Walk Through Bethlehem" Live Nativity: Fri-Sun, Dec 5-7, 6pm-8pm, Bennett Baptist*

No Cost Food Distribution: Tues, Dec 9, 10am-12pm, Bennett Baptist Church

Week of Intentional Prayer for IMB and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering: Sun, Nov 30 to Sun, Dec 7*

Deacon Training: Sat. Dec. 13, 9:00am, at Fall Creek Baptist Church*

Christmas Day: Thursday, Dec. 25

SCBA Administrative Team Meeting: Jan 12, 6:30pm

Worship Leader Training: January 15-17 at Caraway Conference Center*

Baptists on Mission Pastors' Lunch: Thurs, Jan 22 11:00am-1:00pm. At the Baptist Building, Cary.*

Pastors' & Wives SCBA Post-Christmas/Valentines Dinner: Friday, Feb. 6, 6pm, At GiGi's Creations, Sanford*

NC Baptist Disciple-Making Conference: Tue, Feb 24, Hickory Grove Baptist Church (Mallard Creek Campus), Charlotte, NC 28262—So..Many..Breakouts!! ncbaptist.org/disciple-making-conference/

Hope for Appalachia Hope Bags Due: March 15*

Easter—Resurrection Sunday: April 5

SCBA Spring Leadership Series: Tuesdays,Apr 21 & 28*

SCBA Spring Gathering: Monday, May 4

**see details further along in this Link Newsletter.*

CHURCHES	October	YTD
Antioch	$ -	$ 250.00
Bear Creek	$ -	$ -
Bennett	$ -	$ 7,000.00
Bethany	$ -	$ 750.00
Bonlee	$ -	$ 1,500.00
Brookdale	$ -	$ 2,740.00
Brush Creek	$ -	$ 2,114.25
Centro Familiar Cristiano	$ -	$ 1,500.00
Cool Springs	$ -	$ 14,641.00
CoolWater Cowboy	$ 311.36	$ 2,540.02
Cornerstone	$ -	$ -
Cumnock	$ 166.67	$ 1,666.70
East Sanford	$ 123.12	$ 1,805.01
Emmaus	$ 2,500.00	$ 10,000.00
Fall Creek	$ -	$ 4,200.00
Fellowship	$ 200.00	$ 2,200.00
Flat Springs	$ -	$ 3,525.00
Filipino American	$ -	$ 450.00
Goldston	$ -	$ 3,181.41
Good News	$ 300.00	$ 3,000.00
Gum Springs	$ -	$ 1,250.00
Hickory Grove	$ -	$ 1,950.00
Hickory Mountain	$ -	$ -
Hunt Springs	$ 100.00	$ 1,000.00
Iglesia Bautista Emaus	$ 61.06	$ 674.71
Jonesboro Heights	$ -	$ 9,850.00
Joy	$ -	$ 2,625.00
Juniper Springs	$ -	$ 8,750.00
Loves Creek	$ 83.33	$ 833.30
Mays Chapel	$ -	$ -
Moncure	$ 578.48	$ 2,382.20
Moons Chapel	$ -	$ 1,200.00
Mount Olive	$ 500.00	$ 5,000.00
New Life Bible Church	$ 50.00	$ 500.00
New Salem	$ 700.00	$ 700.00
Oakley	$ -	$ 4,832.06
Pittsboro Baptist	$ 1,657.00	$ 7,314.41
Pleasant Hill	$ -	$ 600.00
Rives Chapel	$ -	$ 1,200.00
Roca Fuerte	$ -	$ -
Rock Springs	$ -	$ -
Rocky River	$ 637.08	$ 6,217.40
Sandy Branch	$ -	$ 1,000.00
Sanford, First	$ 3,125.00	$ 12,500.00
Shepherd's Baptist	$ 25.00	$ 360.21
Siler City First	$ -	$ 1,874.97
Tramway	$ 250.00	$ 1,725.00
Tyson Creek	$ 200.00	$ 1,000.00
TOTAL CHURCH INCOME	**$ 11,568.10**	**$ 138,402.65**
OTHER INCOME	**$ -**	$ -
INTEREST INCOME	$ 14.17	$ 168.88
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**$ 11,582.27**	**$ 138,571.53**
Expenses This Month	$ 11,649.42	
Expenses To Date	$ 107,437.65	
Budget Requirements Per Month	$ 12,822.88	
Budget Requirements To Date	$ 128,228.80	
SCBA FUNDS	**10.31.25**	
General Checking Account	$ 158,220.18	
Designated Fund	$ 121,412.67	
BUDGET 2025	**$ 153,874.59**	

SCBA WMU: As this is being written, Christmas decorations are already lighting up the neighborhood. The weather has turned cooler and the last of the leaves blanket yards as if to keep them warm for winter. It is December! Christmas cantatas, pageants, gift lists, and dinner menus are in the final stages of planning as stress levels rise. Even if something doesn't get crossed off that Christmas to-do list, the 25th will arrive and the birth of our Savior will be celebrated. It's not about perfect execution of plans, rather it's about the gift of love in the person of a baby born in a stable, a baby named Jesus.

