

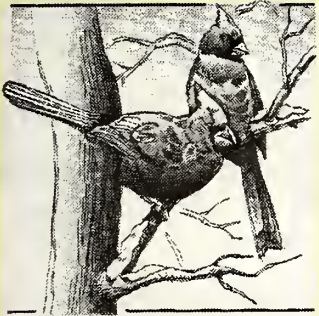


Informant BAPTIST

Volume 131, No. 1

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

January 2008

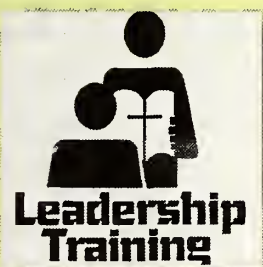


JANUARY

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Banquet
Friday, January 11, 2008
Greenville Convention Center
Greenville, NC ■ 7:00 p.m.
TICKETS: \$50.00 ea.

GBSC Executive Committee Meeting
January 11, 2008
11:00 a.m.
Greenville, NC

WHB & FMC One Day Session
January 12, 2008
Greenville, NC



One Days Session of Christian Education
Sat., February 9, 2008 ■ 8am
M.C. Benton Center
Winston-Salem, NC

One Day Session of Usher's Convention
Sat., February 23, 2008
8:00 a.m.
M.C. Benton Convention Ctr.
Winston-Salem, NC



GBSC THEME "To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC

Greetings in the name of the risen Christ Jesus. Joy and peace be unto you. What a year was 2007! To God be the glory for His guidance, provision and protection through what proved to be a very challenging and exciting journey. Convention leadership spent much of the year in a learning curve. We worked hard building our fellowship, learning to trust each other; holding one another accountable and participating in strategic development. During the year, we experienced some small victories that have provided momentum and a platform from which to launch the next phase of our vision for General Baptist work. Entering 2008; we are better prepared to move to other levels and anticipate a renewed interest in our work. To

realize our goals of education, training, missions/ministry and fellowship, we follow the model provided by none other than Jesus Himself.

Jesus spent more time pouring into his disciples than moving among the masses. Following the lead of Jesus, we will again pull to the side our leadership to study, plan and reflect. There are many challenges awaiting us and they cannot be properly addressed unless we are clear about our methods and strategies. Preparing our leaders for the journey is my responsibility. Thus your



prayers and support are needed as we endeavor to embrace what God has put

on the plate of General Baptist.

Thank you for your support of the Martin Luther King Jr. banquet and the One Day Session of the Woman's Auxiliary. We were pleased to pay tribute to Elizabeth Young and Cedric Jones



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

for their sterling service to General Baptist causes. We were also pleased to honor State Representative Alma Adams for her commitment and years of service to the citizens of North Carolina.

Be encouraged and please take note of upcoming General Baptist events. Thank you for all you do. May God bless you and our Convention. ■

From the desk of the First Vice President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice President

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Galatians 1:3-5, NIV).



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

The New Year provides opportunities for new commitments, new goals, new objectives, new lessons, new experiences, new challenges, and new victories. The Christian community must be equipped and empowered to face the opportunities, confront the challenges, overcome the obstacles, cultivate our

gifts, learn from the lessons, and celebrate the victories with renewed energy, enthusiasm, excitement, and enlightenment.

The Christian life involves a vertical line from the believer to God, and a horizontal line from the believer to others. The writer in 2 Corinthians 9:8 puts it this way: "God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others" (CEV). Consequently, prophetic ministry must match our proclaimed mission. Our congregational "in-reach" and community outreach must always lead to a God-honoring "up-reach" that glorifies God and edifies others. Our claim of inner grace must be interlocked with our outward show of goodness toward others.

Let us faithfully pledge to fulfill our spiritual and financial support to the General Baptist State Convention objectives. Our time, talents, treasures, and

prayers are needed, encouraged, welcomed, and appreciated. The convention and the local ministries we serve are gifts from God that God has entrusted to us as faithful stewards. I can think of no better way to make 2008 great than through your generous and cheerful contributions to State Missions.

The harvest is ripe for a prophetic ministry that preaches good news, and proclaims freedom, restoration, release, and the year of the Lord's favor (from Isaiah 61:1-2 & Luke 4: 18-19). God's peace be with you all for a joyous, fruitful, fulfilling, and Holy Spirit-filled New Year as we "Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced" through your generous and ongoing support of State Missions.

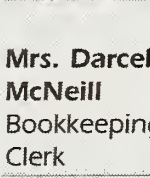
TO GOD BE THE GLORY and "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV). ■

GBSC STAFF

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Rev. Selma Hunter
Finance Consultant



Mrs. Darcell McNeill
Bookkeeping Clerk



Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Baptist Informer Managing Editor

Campaign 750

Campaign 750. Your funds will be deposited into a restricted account separate from the account where other monies are deposited.

6. Can my Church pay up ahead of time?

If your Church wishes to send its funds in advance (for example, \$300.00 for a quarter), it may do so. However, Churches are encouraged to send the funds monthly.

7. Why is it important to send the funds monthly?

By sending funds monthly, we are much better able to budget for the Convention's expenses. We can project what we will receive each month and plan to pay the Convention's bills which are received each month.

8. May a Church send more than \$100.00 a month?

Most certainly. The \$100.00 is the minimum amount requested. This amounts to \$25.00 a Sunday for those Churches with services every Sunday. (it's only \$12.50 a service if your Church has two services on Sunday.) Some Churches will decide to send more when thinking of their resources and blessings.

9. What about our Church's contributions to the other objectives?

Your Church is still expected to contribute regularly to support the objectives of the Convention. The *Campaign 750* donation is above and beyond what your Church is currently sending. If your Church is not supporting the Convention, *Campaign 750* gives your Church a good starting point.

10. How should we find individuals in our Church to contribute? Whatever method you use is fine. You may solicit three people to give for an entire year. You may solicit three different people each month.

11. How should the funds collected from individuals be sent in?

Our preference would be that the Church collect the funds and send them along with the Church's funds once a month. However, if the individuals choose to send their contributions directly to us, please be sure that they indicate *Campaign 750* on their check as well as give the name of your Church.

12. What will be done with the funds when we send them in?

Campaign 750 funds will be deposited

directly into a restricted account. As the Convention has needs to use the funds send, money will be transferred from the restricted account. By handling the funds this way, the Headquarters will be best able to account for all contributions received.

13. What will the funds be used for?

First, the funds will be drawn upon to pay for OPERATIONS expenses. Secondly, the funds will be drawn upon to pay for PROGRAMMING expenses. Finally, the funds will be drawn upon to pay for CONVENTION DEBT TO VENDORS.

14. How long will it take to pay off the Convention's debt?

Along with other strategies to retire our debt, it is estimated that the Convention's debt could be settled in twenty-seven (27) months if *Campaign 750* is fully implemented.

15. What will happen once the debt to vendors is paid?

The Convention will then apply funds from *Campaign 750* to pay funds due to the objectives from previous fiscal years.

16. What happens once the funds due to objectives is paid?

Once the Convention has met all of its debt obligations (both to vendors and to the objectives), the funds from

Campaign 750 will be used to expand the Convention's programming and services.

17. Will we stop enrolling Churches once 750 have enrolled?

Certainly not. We would like to see every General Baptist Church participate. 750 is a goal to work toward. We hope to exceed this goal.

18. Could an Association or and Association Auxiliary enroll?

Yes. We would welcome the support from Associations or Auxiliaries of Associations.

19. What if our Church loses track of our contributions? Not a problem. You will receive a receipt and the Baptist Headquarters will be able to provide a statement of your contribution upon request.

20. Can our Church designate where we want Campaign 750 funds applied?

No. If you wish to make a contribution for a certain reason, please do not label your funds *Campaign 750*. Funds for *Campaign 750* will be used according to the greatest immediate need: either operations, programming, or debt reduction. You may always send a designated contribution which will be applied according to your instructions.

1. What is Campaign 750?

Campaign 750 is an effort to have 750 Churches agree to give \$100.00 each month designated for State Missions. The second part of the Campaign is to identify three (3) persons in each of the 750 Churches who will give \$10.00 each month designated for State Missions.

2. Does my Church have to give every month?

Yes. In order for the Campaign to be successful and the necessary funds raised, each Church that enrolls will be expected to contribute each month.

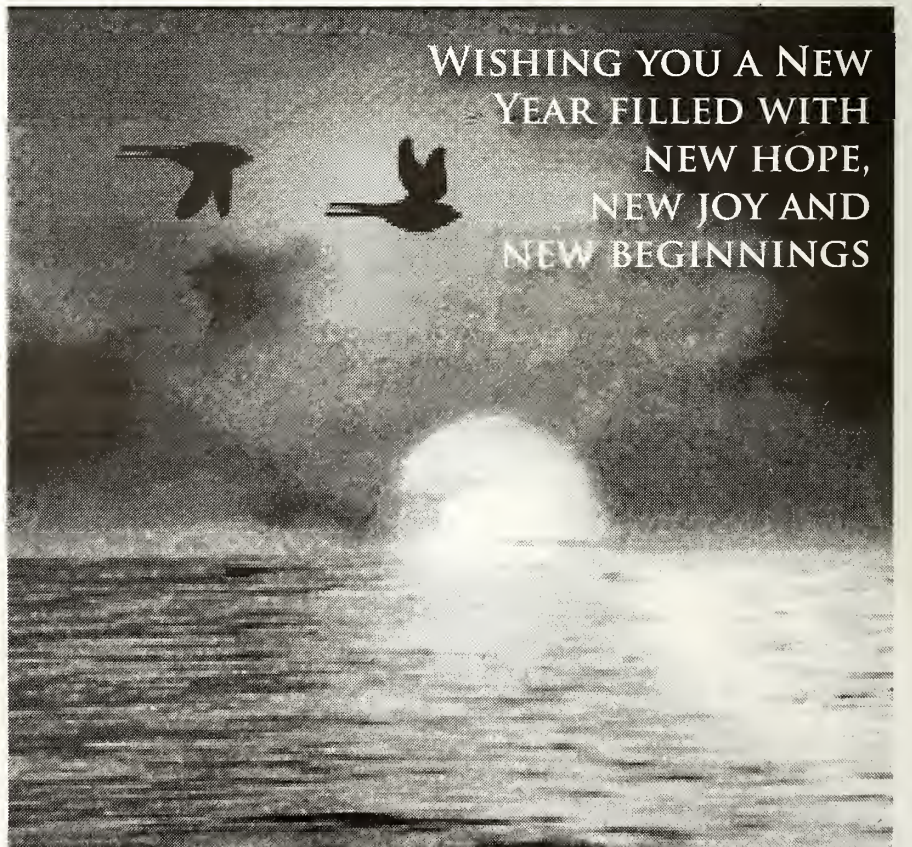
3. When are funds due?

Campaign 750 funds are due by the tenth day of each month. Please be sure that your financial staff mails your check in sufficient time to be received at the Baptist Headquarters by the tenth day of each month.

4. Does our Church need a special form?

No. All your Church needs to do is to make a note on the check for *Campaign 750* and the proper accounting of your funds will be noted.

5. May we send our contributions for missions and objectives in the same check as *Campaign 750*? PLEASE DO NOT. Please send a separate check for



The Pastor's Personal Use Of The Bible



Rev. Ricky Banks

Rev. Dr. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President

"The Pastor's Personal Use Of The Bible"

Bible reading is the heart-and-soul answer to the problems the preacher finds personally in his work in the pulpit and the parish. The Bible is the greatest tangible source of renewal for his own spiritual life.

Sometimes a minister runs into the

peril of failing to renew his life spiritually. A minister can become too overloaded with administrative details, he may lose touch with his people, he may drift away from his habits of study. This commonly happens because he or she loses the inspiration of the Bible. The Gospel a minister preaches is contained in the Bible and his mind needs to be renewed day by day by careful devotional study of the Bible. The creative power of the Bible comes not from every new idea which flashes but by being laid hold of by them.

To understand and to utter the mes-

sage of the Bible is the unique function of the Christian minister. It has priority in his call into the ministry. The Bible is the charter, the constitution, the source-book of the Christian's faith. To know it, to be thoroughly familiar with it, to understand what it had to say for its time, has for our time and for all time, is the indispensable equipment of the true preacher. The Bible is God calling to man. The minister needs to know something about many books and everything about one book.

Only the Bible is able to deal adequately with modern problems. Bible

preaching never runs dry or grows thin. The Bible is indeed a well of living water from which the preacher may fill his sermons full to overflowing. There are never Sundays enough in the year for the Bible truths that clamor for utterance-no, not in a lifetime!

NEWS FROM SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL

You may now request reservation tickets for the CIAA basketball tournament 2008. Please visit the web page to do so. www.shawu.edu

The Resume of Jesus Christ

Dr. A.T. Griffey, III
Historian GBSC

Address: Ephesians 1:20
Phone: Romans 10:13
Website: The Bible. Keywords: Christ, Lord, Savior and Jesus

Hello. My name is Jesus -The Christ. Many call me Lord! I've sent you my resume because I'm seeking the top man-

agement position in your heart. Please consider my accomplishments as set forth in my resume.

Qualifications

- I founded the earth and established the heavens, (See Proverbs 3:19)
- I formed man from the dust of the ground, (See Genesis 2:7)
- I breathed into man the breath of life, (See Genesis 2:7)

- I redeemed man from the curse of the law, (See Galatians 3:13)
- The blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant comes upon your life through me, (See Galatians 3:14)

Occupational Background

- I've only had one employer, (See Luke 2:49).
- I've never been tardy, absent, disobedient, slothful or disrespectful.
- My employer has nothing but rave reviews for me, (See Matthew 3:15-17)

Skills Work Experiences

- Some of my skills and work experiences include: empowering the poor to be poor no more, healing the broken-hearted, setting the captives free, healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind and setting at liberty them that are bruised, (See Luke 4:18).

- I am Wonderful, Counselor, (See Isaiah 9:6). People who listen to me shall dwell safely and shall not fear evil, (See Proverbs 1:33).

- Most importantly, I have the authority, ability and power to cleanse you of your sins, (See I John 1:7-9)

Educational Background

- I encompass the entire breadth and length of knowledge, wisdom and understanding, (See Proverbs 2:6).

- In me are hid all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, (See Colossians 2:3).

- My Word is so powerful; it has been described as being a lamp unto your feet and a lamp unto your path, (See Psalms 119:105).

- I can even tell you all of the secrets of your heart, (See Psalms 44:21).

Major Accomplishments

- I was an active participant in the

greatest Summit Meeting of all times, (See Genesis 1:26).

- I laid down my life so that you may live, (See II Corinthians 5:15).

- I defeated the arch-enemy of God and mankind and made a show of them openly, (See Colossians 2:15).

- I've miraculously fed the poor, healed the sick and raised the dead!

- There are many more major accomplishments, too many to mention here. You can read them on my website, which is located at: www.theBIBLE.com. You don't need an Internet connection or computer to access my website.

References

- The great teacher- my father, JEHOVAH (Psalms 83:18)
- Believers and followers worldwide will testify to my divine healings, salvation, deliverance, miracles, restoration and supernatural guidance

In Summation Now that you've read my resume, I'm confident that I'm the only candidate uniquely qualified to fill this vital position in your heart. In summation, I will properly direct your paths, (See Proverbs 3:5-6), and lead you into everlasting life, (See John 6:47). When can I start? Time is of the essence, (See Hebrews 3:15).

Send this resume to everyone you know, you never know who may have an opening! Thanks for your help and may God bless you!



Dr. A.T. Griffey, III

Baptist Informer

RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check)	Number of Years: (check one)
<input type="checkbox"/> New Subscription	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Address Change (include old address label)	

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention

603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601

(919) 821-7466 • www.gbsc.org

Signature _____

Nobody every outgrows Scripture; the Book widens and deepens with our years.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Woman's Convention

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

Official Roster

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels

VICE PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Audrey Battle

Reverend Linda Inman

Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow

Mrs. Ellender LeMay

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie

EXECUTIVE BOARD

CHAIRPERSON

Mrs. Eva Geer

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE

BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Mrs. Madgaline Whitley

SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ms. Vanessa Gregory

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mrs. Ida Dunston

RECORDER

Ms. Darlene Esters

ASSISTANT RECORDER

Ms. Vanessa Gregory

HISTORIAN

Mrs. Doris Burke

ORGANIST

Ms. Barbara Kelly

PIANIST

Mrs. Alice Green

DIRECTOR

Mr. Waverly Camp

EDITOR, HELPER

Mrs. Patsy R. Camp

YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT

DIRECTOR

Ms. Helen Judd

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Judie Crowder

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Anjanette W. Chapman

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

SUPERVISOR

Ms. Louise Lassiter

ASSOCIATE YOUTH SUPERVISOR

Ms. Jewyl Dunn

YOUTH PRESIDENT

Minister Malcolm Eatmon

"Come, Thou Almighty King"



Bronnie Daniels

Mrs. Bronnie Daniels
President, WBH & FMC

Come, thou Almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing,
Help us to praise:
Father, all glorious,
O'er all victorious,

come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword,
Our prayer attend: Come and Thy people bless,
And give Thy word success-
Spirit of holiness, On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour: Thou who almighty art,
Now rule in ev'ry heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

To the great One in Three Eternal praises be,
Hence ever more: His sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see, And to eternity
Love and adore.