It's the season for giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® (LMCO). Every gift given to LMCO goes 100% to support missionaries and their work around the world. In 2024 I,609,869 people heard the gospel; 144,964 became new believers; 66,628 baptisms were celebrated; 37,820 people were trained in church planting; 1,656 people groups were reached; and there were 2,409 new churches. In the Americas alone, more than 550 million people are living without Jesus. (Statistics from IMB.) Every gift helps make a difference, an eternal difference, in the lives of millions who might otherwise not hear the good news that a Savior has been born. Information and resources are available at www.imb.org.

The shampoos collected are on their way to being a part of the gifts included in the RED BOXes that will be delivered to women in NC prisons very soon. For many this will be the only gift they receive at Christmas, tangible evidence they are not forgotten, someone cares. In that gift a gospel tract is included to tell them of Someone who loves them more than they can imagine and wants to have a relationship with them. Thank you for participating in this ministry to women you may never meet, but whose lives you will surely impact in a positive way.

"'For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: you will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!'" (Luke 2:11-14)

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Susan T. Ferguson, Director

fergusonst@earthlink.net, 919-548-0115.

BAPTISTS ON MISSION

Pastors' Lunch

Pastors, **Baptists on Mission** cordially invites you to a Pastors' Lunch at the Baptist Building in Cary, **Thursday, January 22, 11:00am-1:00pm**. **Let us know if you can come, to get a good count.** Carpool/Van ride over will be available.

FREE VBS Materials

A church in our association has VBS materials to share. If your church would like to do the Group Publishing's **"Scuba, Diving into Friendship with God"** in 2026, they have saved the teaching materials and would be happy to give them to you. That same church would love to borrow VBS materials that your church may have left over from 2025. Please contact the SCBA Office for more information.

A Church has a Wheelchair Ramp Available.

It's 17 feet long, with treated lumber, and no longer needed. Contact the SCBA Office for more information.

Pastor Birthdays:

12/8 Wade Allen, Gum Springs
12/9- Jason Golden, AMS
12/26- Rodney Staley (Charlie Brown), Joy Baptist Church
12/28 -Steve Ray, Good News Baptist Church

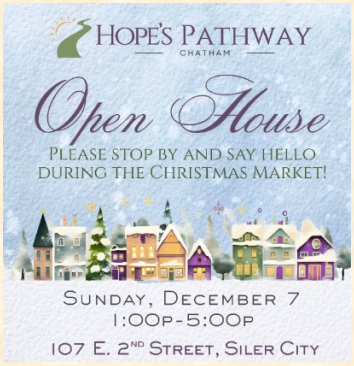
Wedding Anniversaries:

Peter and Tara McDonald- Pittsboro Baptist

Church Anniversaries:

Sam Roach- First Baptist Sanford

HOPE'S PATHWAY
CHATHAM



A developing unborn baby at 30 weeks:

- Hands are fully formed, and can grasp things now (such as the umbilical cord).
- Baby can hiccup in the womb!
- Myelin begins to form around the baby& nerves to protect them.
- Lungs are capable of breathing air.
- Baby's eyeteeth are present.
- Of the 45 total generations of cell replication that will take place by mature adulthood, 38 have already taken place.
- The brain is growing quickly and is beginning to form "wrinkles," known as convolutions, which allow it to store more brain tissue.

(Information via Human Life International)

Isaiah 9:6 ~ "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Prayer Needs:

- Continued increase in client visits and courage for clients to contact us
- Wisdom in decision making for our board of directors and volunteer staff
- Financial supporters for the ministry

Donation Opportunities:

We would love to keep you updated on what God is doing at Hope's Pathway Chatham. If you have not already done so, please subscribe to our mailing list by clicking the link below:
https://hopespathway.us22.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=e851f017cb36e4b37ad2cbecf&id=9e00391e75

Amazon Gift List
"Hope's Pathway Chatham"

Walmart.com Gift List
"HPC's Wishlist"

Tithe.ly:
https://give.tithe.ly/?formId=a8ff5301-2fb0-4c5f-a439-abb61b923b08

With Gratitude, *April Harris, Executive Director*

Jubilee Associational Choir

The choir practices from 10am – 11am on Thursday mornings at Cool Springs Baptist Church. We welcome all adults to join us (you don't have to be over 50 to sing). We sing Southern Gospel songs and hymns to seniors in churches as well as assisted living facilities in Lee and Chatham counties. Call **Marilyn Tyndall** at **919-542-4014** if you have any questions.

Would you be willing to place a sign in your church yard or place of business, helping get the word out in the community about Chatham County's only Pregnancy Help Center, Hope's Pathway Chatham? If so, please contact them today and they will get a sign for you.
Thank you!

Brookdale Baptist Church Bluegrass Jam

Brookdale Baptist Church will hold a monthly bluegrass jam on the FIRST and THIRD Tuesday of every month at 7pm in Brookdale's fellowship hall. Bring your instrument!
Come pick and grin!

PASTORS SEND INFO

To sandycreekassoc@gmail.com with you and your spouse's birthday, anniversary, and the date you started at your church. We would love to send you encouragement on those days.

REACH OUT
PREGNANCY
CENTER
SANFORD, NC

"Every good and perfect gift is from above…"
James 1:17

As we enter this season of hope, gratitude, and celebration, we reflect on the incredible ways God has worked through our center this year. Each life touched, each family supported, and each baby welcomed into the world.
Many of the women who walk through our doors arrive feeling overwhelmed, afraid, or alone. Yet, through your prayers and support, they leave with newfound courage and a sense of possibility. Thank you for helping us offer compassion, truth, and resources at the moments they're needed most.
This year, we've had the joy of supporting 87 mothers as they chose life for their babies.
In November alone, we celebrated 9 pregnancy tests, 3 ultrasounds, 5 parent class completions and 13 material support visits. Every number represents a story—and every story reflects the power of consistent, loving support.
If you'd like to help our families with their baby needs, here is a list of items the center is asking for this season: girls and boys 12 to 18-month winter pajamas and clothing, sizes 4, 5 & 6 diapers, scent free wipes, breast pumps, bassinettes, infant strollers

Upcoming December Events:

* **Dec 10**: Prepping For Birth Class 1:00PM
* **Dec 16**: Infant Safe Sleep Class 9:30AM
* **Dec 24–Jan 4**: Center Closed for Christmas & New Year

Go to DONATE | Reach Out Pregnancy for more ways to give and Wish lists.

Denise Godley,
Executive Director

Senior Luncheon

Join us this Thursday, December 4, 11am, at Bestfood Cafeteria in Siler City. Get your lunch first, then join us in the side room for a special time of fun and fellowship with Rev. Bob Wachs of Bear Creek Baptist as our speaker. Caroling and Giveaways will be included as well. Senior Saints, please invite a friend to join you. We hope to see you there!

LEAD YOUR CHURCH TO GIVE TO THE LOTTIE MOON OFFERING

PREPARE:

- Pray about your church's involvement.
- Set a giving goal for your church. This year's national goal is **$210 million.**
- Participate in the Week of Prayer **November 30 – December 7.**

PROMOTE:

- Resources for your church are available at **lottiemoon.com** including videos, bulletin inserts, posters, social media posts and more.
- Highlight and display these resources in your church and on your church's communication channels.

PARTICIPATE:

- Pray for IMB missionaries and your church's offering during your worship services.
- Collect your gifts. Send them to your state convention office or give directly to IMB. *(see giving info on inside back cover)*
- Celebrate all God is doing around the world.

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

The next page has the LMCO bulletin insert, also available at lottiemoon.com along with many other resources, including this year's prayer guide.

59% of the world today has no meaningful access to the gospel. As a believer, you are called to help solve the world's greatest problem—lostness. You can join in His mission and get involved in global missions through the IMB in many ways. www.Imb.org

CELEBRATE GOD'S WORK IN 2024

As reported by IMB missionaries and national partners

3,577
Missionaries on the Field

2,409
Churches Planted

68,628
Baptisms

144,969
Professed Faith in Jesus

84,430
New Leaders

1.6 MILLION
Heard the Gospel Presentation

"We remain grateful for churches in the U.S. who support God's mission on the other side of the world. This task isn't possible without our work together."