-Anonymous

To the King of Glory are we grateful for His having blessed the Woman's Convention during the past year. How grateful are we to God through Jesus that we are beginning a new year, 2008. To Him we look for all things in this New Year. "Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah", Psalm 24:10. Yes, it is with the hymn writer that we say joyfully, "Come Thou Almighty King" and reign in this year through us in all ways.

Happy New Year!

Reminders

1. On Saturday, January 12, 2008, will be the One Day Session of the Woman's Baptist State Convention at the Greenville Convention Center, Greenville, beginning at 9:00 A.M. All A-1's and Lydia's, your circles and other appropriate organizations will be recognized. There will be sessions for all departments. However, all persons are asked to convene together for the opening, beginning at 9:00 A.M.
2. Please review the calendar events and observe.
3. Please attend the United Central and Northern Assembly of the Woman's

Convention in February. (See given announcement elsewhere.)

4. The Proposed Missions Budget for 2007-2008, near \$803,325, will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

Woman's Baptist State Convention 2008 Calendar

JANUARY

(Prayer Month for STATE MISSIONS)

12- One-Day Session, Greenville Convention Center, Greenville

FEBRUARY

(Prayer Month for NATIONAL MISSIONS)

3- United Central & Northern Assembly, Greensboro, NC

MARCH

23- Easter

APRIL

Prayer Month for Foreign Mission
5 - State-Wide Leaders' Workshop,
St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte

MAY

3- Ministers' Wives and Widows
Weekend Retreat

24-United Southern Assembly, 9:30 A.M.

JUNE

7 - Young Adult Retreat.

9-13 - Leadership Training
Conference, Baptist Assembly,
Laurel Hill

15-19 - First Week of Youth Bible
Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

21- United Eastern Assembly, 9:30 A.M.

22-27 - Second Week of Youth Bible
Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

28- Missions Prayer Day (County
Unions, et. al.)

29- July 4 - Third Week of Youth
Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly,
Laurel Hill

JULY

27-31 - Woman's Baptist Home and
Foreign Missionary Convention,
Winston-Salem

AUGUST

(Prayer month for THE FAMILY)
11-15 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign
Mission Convention

SEPTEMBER

8-12 National Baptist Convention
27- Family Missions Conference

OCTOBER

(Prayer month for SHAW UNIVERSITY AND SHAW DIVINITY SCHOOL)

10 - Shaw University Founder's Day
Convocation

11 - WBSC Institute Workers'
Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

1 - Youth Evangelism Conference

3 - World Day of

Prayer (BWA -

Woman's,

Department)

27-

Thanksgiving

Day

DECEMBER

25 - Christmas Day



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

The WBH&FMC United Central & Northern Assembly

Attendees: (All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts IV & VII)

"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand."

II Corinthians 1:24

Introductory Statement: For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state.

Purpose(s): To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings across the state (one setting per quarter)

To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through with the Woman's Convention

Date: February 2, 2008

Time: 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Place: New Zion Baptist Church
1310 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
Greensboro, NC 27406
Rev. William F. Wright, Jr., Pastor

Contact Person: (Board member):

Reverend Linda Inman

Telephone Number: 336-750-3372

District Chairpersons:

District Group	Chairperson
4	1 Ms. Martha Joyce
4	2 Mrs. Essie Haynes
4	3 Rev. Mildred Chambers
7	1 Mrs. Lou Degraffenneaid
7	2 Mrs. Debra Brodie



Dr. James W. Smith

Dr. James W. Smith

Greetings and peace be unto you my brothers and sisters: As we reflect over the year 2007 and enter the year 2008, it is my hope that all of you will experience a blessed year and look

"Happy New Year, It's Tax Season"

forward to the challenges ahead as you prepare to do the ministry that has been set before you. I wish all of you a Happy New Year and it is my prayer that God will continue to shower His blessing upon each of you. The past year has been both exciting and challenging for all of us. So much has happened in our country as well as our communities that have

affected our lives and ministry.

This is also the season of taxes. Finances and taxes are sometimes a difficult issue for churches and pastors. Many do not want to treat the church as a business and therefore the issues of finances and taxes are taken lightly. Whenever I talk about this issue at workshops with churches and pastors, I always hear someone say, "We don't have to worry about that, churches don't get audited." My response to this is that there is always a first time for everything. Finances relate to everything from the counting of Sunday's collections to financial record keeping. Pastors and officers of the church should not hesitate to make sure that safe guards are in place.

We need to be concerned about the finances of the church because in the final analysis, it is not our money and we serve as stewards of God's money.

Further, let us not forget that numerous and rapid changes are taking place in legal matters that may have an impact on the local church. New laws are being enacted every day. At the national level the Internal Revenue Service continues to issue rulings, which will affect the church. Churches need to consider the advantages and disadvantages of Faith

Based Initiative monies. In addition, tax code changes and tax court decisions make it necessary for the church to keep up with those areas, which will affect her work. At the state level, decisions are being made concerning day-care centers and school operation, which will affect those churches that offer such services.

At the local level the taxation of properties owned by a church continues to be explored. There are also many local ordinances, which affect a church in its building program and the operation of church activities. Many of these situations will require the church to secure competent legal advice. We must be aware that ignorance of the law will not be a valid excuse if the church is guilty of failing to abide by her legal responsibilities. During this year, I hope to give you a perspective from time to time that will challenge you in your ministry God has given you. Again, may each of you be blessed and have a happy and prosperous New Year.

Dr. James W. Smith

Pastor/Church Consultant/Mediator

1717 Cobblestone Drive

Creedmoor, North Carolina 27522

(919) 764-9780

Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com

Website: www.jwsmithconsultant.com ■

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

Congress of Christian Education

Congress of Christian Education One-Day Session 2008



Ms. Lula Gainey

Lula Gainey, President

Greetings in the Matchless name of our Lord & Savior JESUS CHRIST! This is an exciting time in the life of our GBSC family as we pause again to celebrate the birth of our

Savior, and embark upon another New Year. We wish for you and yours a wonderful and prosperous New Year!

The Congress Officers are eagerly planning our Mid-year Session, which will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008. Please mark your calendars and

plan to share in the enriching class sessions that will be offered for your spiritual growth. A detailed class list is attached for your viewing.

If you are interested in joining the Congress Teaching Staff, please e-mail your Resume and detailed personal data to our Congress Dean, Mrs. Janifer Campbell at: jcampbell@lewischapel.org.

As we start the New Year a fresh, please be reminded that ALL CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS are challenged to meet your annual financial quota of \$400.00 for the Congress (Sunday School/BTU) in "2008".

New Report: Tobacco Regulation Would Save North Carolina \$1.3 Billion in Health Care Costs by Preventing 75,500 Kids from Smoking



Raleigh, North Carolina – If Congress passes legislation to give the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authority to regulate tobacco products, the new law would save the state \$1.3 billion in tobacco-related health care costs by keeping 75,500 kids from becoming new smokers, according to a new report released today by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.

In North Carolina tobacco use causes \$2.46 billion in health care bills each year and kills 11,900 residents; 20.3 percent of North Carolina high school students currently smoke.

Despite the death and disease caused by tobacco products, they are not regulated to protect consumers' health. This lack of regulation allows the tobacco companies to market their deadly products to children, deceive consumers about the harm their products cause and resist even the most minimal changes that could make their products less harmful.

The legislation pending in Congress (S. 624/H.R. 1108) would give the FDA authority to crack down on tobacco marketing and sales to kids, stop tobacco companies from misleading the public about the health risks of their products and require changes in tobacco products, such as the reduction or removal of harmful ingredients. It would also require larger, more effective health warnings and disclosure of the contents of tobacco products.

"Tobacco takes a devastating toll in health, lives and money, both nationwide and in North Carolina," said X. "By granting the FDA authority over tobacco, Congress can reduce the tremendous financial burden that tobacco use imposes on our health care system and also protect our children from tobacco addiction."

The new report is based on an analysis by the Congressional Budget Office that, within the first five years of its implementation, the FDA bill would reduce youth smoking by 12.5 percent. In North Carolina, such a reduction in youth smoking would:

- Prevent 75,000 kids alive today from becoming smokers;
- Save 24, 100 kids alive today from premature, smoking-caused deaths;
- Reduce future health care costs by \$1.3 billion, including \$162.8 less Medicaid program spending.

North Carolina would realize additional health and financial benefits from reductions in adult smoking. The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids report estimates that every one percentage point reduction in adult smoking in North Carolina would result in \$636.5 health care savings, 67,000 fewer smokers, and 17,800 fewer deaths from smoking. With greater declines in adult smoking, these benefits would be even larger. ■

DIVISION 1: Ministerial Development

Ministering to Families in Bereavement

Casting and Understanding the Vision

Preaching the Word in the 21st Century

DIVISION 2: Leadership Development

Re-Thinking Christian Education

Dealing with Difficult People

Parliamentary Procedure

Developing the Leader within You

Building an Effective Church Leadership Team

DIVISION 3: The Sunday School

The Sunday School with an Intentional Mission and Goal

DIVISION 4: Evangelism and Mission

Total Church Evangelism

Evangcube-A Simple to Witness

DIVISION 5 Teachers' Training and Development

Ministering to Adult Students

Ministering to Young Adult Students (Adults 18-35)

Ministering to High School Students (Grades 9-12)

Ministering to Middle School Students (Grades 6-8)

Ministering to Older Elementary School Students (Grades 3-5)

Ministering to Younger Elementary School (Students Grades 1-2)

Ministering to Preschool Students (Pre K - Kindergarten)

DIVISION 6: Youth Ministry

Oratorical Contest Interest

DIVISION 7: Biblical & General Studies

Biblical Studies (Certification Class)

Unshakable Faith-A Practical Guide to New Testament Theology

Foundations for Christian for Christian Living

Effectual Prayer

Six Battles Every Man Must Win

DIVISION 8: Music Ministry

Developing Your Music Ministry

DIVISION 9: Youth Division

Youth Assembly Program

North Exhibit Hall

Preaching As Entertainment

Rev. Al Fullwood is a Ph.D. candidate (Preaching), adjunct instructor of preaching Shaw University Divinity School Pastor of The Riley Hill Baptist Church, Wendell NC



Dr. Al Fullwood

Postman suggests that the idea of truth has been transformed by television

People are largely influenced by the medium of television and the age of computers affect how they live and see the world [Lischer]. In his book, *Amusing ourselves to death: Public Discourse in the age of Show Business*, Neil Postman suggests that the idea of truth has been transformed by television

media through visual imagery—image-centered culture. He believes the effect that this kind of communication has on culture is an entertainment sensibility. The most effective communication is the one that has a strong entertainment component. The result is people are better entertained than they are informed [Larsen].

Current trends in preaching are moving toward an entertainment style of preaching. The challenge of preachers today is finding ways to keep their sermon interesting and relevant. Therefore, there is a large expenditure



of time and energy spent gathering non-biblical materials designed to tickle the ears of the listening pew. Like individuals doing stand-up comedy, preachers are in constant search for new material that make their audience feel something. They are constantly looking for something "that will preach," or "that will entertain." Something critically important is sacrificed when the aim of preaching is not about Christ. The essential character of preaching is weakened when flattering words and feel-good stories substitute biblical content. Sermons should

be interesting and engaging but theology in preaching must not be sacrificed at the altar of entertainment.

The danger of entertainment style of preaching is that authority is invested in giving the pew what they want instead of what God requires. Preachers become performers for the applause of the pew rather than proclaim the gospel for the glory of God. The entertaining "method becomes the message" which takes on a theological life of its own, estranged from Scripture. The pew needs to be informed more than entertained. If preaching does not convict, convert, and subvert the community loses its moral and spiritual compass.

The next article continues the conversation regarding preaching as entertainment. ■

We need every person who supports our anti-



racism, anti-poverty, and anti-war program to march with us to the N.C. Legislative Building on Jones Street on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2008.** Help us celebrate the 99th birthday of the NAACP than to join with our 75-partner organizations at our **2ND ANNUAL HK ON J?**

OUR servants meet at Jones Street to decide how to spend OUR money. Big corporations pay to play on Jones Street. We can't match their money, but with God's grace and our hard work, **WE CAN SURE OUTNUMBER 'EM.'**

REV. DR. WILLIAM J. BARBER II, PRES. NC NAACP

HK ON J



HISTORIC K(THOUSANDS) ON JONES STREET

Meet at Memorial Auditorium at **11 a.m.**

March to Jones Street at **12:30 p.m.**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2008.

14-POINT PEOPLE'S AGENDA

1. All Children Need High Quality, Well Funded, Diverse Schools.
2. Livable Wages and Support for Low Income People.
3. Health Care for All.
4. Redress Two Ugly Chapters in N. C. Racist History: The overthrow of the bi-racial 1898 Wilmington Government and the sterilization of poor Black women from 1947-1977.
5. Same Day Registration and Public Financing of Elections.
6. Lift Every HBCU.
7. Document and Redress 200 years of State Discrimination in Hiring and Contracting.
8. Provide Affordable Housing and Stop Consumer Abuse.
9. Abolish Racially-Biased Death Penalty and Mandatory Sentencing Laws; Reform our Criminal Justice Systems and Prisons.
10. Put Young People to Work to Save the Environment and Fight for Environmental Justice.
11. Collective Bargaining for Public Employees and Justice for Smithfield workers.
12. Protect the Rights of Immigrants from Latin America and other Nations.
13. Organize, Strengthen, and Fund our Civil Rights Enforcement Agencies and Statutes Now.
14. Bring Our Troops Home from Iraq Now.

Volunteer to Help, Reserve a Bus, Join the NAACP

www.turner@naacp.org, www.hkonj.com 919-682-4700

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST USHERS CONVENTION Ushers Workshop

November 10, 2007, J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly

Laurel Hill, North Carolina

Mrs. Helen M. Thompson, President

The Ushers Workshop was opened with devotion by Bro. Jetho Cilchrist. The opening selection was "What a Fellowship". The scripture was given by the Youth Department and prayer by 2nd Vice President Archie Lofton. After the Welcome and opening remarks by President Thompson, there were more musical selections. Deacon Norman Dorsey, 3rd Vice President, was in charge of the offering.

The Instructional Period for Adults was facilitated by Rev. Marvin T. Clowney, Dean and Bro. Charlie Rhodes, Assistant Dean. The Youth Department facilitator was Sister Sara Anthony, Assistant Youth Supervisor.

Dean Clowney's Workshop Theme was entitled "We Need a New Attitude", scripture reference Colossians 3:1-4. Rev. Clowney portrayed a new attitude as the key to developing a new way of life and a new way of thinking about our spiritual maturity. He stated that a new attitude will help us to present the gospel in new packages. Our new attitude must become one towards obligations, others and God. Because of our new attitude we can begin to live like resurrection Christians everyday because Jesus made it possible. We should realize that God has placed within us a sense of destiny and our goal is to be with Him and to share in His Glory. Our destiny is to see Him face to face!

Sister Anthony and the Youth Department gave detailed remarks of their instructional period. However the highlight of their remarks was the announcement of the election and presentation of the Youth State Officers.

President Thompson gave closing remarks and the benediction was given by 1st Vice President Bro. Charles Dunn.

The N.C. Baptist State Ushers Convention sends salutations, honoring Mrs. Marion Odessa Manley who celebrated her 90th Birthday on Saturday, Nov. 3, 2007 at the Rosenwald Community Center in South Mills, North Carolina.