HUN SOL, IMB MISSIONARY

INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

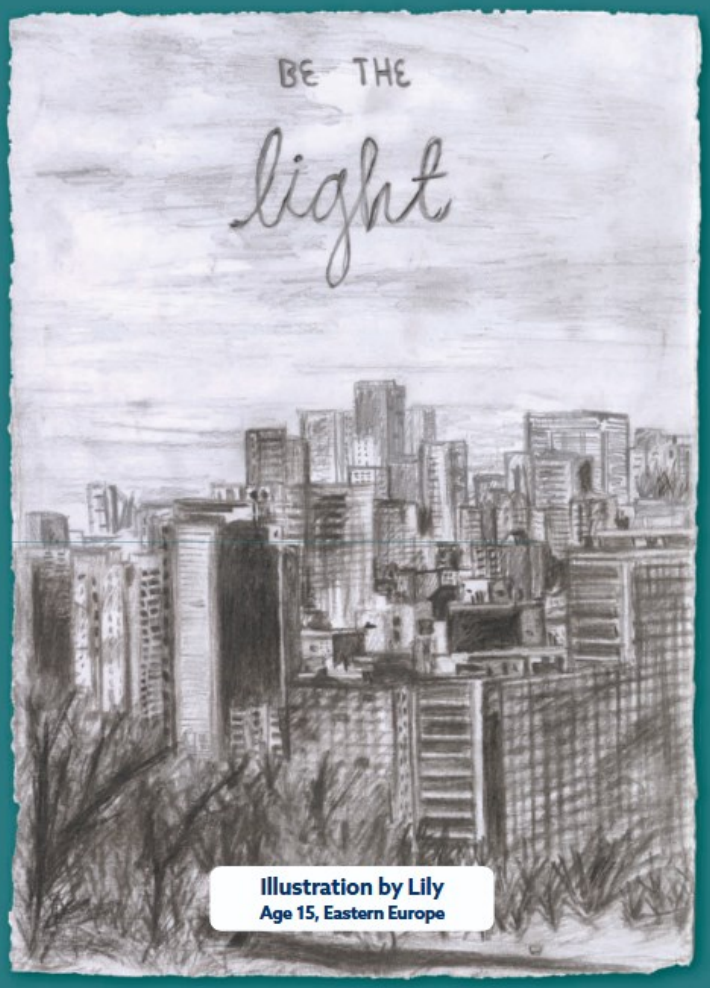


Illustration by Lily
Age 15, Eastern Europe

WHAT IS THE LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®?

At 18, Lottie Moon chose to follow Christ, and her life became a testimony of hope. Years later in China, she gave herself to serving others and sharing the light of God's love in the midst of great need.

In her letters home, she pleaded for prayer and support — so that more people could bring that same hope to a world in darkness. Her words sparked a legacy that continues today through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®.

Every dollar you give becomes more than a gift — it brings hope, it brings light. **100% of your offering supports missionaries who carry the gospel to the ends of the earth.**

This Christmas, carry the light of Christ to others. Together, we can shine in the darkest places. Thank you for giving today.

lottiemoon.com

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is a registered trademark of WMU®.

Deacon Training

Saturday, December 13, 9:00am

at **Fall Creek Baptist Church**
1745 Fall Creek Church Rd, Bennett,

Lead by the SCBA Church Leadership Development Team. Association Churches are welcome to bring your Deacons for this helpful training.

Let us know you're coming. Email sandycreekassoc@gmail.com.

RENEWING WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING

JAN	APR	JUL
15-17 2026	23-25 2026	30-01 2026

CARAWAY CONFERENCE CENTER, SOPHIA
Caraway Conference Center & Camps, 4756 Caraway Mountain Rd, Sophia, NC 27350
Thursday, January 15th - Saturday, January 17th, 2026

REGISTER

ncbaptist.org/events/worship-leader-training/

Is worship not hitting the right note? Practical, proven training equips worship leaders with the understanding and tools to overcome spectatorship and renew transformative worship.

Designed for worship leaders with little or no formal training, or experienced leaders looking for a fresh set of resources, tracks include undergraduate and graduate certificates issued by accredited schools — beginning with a three-day retreat.

www.renewingworshipnc.org

Kenny Lamm
Worship Ministries Strategist, Ministry Strategies Group

Annual Church Profile Info

N.C. Baptists Annual Survey

When to Fill out your Church's ACP

The **2025 ACP form launches January 1, 2026** at ncbaptist.org/acp!

Over the past few years, the Baptist State Convention of NC has been transitioning to a **fully digital ACP** and calendar year timeline — making it quicker, easier, and more efficient for churches to complete. (Contact the Association office if you need a paper form.)

And don't forget—**the 2024 ACP form is still open until December 31, 2025** at ncbaptist.org/acp. So, there's still time to submit 2024 reports.

As a reminder, the 2024 ACP covers data from the 2024 calendar year. The 2025 ACP will cover the data from the 2025 calendar year. **However, if a church wants to use a fiscal calendar (Sept. - Aug. or otherwise) they can still report that 12 months of data in January.**

Recap: You will submit your 2025 data on the 2025 ACP and that digital form will be launching on January 1, 2026.

Reasons to Submit your Church's ACP

Thank you to our churches that fill out online, or mail in their church profile. Still, some may ask, "But WHY do we need to do that?"

⇒ Key statistics on the statistical survey are used for calculating the number of messengers your church may have at the Annual Session of the BSC of NC. This impacts your voting impact! if a church does not fill out their ACP profile, then it defaults to only two messengers if they gave to the Cooperative Program. To get more than two messengers (the max is ten messengers) the church has to submit an ACP. There is no way to calculate the correct number of messengers without the ACP data.

⇒ Historical information can get lost - if the profiles are entered, there is another place for the storage of history.

⇒ Leadership data is used for mailings of interest – such as Discipleship, Disaster Relief, Sunday School, VBS etc.

⇒ Data is used to see what is working and what is not working for Baptist Churches.

⇒ Record of the number of Baptisms on the State level and National level as well as the Associational level.

⇒ Statistics give us a platform for celebrating the work in God's Kingdom (example: baptisms, discipleship, and mission involvement).

⇒ Church websites listed on the profile are linked within the BSC of NC church locator tool to help people find a church; this may be your church!

⇒ Contact information at the congregation and leadership level helps us partner together in disaster events. Many lives will be blessed in these ministry opportunities.

⇒ It is the instrument by which BSCNC gather statistical data that helps inform and shape the resources they offer to NC Baptist Churches. They also gather contact information for all the volunteer leadership in your church, so they can inform them of upcoming training events in their special areas of interest.

Please go to Annual Church Profile | Baptist State Convention of North Carolina for more info, and were clerks can request a training video.

Local Volunteers Needed in Siler City

Are you interested in volunteering at Ebenezer's Attic in Siler City located at 218 E 11th St, Siler City, NC 27344 next to Bestfood & Hayley Bales Restaurant? This thrift store helps fund the local Ebenezer Children's Home, Grace Haven. They need volunteers right now to sort through donations on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday 9am-5pm or also Saturday 9am-2pm. Gather your friends, church, or women's group and spend some time here! Call (919) 663-2770 to set up a time to volunteer.

Hope for Appalachia Announcement:

Hope For Appalachia 2026 - *We are now accepting requests for hope bags* to be handed out and filled for our Hope For Appalachia trip in April. We are blessed each year by the participation of our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Sandy Creek Association, and we hope you will take part again this year. We will be visiting approximately 1800 students during our next visit.

Each bag contains information about the grade/gender that bag is intended for, so you'll have some guidance. The list of possible items has been shortened this year so that each bag contains a little less than last year. This helps in packing and transport to Kentucky. Remember, this is only meant for a guide in packing the bag - you do not have to get every item on the list. The main gift will be the gospel that will accompany the bag. **Bibles and gospel tracts will be provided by Emmaus after the bags are returned.*

All bags should be returned to Emmaus no later than March 15.

We ask that a $2 donation be given for each bag filled. This helps offset the cost of the bags.

Do you have questions or would like to request bags to fill? Contact:

Pastor Steve Moore (919-542-4974 - emmauspreach@emmausnc.net), or

Associate Pastor John Hill (919-542-4974, emmausap@emmausnc.net).

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed?
And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?
Romans 10:14

A Mission Field in Your Own Backyard!

Is the Lord calling you to mission work?

The children in the care of Ebenezer Christian Children's Home needs you!

Become a stable, dependable, caring and loving adult in the life of a child that has been displaced from their home due to neglect, abandonment, or abuse.

Ebenezer Christian Children's Home needs mission minded Christians to fill the roles of house parent and social worker.

To find out more about Ebenezer Christian Children's Home and the opportunity to serve in this ministry call our office at 336-667-5683, visit our website at www.ebenezerfamily.org, or email Rodney Graham at rodney@egcch.org

Ebenezer Christian Children's Home

A Safe Place to Laugh, Play, and Dream!

COA Accredited

4 EASY WAYS TO CONNECT WITH BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES FOUNDATION

01 **Invite us to share during your worship service!** Options include sharing the message, a ministry moment with updates on our work, & a display table with resources.

02 **Mid-week ministry presentations:** adaptable for all ages, these programs share our work & encourage participants to engage with missions & ministry every day. (Think evening programs, Missions Groups, WMU, youth groups, etc.)

03 **Special offerings:** You can choose to support residents in need, folks who need help with prescription costs, or contribute to our efforts toward the first Couple's Memory Care.

04 **BINGO!** We'll bring the supplies & prizes, you bring the people. We'll share about our ministry before the games begin. This is a great way to fellowship & support local missions at the same time!