Bro. William L. Pointer, Jr.
NCBSUC Reporter to The Baptist Informer

Recognizing Signs Could Help "The Next Great GBSC Preacher"

Gregory A. Nash, Executive Director
Center for Health and Healing, Inc.
(A Non Profit Affiliate of GBSC)

On the surface Corey looks like a typical two year old. His sparkling open eyes are as wide as the Grand Canyon. Corey's amazing smile can light up any room. And, if Duke Energy and PSNC could harness Corey's energy, their energy sources would be secured over the next millennium. From birth, Corey's parents and his entire church congregation praised the Lord for a little blessing touted to be "the next Great GBSC Preacher." But, some things related to Corey's behavioral development showed between his birth and two year old birthday. Nobody seemed to notice. And, if anyone did notice, maybe they did not feel knowledgeable enough to articulate their observations. Have you seen things related to one of your family and/or congregational member's children's early development that seemed a little odd? Specifically, have you seen these types of signs*:

- No big smiles or other warm, joyful expressions by six months or thereafter
- No back-and-forth sharing of sounds, smiles, or other facial expressions by nine months or thereafter
- No babbling by 12 months
- No back-and-forth gestures, such as pointing, showing, reaching, or waving by 12 months

- No words by 16 months
- No two-word meaningful phrases (without imitating or repeating) by 24 months
- Any loss of speech or babbling or social skills at any age

As much as we may not want to "label" Corey and those like him, the noted signs are associated with autism. Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime. It is part of a group of disorders known as autism spectrum disorders (ASD). The Centers for Disease Control estimates that 1 in 150 individuals is diagnosed with autism, making it more common than pediatric cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined. It occurs in all racial, ethnic, and social groups and is four times more likely to strike boys than girls. Autism impairs a person's ability to communicate and relate to others. It is also associated with rigid routines and repetitive behaviors, such as obsessively arranging objects or following very specific routines. Symptoms can range from very mild to quite severe.

There are numerous theories on the cause of autism including genetics, environmental exposures, and vaccinations. There are many diverse treatments available in biomedical, educational, therapeutic, and dietary fields. The Center for Health and Healing is investigating developing an initiative that will provide information and networking guidance on each area of treatment.

The Center for Health and Healing represents our General Baptist State Convention's Office of Health and Human Services. We are committed to improving the lives of God's children. Corey and others like Corey have better chances of improving their lives if and when autism is detected early. Lets all come together as family to help contribute to Corey becoming "the next Great GBSC Preacher" by looking for the noted signs. Corey and the GBSC are counting on us.

* In clinical terms, there are a few "absolute indicators," often referred to as "red flags," that indicate that a child should

be evaluated. For a parent, these are the "red flags" that your child should be screened to ensure that he/she is on the right developmental path. If your baby shows any of the noted signs, please ask your pediatrician or family practitioner for an immediate evaluation .

"Signs" information has been provided by First Signs, Inc. ©2001-2005. Reprinted with permission found at www.autismspeaks.org/whatisit/learnsigns.php. For more information about recognizing the early signs of developmental and behavioral disorders, please visit <http://www.firstsigns.org> or the Centers for Disease Control at www.cdc.gov/actearly. ■

TRENT RIVER OAKY GROVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

JACKSONVILLE, NC

Reverend Dr. W.K. Raynor, Moderator



2007 - 2008

QUEEN

Mrs. Dreiner Kinsey

Evening View Missionary Baptist Church

Reverend Dr. John C. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Conducts Dedication Ceremony at Greater Galilee Baptist Church

By Angela G. Days
GGBC Publicity Ministry

Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens and the members of Greater Galilee Baptist Church were thrilled on Sunday, Nov. 4, as Dr. Leonzo Lynch of the Ebenezer Baptist Church conducted the dedication ceremony of the Greater Galilee Baptist Church Administrative Office Complex. Members and friends gathered inside the



Rev. Dr. Robert McGowen

newly acquired complex for the dedication and official opening of the administrative offices.

"This is only the beginning to the fulfilling of the church vision. We are so proud to witness the awesome power of God at work here at GGBC," commented acquisition team member Lyndon Gaddy.

Guests attending the ceremony included Dr. Leonzo Lynch of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Charlotte and Dr. Claude Forehand and congregation of Buncombe Baptist Church, Lexington.

This dedication ceremony comes with a special dose of sentiment for the

members as the history behind the acquisition of the complex is somewhat of a David and Goliath triumph!

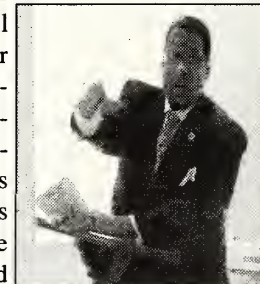
The plan and efforts of the acquisition materialized as a result of faith, hard work and trust in God. The complex, which is located at 1546 S. Mint Street will house the offices of administrative staff and will serve as additional space for training and educational purposes as well as ministry functions. For the members attending Sunday's ceremony, it was a victory and show of God's awesome power at work in the lives of those who trust and

believe that He will 'enlarge my territory.'

Below:

Dr. Leonzo Lynch pronounces God's blessings over the Administrative Complex as members sing opening song during Dedication ceremony.

Photos by Phillip Stitt ■



The Unique Legacy of our Saviour

This Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, He shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined; without the eloquence of schools, He spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet; without writing a single line, He set more pens in motion and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.

- Phillip Schaff -

GBSC 2008 Calendar

February 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season Pre-Lenten Sunday... Green
Lenten Sunday... Violet

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. A Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant Atlanta, GA	2 WBH & FMC United Central & Northern Assembly, 9:30 A.M., TBA Executive & Program Committee meeting, Baptist Headquarters
3 Shaw University Religious Emphasis Week	4 Shaw University Religious Emphasis Week	5 Shaw University Religious Emphasis Week	6 Shaw University Religious Emphasis Week Ash Wednesday	7	8 GBSC Congress of Christian Education Teacher's Meeting Harristown, W-Salem, NC 7:00 PM	9 One Day Session of Christian Education - 8:00 AM M. C. Benton Convention Center Winston Salem, NC
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 President's Day	19	20	21 Valentine's Day	22	23 One-Day Session Ushers' Convention 8:00 AM M. C. Benton Convention Center Winston Salem, NC
24	25	26	27	28	29	

April 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Lenten Sundays... Violet

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 VBS Workshop Pee Dee Association Laurinburg, NC WBH & FMC State-Wide Leaders Workshop, St. Paul Rocky Mount, NC Charlotte, NC
6	7 Easter Monday	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Laymen's Banquet (Mid Annual) Mt Zion MBC, Rocky Mount, NC	19 Laymen's Mid-Annual Session-Mt Zion MBC Rocky Mount, NC
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

January 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Epiphany and First Sunday Following... White (gold)
Pre-Lenten Sunday... Green

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 GBSC, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Banquet Greenville, NC	12 WBH & FMC One-Day Session Greenville, NC
13	14	15 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday	16	17	18	19 Ushers' Executive Board Meeting 10:00 AM Baptist Headquarters Raleigh, NC
20	21 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (observed)	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Mid-Winter Board Atlanta, GA	29 National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Mid-Winter Board Atlanta, GA	30 National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Mid-Winter Board Atlanta, GA	31 National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. A Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant Atlanta, GA		



March 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season Palm Sunday... Violet (Red)
Monday - Thursday... Violet (Red)
Good Friday... Black (Red)
Easter and Following Sundays of Season... White

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Laymen's Study Commission- Providence MBC Edenton, NC
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 palm sunday	17 Ushers' Executive meeting 10:00 AM Raleigh, NC	18 Shaw Divinity 35 th Alexander/Pegues Conference, Raleigh	19 Shaw Divinity 36 th Alexander/Pegues Conference, Raleigh	20 Shaw Divinity 35 th Alexander/Pegues Conference, Raleigh	21 Good Friday Shaw Divinity 36 th Alexander/Pegues Conference, Raleigh	22 WBH & FMC Executive Committee Meeting Baptist Headquarters, 8:45 A.M. Raleigh, NC Executive Board Meeting, 10:00 A.M.
23 Easter	24	25	26	27 63 rd National Baptist Student Union Retreat, Dallas Texas	28 63 rd National Baptist Student Union Retreat, Dallas Texas	29 63 rd National Baptist Student Union Retreat, Dallas Texas
30	31					

GBSC 2008 Calendar

May 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Sundays offer: Easter... White

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	WBH & FMC Ministers' Lives and Widows' Weekend Retreat
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		GBSC Mid-Year Session (TBA)	GBSC Mid-Year Session (TBA)	Shaw University Baccalaureate		Shaw University Commencement WBH & FMC Executive Committee 10:00 AM Program Committee Meeting 12:00 Baptist Headquarters
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mother's Day	N.C. Council of Churches House of Delegates Meeting, TBA				USHER'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 10:00 AM BAPTIST LEADERS LAYMEN'S SKILL J.J. JOHNSON ASSEMBLY	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
						United Southern Assembly: 9:30-4 A.M. TB4
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Memorial's Day					

June 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Pentecost... Red
Trinity Sunday... White
Other Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hampton Ministers Conference Hampton, VA	Hampton Ministers Conference Hampton, VA	Hampton Ministers Conference Hampton, VA	Hampton Ministers Conference Hampton, VA	Hampton Ministers Conference Hampton, VA	Hampton Ministers Conference Hampton, VA	WBH & FMC Young Adult Retreat
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
WBH & FMC Leadership Training Conference Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Leadership Training Conference Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Leadership Training Conference Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Leadership Training Conference Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Leadership Training Conference Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Leadership Training Conference Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	Laymen's Study Camp: The Baptist Church Oxford, NC
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Father's Day WBH & FMC First Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC National Bapt Congress of Christian Education Louisville, KY	WBH & FMC First Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC National Bapt Congress of Christian Education Louisville, KY	WBH & FMC First Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC National Bapt Congress of Christian Education Louisville, KY	WBH & FMC First Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC National Bapt Congress of Christian Education Louisville, KY	WBH & FMC First Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC National Bapt Congress of Christian Education Louisville, KY	WBH & FMC First Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC National Bapt Congress of Christian Education Louisville, KY	Shaw Diversity Leader's Conference WBH & FMC Missions Prayer Day National Bapt Congress of Christian Education Louisville, KY United Eastern Assembly 9:30-11 A.M. TB4
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
WBH & FMC Second Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Second Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Second Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Second Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Second Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Second Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et al)
29	30					
WBH & FMC Third Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Third Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC					

July 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		WBH & FMC Third Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Third Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	WBH & FMC Third Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	Independence Day WBH & FMC Third Week of Youth Bible Camp Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, NC	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					Laymen's Men and Boy's Retreat	Laymen's Men and Boy's Retreat
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
				GBSC Single-Married Conference: TB4	GBSC Single-Married Conference: TB4	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	WBH & FMC Annual Gathering, Zooch, CSO, REPUBLIC American Baptist Churches of the South Orlando, FL	American Baptist Churches of the South Orlando, FL	American Baptist Churches of the South Orlando, FL	American Baptist Churches of the South Orlando, FL	American Baptist Churches of the South Orlando, FL	
27	28	29	30	31		
All Baptist Assembly Winston-Salem, NC	GBSC All Baptist Assembly Winston-Salem, NC WBH & FMC Executive Meeting 10:00 AM	All Baptist Assembly Winston-Salem, NC	GBSC All Baptist Assembly Winston-Salem, NC	All Baptist Assembly Winston-Salem, NC	GBSC All Baptist Assembly Winston-Salem, NC	

August 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Progressive National Baptist Convention Atlanta, GA	Progressive National Baptist Convention Atlanta, GA	Progressive National Baptist Convention Atlanta, GA	Progressive National Baptist Convention Atlanta, GA	Progressive National Baptist Convention Atlanta, GA	Progressive National Baptist Convention Atlanta, GA	Progressive National Baptist Convention Atlanta, GA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Lail Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention Rochester, NY	Lail Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention Rochester, NY	Lail Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention Rochester, NY	Lail Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention Rochester, NY	Lail Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention Rochester, NY	Lail Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention Rochester, NY	Isabel Executive Board Meeting 10:00-11:30 AM Baptist Headquarters Raleigh, NC
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
						Laymen's Scouting Compass Baptist Assembly Laurel Hill, NC
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
GBSC Fiscal Year Ends						

GBSC 2008 Calendar

October 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green
Harvest Festival, Reformation Sunday... Red

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					Shore University Founder's Day Convocation	11 BSC Institute Bakers' Workshop 10:00-11:00 AM Program Committee Meeting, Headquarters
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
						18 Ushers' Executive Board Meeting 10:00 AM Baptist Headquarters Raleigh, NC
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	National Baptist Convention of America (Annual Session) Houston, TX	National Baptist Convention of America (Annual Session) Houston, TX	National Baptist Convention of America (Annual Session) Houston, TX	National Baptist Convention of America (Annual Session) Houston, TX	National Baptist Convention of America (Annual Session) Houston, TX	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	National Baptist Convention, USA (Annual Session) Dr. William Shaw Cincinnati, OH	National Baptist Convention, USA (Annual Session) Dr. William Shaw Cincinnati, OH	National Baptist Convention, USA (Annual Session) Dr. William Shaw Cincinnati, OH	National Baptist Convention, USA (Annual Session) Dr. William Shaw Cincinnati, OH	National Baptist Convention, USA (Annual Session) Dr. William Shaw Cincinnati, OH	13 WBH & FMC Executive Committee Meeting-10:00AM Program 12:00 Headquarters Laymen's Men's Retreat, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
					Walter Cade, Jr., SE Laymen's Workshop, Greenville, SC	WBH & FMC Family Missions Conference Walter Cade, Jr., SE Laymen's Workshop, Greenville, SC
28	29	30				

Walter Cade, Jr., SE
Laymen's Workshop,
Greenville, SC

November 2008

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Harvest Festival... Red
Thanksgiving and All Saints Day... Red
Sundays in Advent... Violet

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	World Day of Prayer (BWA-Woman's Department)	Election Day			Ushers' Retreat 10:00 AM 10:00 AM Baptist Headquarters Ushers' Workshop Laurel Hill, NC	8 WBH & FMC Executive Committee Meeting-10:00AM Program 12:00 Headquarters Laymen's Men's Retreat, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		Veteran's Day				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
				Thanksgiving Day		
30						

December 2008

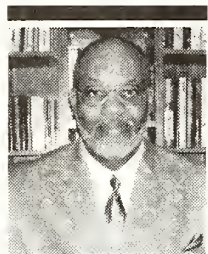
Liturgical Colors for the Season
Harvest Festival... Red
Thanksgiving and All Saints Day... Red
Sundays in Advent... Violet

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
						Laymen's Study Commission Greensboro, NC Salisbury, NC
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				Christmas Day		
28	29	30	31			
			Watch Night			

Anti-Crime & Incarceration Ministry (AIM)

Michael R. Smith, Sr., M. Div.

The Governor's Crime Commission sponsored the Safe Communities by Design Conference on November 28-30, 2007. This conference was attended by a host of persons from correctional, law



Michael R. Smith

enforcement, judicial, legislative, social services, and religious fields to continue to work to make our communities in North Carolina safer. I was privileged to present on the topic of "Faith Based Gang Prevention and Intervention". I spoke about the ways the Church can more effectively reach out to at-risk youth who are involved in gangs. I believe the Church must seriously reorder our priorities if we are to be more effective in reaching our at-risk youth. We must be willing to set aside many of our self-serving activities we traditionally do every

"Overcoming Evil With Good" Safe Communities by Design Conferences

year and replace them with ministry efforts that deal with our at-risk youth. This conference is needed because it highlights the issues that are making our communities unsafe. The growing presence of gangs in our communities is a symptom of the moral breakdown of our family structure. These consequences have created a serious social crisis in our communities. The Church can make a greater difference dealing with gangs by going mobile with ministries that established relationships and communication with young people in gangs. The Church must go mobile and be willing to go where they are with the love of Christ and reach out to those who want to hear that Jesus Christ has a better way. AIM will be seeking to provide opportunities for our Churches to reach out to at-risk youth who will not come to a Church service. This New Year I pray Churches will get trained and work together with their associations to establish dialogue

and relationship with gang members in their respective communities. These are days when the Church must overcome evil with good by showing the gang member that Jesus Christ loves them and has a better purpose for their lives. What are you doing to make your community safer?

WHAT IS YOUR CHURCH/ ASSOCIATION DOING?

AIM wants to know what your church or association is doing to overcome evil with good.

If you are involved in any phase of prison ministry (in-prison, at-risk youth, reentry, victims of crime, or intercessory prayer) please let me know so we can compile a list of GBSC churches/associations that are actively involved in some aspect of prison ministry around the state. Send your information to the contact info below.