Email: BRHFoundation@thrivemorenc.org
Call: Stephanie - 919.413.4614
Visit: thrivemorenc.org/giving

Sandy Creek Baptist Association EST 1758

MINISTERS' WIVES

Did you know?

Sandy Creek Baptist Association
will pay 75% *
for the first 15 ministers' wives
that register to attend the
NC Baptist Ministers' Wives Retreat!

Your Cost...
Double Occupancy - $65/person
Single Occupancy - $95/person

Scan me

Will it be YOU?

NCBMW
NC Baptist Ministers' Wives

- 75% of double occupancy covered. ($195)

Pastors' & Wives SCBA Post-Christmas/Valentines Dinner

- **Friday, February 6, 6:00pm**
- At **GiGi's Creations**, Sanford
- **Register** by contacting the office at sandycreekassoc@gmail.com or calling the office @ 919-776-9423.

Spring Leadership Series

- **Week 1 - Tuesday, April 21, 2026**
  - **Leadership Luncheon with Dr. Mac and Debbie Brunson**
    - **At First Baptist Church, Sanford.**
    - for anyone involved in ministry in the Church Men and Women. We'll have lunch then break up for a Men's Session with Dr. Mac Brunson, and a Women's Session with Debbie Brunson.
    - Brought to you by the **SCBA Church Leadership Development Team**
- **Week 2 - Tuesday, April 28, 2026**
  - **"Nothing but Christ" Pastors' Conference with Dr. Chuck Lawless**
    - Location to be announced.
    - Brought to you by the **SCBA Church Strengthening Team**

Men's Conference January 10, 2026
Women's Conference February 21, 2026

Zion's Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lumberton, NC,
in the Robeson Baptist Association
featuring some of our very own
Sandy Creek Association Pastors and Pastors' Wives.
Check out the information below and bring a group!

ZION'S TABERNACLE MEN'S CONFERENCE

BIBLICAL MANHOOD

Saturday January 10th, 2026 (9am - 2:30pm)

Tickets are just $10 (Lunch Included)

Guest Speakers:
Rev. George Townsend
Fall Creek Baptist - Bennett, NC

Rev. Bob Lovett
Bonlee Baptist - Bear Creek, NC

Rev, Tommy Knight
Lebanon Baptist - Fayetteville, NC

Come join us for a day filled with worship and preaching all centered on the importance of biblical manhood from the lives of David and Jonathan.

ZION'S TABERNACLE
MEN'S CONFERENCE

BIBLICAL MANHOOD

Zion's Tabernacle Baptist Church
3496 Tar Heel Road
Lumberton, NC 28358
www.zionstab.com

Saturday, January 10th, 2026 (9am - 2:30pm)

To purchase your ticket simply scan the QR Code or visit our church website. Seating is limited and will be on a first come basis. Lunch is included in the cost of your ticket. Tickets will be on sale from Sunday, October 12th, 2025 through January 4th, 2026 or until sold out!

ZION'S TABERNACLE
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Biblical Womanhood

Come join us for a day filled with worship and teaching all centered on the importance of biblical womanhood from the lives of Mary and Martha.

Saturday February 21st 2026 (9am - 2:30pm)

Tickets are just $10! (Lunch Included)

Guest Speakers:

Joy Townsend
Fall Creek Baptist - Bennett, NC

Harriet Lovett
Bonlee Baptist - Bear Creek, NC

Megan Knight
Lebanon Baptist - Fayetteville, NC

ZION'S TABERNACLE
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Biblical Womanhood

Zion's Tabernacle Baptist Church
3496 Tar Heel Road
Lumberton, NC 28358
www.zionstab.com

Saturday, February 21st, 2026 (9am - 2:30pm)

To purchase your ticket simply scan the QR Code or visit our church website. Seating is limited and will be on a first come basis. Lunch is included in the cost of your ticket. Tickets will be on sale from Sunday, October 12th, 2025 through February 11th, 2026 or until sold out!

Sandy Creek Baptist Association

Celebrating Good Things in 2025

Top Wins This Year

- 1,900 Hope Bags distributed to children in Kentucky with the Gospel, April 2025
- Well over 450 children impacted by the Shoe Fair Mission to Virginia, August 2025
- Many mission and outreach works were helped.
- Pastors were helped through cohorts, roundtables, and training opportunities.
- Ministers' wives were helped with scholarships to the NC Baptist Ministers' Wives Conf.
- Two churches are working in a revitalization process.
- One church was helped through a pastor search process and secured a pastor.

The SCBA **Missions Team** was able to help support:

- The Reach out Pregnancy Center's Moms' Dressing Room Project.
- Changing Destinies Ministry food for a month for Rachel's Refuge, given in a matching donation month! (ministers to human trafficking survivors).
- Helping support two youth, two other adults, and a family going on international mission.
- Helping purchase Bibles for an outreach event. Participated in other mission projects.