PARDON
"If we cannot trust
God to have dealt
effectively with our
past, we may as
well throw in the
sponge now and
have it over
with....But if God
has indeed pardoned and
cleansed us, then
we should count it
done and waste no
more time in sterile
lamentations."

- A W Tozer

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N. C.

ANTI-CRIME & INCARCERATION MINISTRY (AIM)

Theme

"Overcoming Evil With Good"

Join us by having an

**ANTI-CRIME &
INCARCERATION DAY
AT YOUR CHURCH THIS YEAR!**

**JOIN THE STATEWIDE EFFORT TO EDUCATE,
EQUIP, TRAIN, AND REACH OUT TO LIVES
IMPACTED BY CRIME & INCARCERATION.**

CONTACT

Reverend Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman
O - 919 349-5686 Email mrsmithgbsc@aol.com
Reverend Melvin Solomon, Vice Chairman
CP - 919 724-3139 Email smb04@doc.nc.state.us

J. J. JOHNSON BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

"Come ye yourselves apart into a quiet place and rest a while."
Mark 6:31.

The purpose of the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill is to provide a setting that is Christian in its atmosphere and is conducive to learning, worship, and meeting the needs of all individual who we serve.

It allows to for many opportunities to commune with one another, whether it be weddings, family reunion, seminars, or banquets.

J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly is a tract of land of seventy-five or more acres, much of which is covered with a mixture of North Carolina pine, red and white oak trees.

Facilities

1. Rowan Association Chapel (seats 300-400)
2. Home Lodge (seats 20-25, sleeps 64)
3. Alston Lodge (seats 100, sleeps 64)
4. Lumber River Association Lodge (seats 100, sleep 64)
5. Brown Assembly Dining Hall (cafeteria style, seats 200)

For more information, please contact us:

General Baptist State Convention
603 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
Phone (919) 821-7466

Advice for All on New Year's Day



Stewardship Report to the Office of the
**Executive Secretary – Treasurer of the General Baptist
 State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated**
 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh NC 27601
 (919) 821-7466 • www.baptistlifenc.org

(This form can be used with your contribution to allocate funds)

Date: _____

I am enclosing: Cash / Check (include check #: _____) Amount: \$ _____

From _____ (Church / Individual / Organization)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____
 (Include area codes)

Pastor's Name _____ (if vacant, indicate date vacancy occurred)

Our Church is a Member of the _____ Association

This contribution was sent by _____

Include an address where contribution receipts can be mailed (if different from above):

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Attention _____

I would like my contribution distributed as follows:

Please make checks payable to: GBSC

1. State Missions	1.	\$
2. Shaw University	2.	\$
3. Shaw Divinity School	3.	\$
4. Central Children's Home at Oxford, North Carolina	4.	\$
5. Building Fund	5.	\$
6. Foreign Missions (Lott Carey)	6.	\$
7. Unified Program	7.	\$
8. State Congress of Christian Education (Sunday School and B.T.U.)	8.	\$
9. State Usher's	9.	\$
10. State Laymen's League	10.	\$
11. Baptist Informer (Ad / Subscription)	11.	\$
12. J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly	12.	\$
13. General Baptist Student Fellowship Retreat (BSU)	13.	\$
14. Minister's Council	14.	\$
15. Other (please indicate): _____	15.	\$
16. Other (please indicate): _____	16.	\$
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS		\$

Signature _____

Advice for All on New Year's Day

Ann Landers



Let this coming year be better than all the others. Vow to do some of the things you've always wanted to do but couldn't find the time.

- Call up a forgotten friend. Drop an old grudge, and replace it with some pleasant memories.
- Share a funny story with someone whose spirits are dragging. A good laugh can be very good medicine.
- Vow not to make a promise you don't think you can keep.
- Pay a debt.
- Give a soft answer.
- Free yourself of envy and malice.
- Make a genuine effort to stay in closer touch with family and good friends.
- Resolve to stop magnifying small problems and shooting from the lip. Words that you have to eat can be hard to digest.
- Find the time to be kind and thoughtful. All of us have the same allotment: 24 hours a day. Give a compliment. It might give someone a badly needed lift.
- Think things through. Forgive an injustice. Listen more. Be kind.
- Apologize when you realize you are wrong. An apology never diminishes a person. It elevates him.
- Don't blow your own horn. If you've done something praiseworthy, someone will notice eventually.
- Try to understand a point of view that is different from your own. Few things are 100 percent one way or another.
- Examine the demands you make on others.
- Lighten up. When you feel like blowing your top, ask yourself, "Will it matter a week from today?"
- Laugh the loudest when the joke is on you.
- The sure way to have a friend is to be one. We are all connected by our humanity, and we need each other.
- Avoid malcontents and pessimists. They drag you down and contribute nothing.
- Don't discourage a beginner from trying something risky. Nothing ventured means nothing gained. Be optimistic. The can-do spirit is the fuel that makes things go.
- Go to war against animosity and complacency.
- Express your gratitude. Give credit when it's due—and even when it isn't. It will make you look good.
- Read something uplifting. Deep-six the trash. You wouldn't eat garbage—why put it in your head?
- Don't abandon your old-fashioned principles. They never go out of style.
- When courage is needed, ask yourself, "If not me, who? If not now, when?"
- Take better care of yourself. Remember, you're all you've got. Pass up that second helping. You really don't need it. Vow to eat more sensibly. You'll feel better and look better, too.
- Don't put up with secondhand smoke. Nobody has the right to pollute your air or give you cancer. If someone says, "This is a free country," remind him or her that the country may be free, but no person is free if he has a habit he can't control.
- Return those books you borrowed. Reschedule that missed dental appointment. Clean out your closet. Take those photos out of the drawer and put them in an album. If you see litter on the sidewalk, pick it up instead of walking over it.
- Give yourself a reality check. Phoniness is transparent, and it is tiresome. Take pleasure in the beauty and the wonders of nature. A flower is God's miracle.
- Walk tall, and smile more. You'll look 10 years younger.
- Don't be afraid to say, "I love you." Say it again. They are the sweetest words in the world.
- If you have love in your life, consider yourself blessed, and vow to make this the best year ever.

The Family of Elizabeth "Liz" Williams Young Expresses Sincere Thanks

Robert T. Young
Shelley, Sonja & Roberta
P.O. Box 10225
Southport, North Carolina

The Family of Elizabeth "Liz" Williams Young would like to express our sincere thanks to all of you — as you joined us in Celebrating a Legacy.

We offer a special thanks to you, the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. The phone calls, visits, cards, flowers, plants, food, prayers, hugs, and tender words — overwhelmed us with love and comfort. It is our hope to thank each Church, Organization, and Individual — but the outpour of love continues to flow through verbal and written correspondence. We felt it necessary to express our thanks in this public venue in hopes to touch every heart that reached out to us, and every individual who, like us, was blessed by God's gift: Elizabeth Young.

How fitting it is that we come to you, the General Baptist State

Convention of North Carolina, Inc., to say thanks for your steadfast efforts to reach, inform, equip and empower those chosen by God to do His work. We are thankful to you for embracing, nurturing, and supporting the work of the ministry performed through "Liz" Young — to God be the glory. You allowed her to use her gifts — and she was always 'at home' when in the company of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. You are family indeed.

We also give thanks to the Officers and Members of the Middle District Baptist Association, Burgaw, N.C. — You have been and continue to be an ever present beacon — guiding and encouraging — faithful in the service to others. You are family indeed. Special Thanks to Mr. Herbert Reeves and the Ushers & and Sister Octavia Ivory and the Choir members.

Pastor James H. Nixon and the

Union Missionary Baptist Church Family (2711 Princess Place Drive, Wilmington, N.C.) you answered BEFORE we called! "Am I my brother's keeper?" YES INDEED! Thank You!

Rev. Terry Henry (Moderator, Middle District Baptist Association, Burgaw N.C. & Pastor of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, Wilmington, N.C.) — you patiently guided our steps and tenderly dotted every "T" and crossed every "T" — Thank You!



Dr. Clifton A. Jones (Pastor, Friendship Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C.) — you lost a friend- yet blessed the mourners while mourning — God Bless You and Thank You!

To every name we did not mention. To every heart that is heavy. To every tear you have shed. To every memory that causes you to smile. To every moment that reminds you of a

"Liz Young" gesture, statement, or peculiarity — To God Be the Glory! "To everything there is a season..." — OH WHAT A SEASON!