The SCBA **Church Strengthening Team** was able to:

- Host ongoing Pastor Revitalization Cohorts.
- Host a D-Life Disciple-Making event for pastors, with plans for a more in-depth training for anyone on Nov. 8 – Y'all come learn a great process for making disciples!
- Support churches' ongoing revitalization efforts, and other church equipping events.
- Support personal and family counseling opportunities for association members.
- Support Senior Lunches.

The SCBA **Church Leadership Development Team** was able to:

- Provide scholarships for pastors' wives conf. attendance and support PW fellowships.
- Support the bi-monthly Administrative Assistant fellowships.
- Plan a Deacon training for December at one of our association churches.

The SCBA **Associational Missionary**, 10 months in:

- Visited on Sundays 25 association churches as of October, returning to preach at several.
- Offered monthly pastor gatherings and attended other pastor prayer times.
- Connected with most association pastors outside church visits.
- Led SCBA Teams to form budgets & plans toward intentional ministry effectiveness.
- Led the Administrative Team to begin updating SCBA policy and procedures.
- Received Vision Framing certification through the Baptist State Convention, and is applying it already at one of our revitalization churches.
- Was honed for effectiveness through training and sharpening events over the year.
- Worked toward bringing the association office up to speed technologically.
- Learned more about the needs of the Association, and looking ahead to the future.

Your Association is Looking Ahead to Events and Plans for 2026:

SCBA **Missions Team** plans to:

- Continue providing mission support for ministries and churches *going on mission*, helping provide support for *physical and/or safety needs* (equipment/achieving safety guidelines), and provide mission *project support and/or training*. Apply at sandycreekba.com/missions.
- Work toward developing a SCBA Disaster Relief and Helps Response Ministry utilizing the association's disaster response trailer.
- Continue encouraging mission projects like the Powell River Shoe Ministry, Hope Bags to Kentucky, and look to encourage and develop other mission outreach near and far.

The **Church Strengthening Team** plans to:

- Continue and expand Pastor Cohorts.
- Host a "Nothing but Christ" Pastors' Conference with Dr. Chuck Lawless, Tuesday, April 28, 2026; Location to be announced. (part of a leadership series with the Church Leadership Development team's event below)
- Continue offering revitalization support and help to association churches.
- Encourage and engage churches with strengthening and equipping opportunities.

The **Church Leadership Development Team** plans to:

- Host a Leadership Luncheon with Dr. Mac and Debbie Brunson for all church leaders, Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at First Baptist Church, Sanford.
- Continue offering scholarships to Ministers' Wives encouraging attendance to the NC Baptist Minister's Wives Conference, July 13-15, 2026, at Caraway Conference Center. Offering 75% of cost to all SCBA association ministers' wives within budget.
- Develop and identify training and equipping opportunities for association churches.

🛠️ Projects and Plans

Your Associational Missionary and Administrative Team will work on developing vision and objectives that will aim our efforts as we seek to:

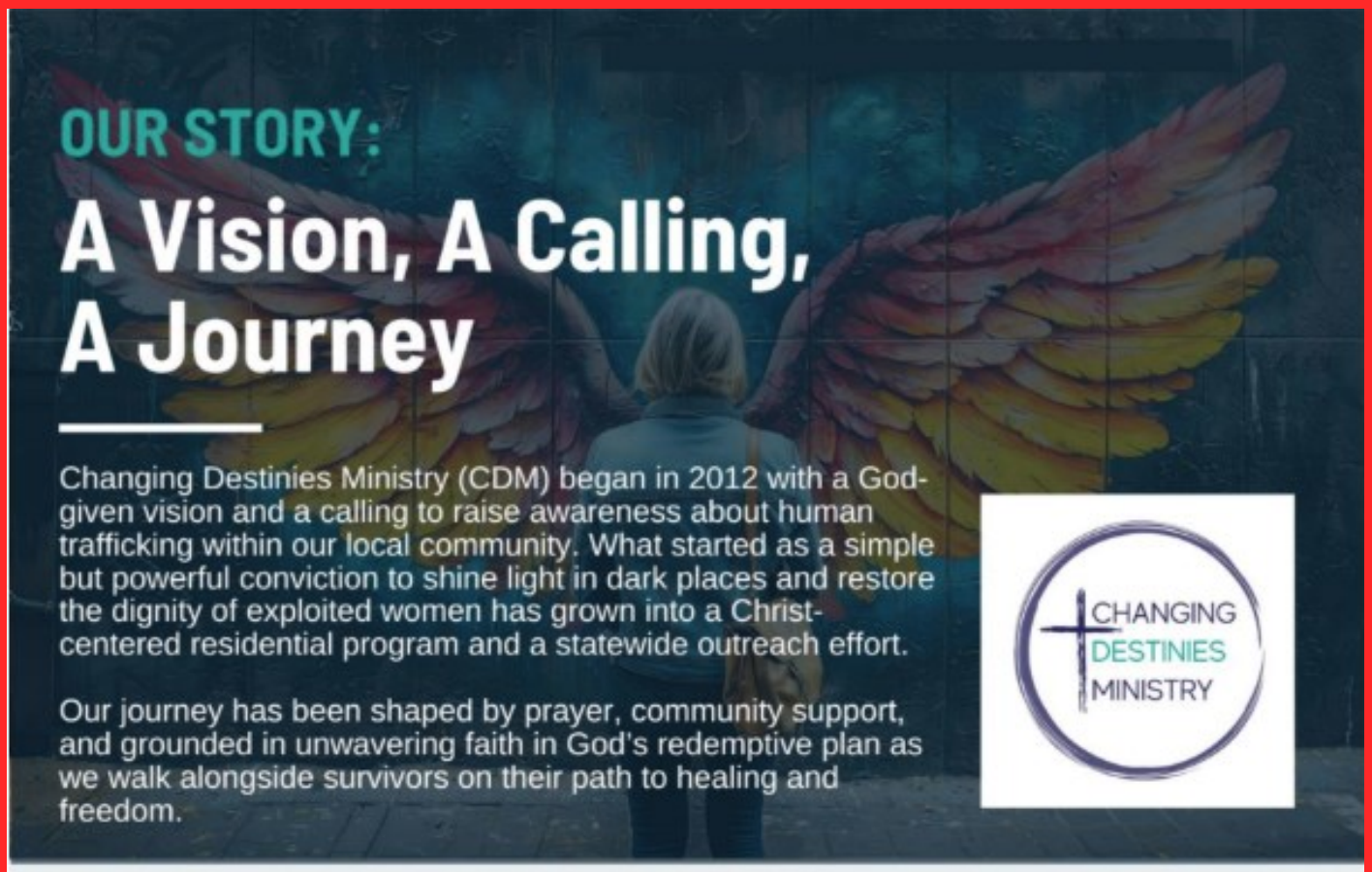
- Help churches make greater evangelistic impact.
- Help equip church workers and develop leaders.
- Help churches be healthy, strong and fruitful.

📣 Call to Action:

- ➢ Engage in association events and training opportunities made available through the year.
- ➢ Pray for your association and for your 49 sister churches in the association.
- ➢ Daily pray for the lost, for workers for the harvest, and seek to share the Gospel.

📸 Spotlight:

Seeing the Holy Spirt working in young people as they heard the Gospel was a highlight seen several times during the Kentucky Mission Trip. And, seeing how God provided ahead of us for the Powell River Shoe Fair to make a new ministry connection with a school was a real blessing!



OUR STORY:

A Vision, A Calling, A Journey

Changing Destinies Ministry (CDM) began in 2012 with a God-given vision and a calling to raise awareness about human trafficking within our local community. What started as a simple but powerful conviction to shine light in dark places and restore the dignity of exploited women has grown into a Christ-centered residential program and a statewide outreach effort.

Our journey has been shaped by prayer, community support, and grounded in unwavering faith in God's redemptive plan as we walk alongside survivors on their path to healing and freedom.

CHANGING DESTINIES MINISTRY

Who We Serve

CDM serves adult women survivors of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. Many come from cycles of abuse, addiction, incarceration, and homelessness. We partner with law enforcement, advocacy groups, churches, and direct referrals to offer these courageous women a new beginning.

History of Changing Destinies Ministry

Be Part of the Story

God is changing lives and you can be part of it. Whether through prayer, partnership, volunteering, or financial support, your involvement makes freedom possible.

How We Serve: Rachel's Refuge

At Rachel's Refuge, our 13-acre residential home, we provide:

- **Safe, Faith-Filled Housing:** A private, nurturing home where women feel secure and seen.
- **Comprehensive Case Management:** Each resident receives personalized care plans tailored to their healing journey.
- **Licensed Trauma Counseling & Life Coaching:** Emotional, spiritual, and practical tools for lasting transformation.
- **Christ-Centered Discipleship & Mentorship:** Restoring identity and dignity through God's Word.
- **Life Skills & Vocational Readiness:** GED support, job placement, financial literacy, and confidence-building programs.

www.ChangingDestiniesMinistry.org

info@changingdestiniesministry.org

Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 919-814-5400. The license is not an endorsement by the State.

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