Again, to the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc, we love you, we appreciate you, and we will continue to Celebrate the Legacy of "Elizabeth Williams Young" — for you allowed her to do what she did best: "Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship,"

"Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

Matt 28:19-20 (Good News Translation)

Robert Thomas Young,
Shelley, Sonja & Roberta

The beginning of a new year is an ideal time to stop, look up, and get our bearings. To that end, here are some questions to ask prayerfully in the presence of God.



1. What's one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?
2. What's the most humanly impossible thing you will ask God to do this year?
3. What's the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family life this year?
4. In which spiritual discipline do you most want to make progress this year, and what will you do about it?
5. What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?
6. What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?
7. For whose salvation will you pray most fervently this year?
8. What's the most important way you will, by God's grace, try to make this year different from last year?
9. What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?
10. What single thing that you plan to do this year will matter most in ten years? In eternity?

Minister of Music Vacancy

EBENEZER MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Wilson, NC
is currently accepting applications for a Minister of Music.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must be a Christian dedicated to Christ and the church
- Must prove his/her music ability with skills in teaching, playing for services and programs
- Must have experience in directing and working with choirs
- Must be responsible to the Pastor and the church for planning, conducting, and evaluating the Music Ministry of the church

Mail all application material to:

Minister Betty Wiley
P.O. Box 3293
Wilson, NC 27895

ORANGE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Durham, NC

POSITION VACANCY
Administrative Assistant

Purpose

The Orange Grove Church Administrative Assistant will provide secretarial, and administrative support to the Pastor, staff, and ministries of the church. This position also provides reception and support for guests and congregational needs; by answering the telephone, maintaining the front office and handling day-to-day administrative duties. Individual must have a clear understanding of the mission and vision of the church as it relates to the membership and community involvement.

Qualifications

- Associates Degree or 3-5 years Secretarial/Administrative work experience
- Proficient in the use of Microsoft software programs, including Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Access, and Publisher
- Strong organizational skills; detail-oriented; high level of initiative and creativity
- Able to operate phone system; experience with multi-line systems desired
- Able to prioritize work and multitask
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Able to work with minimal supervision
- Open, friendly, and service oriented personality, high level of professionalism.
- Ability to communicate effectively with tact and courtesy in person, by phone and in writing.
- Must be accessible, responsive, and flexible to handle the changing needs of the church.

Salary

Negotiable

To Apply

Submit application, resume and references to:
Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church
505 East End Avenue
Durham, NC 27703
Attn: Human Resources Committee

PASTORAL VACANCY

St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church
Rockingham, NC

Is currently accepting resumes for a Pastor
Resumes will be accepted until March 31, 2008

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be between the ages of 30-55 years.
- Must be a graduate of an Accredited College and Seminary.
- Must have at least (3) years of Pastoral Experience.
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister.
- Must reside within a (75) mile radius from the church.
- Must have the ability and skill to teach, counsel, perform various types of ceremonies.
- Must represent the church Association, State and National Conventions.
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check.
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the church.

Submit resume to: **St Stephen Missionary Baptist Church**
Attn: Pulpit Committee
P O Box 772
Rockingham, NC 28380

PASTORAL VACANCY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

722 Sikes Avenue
Wadesboro, N.C.

Is accepting letters of interest/resume's for licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Reply only if you are sincerely interested and meet the stated qualifications.

1. Must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach the gospel.
2. Must be family oriented, with a reputation of being a good role model.
3. Must have a strong reputation of honesty and integrity.
4. Must be a graduate of a four-year accredited college or university.
5. Must be an effective communicator with sufficient command of the English language.
6. Must possess strong knowledge of Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
7. Must be an effective leader, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
8. Must have skills necessary to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
9. Must have at least four years of experience as pastor, but will consider years of experience as an assistant pastor.
10. Must have excellent teaching skills (Biblical).

Please reply to:

The First Baptist Church
Pastor's Search Committee
Deacon Jay J. Clark
P.O. Box 157
Hoffman, N.C. 28347
(910) 2814819

Please include the following information in your reply: name, age, marital status, phone numbers, and an e-mail address. Application form will be mailed to you.

Inform **BAPTIST** *Inform*

*Wishing you many of God's
Blessings for the coming year!*

Happy 2008

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portia Brandon@hotmail.com.

Pastoral Vacancy

BROWN NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Brown New Calvary Baptist Church of Thomasville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

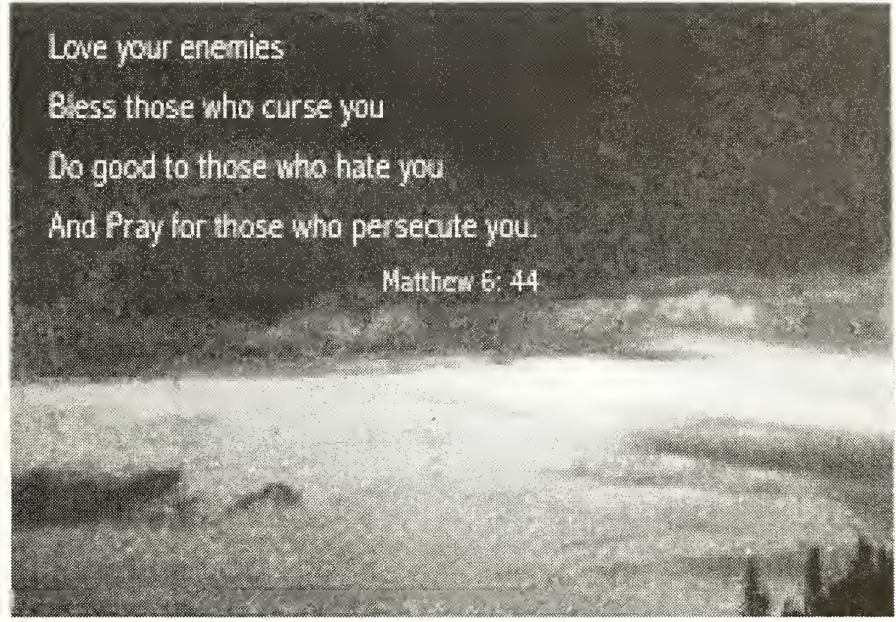
Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must have the Biblical qualities of a Pastor as defined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- Must possess a Passion for God, His Word, and His People
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups within the church
- Must live or be willing to live within 60 mile radius of the church
- Must be at least 34 years old and pastoral experience preferred
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual growth of the church
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability

All applicants should mail the following to the address below:

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include their home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to: Brown New Calvary Baptist Church
Attn: Pulpit Committee
200 Doak Street
Thomasville, North Carolina 27360



Love your enemies

Bless those who curse you

Do good to those who hate you

And Pray for those who persecute you.

Matthew 5: 44

Pastoral Vacancy

Mount Gilead Baptist Church Pastor Advertisement

404 Dowd Street - Durham, NC 27701

Mount Gilead Baptist Church, an African American church, was established in 1908 in Durham, NC. It is located in North East Central Durham Community and has been a beacon of light for the community for over 99 years. The ministries include the Deacon Ministry, Trustee Ministry, Bible Study Ministry, Choir Ministry, Men-In Action Ministry, Missionary Ministry, Youth Ministry, Evangelism Ministry, and Christian Education Ministry. Mount Gilead is a family oriented church with an active membership of over 350 persons.

An applicant must:

1. Demonstrate a true love for Christ, a genuine conversion, commitment to the word of God, and a Holy desire to serve
2. Possess at least a Master's Degree from an accredited divinity school or seminary
3. Understand, teach, and follow the "Baptist Articles of Faith"
4. Have a Baptist recognized ordination
5. Be supportive of the General Baptist State Convention (GBSC) of North Carolina, American Baptist Convention (ABC), Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention, and New Hope Association
6. Have inherent ability to spiritually lead, uplift, and energize a congregation
7. Have a commitment to Christian Education with a focus on children and youth programs
8. Have an enthusiasm for missions and evangelism
9. Be an effective and accomplished Teacher, Counselor, Evangelist, and Orator
10. Possess superb interpersonal skills and have a demonstrated respect for both men and women in leadership roles in the church
11. Have ability to lead and work effectively with the church and community
12. Have an appreciation for diversity of religious music
13. Have an unimpeachable personal and professional reputation
14. Demonstrate impeccable administrative and organizational skills
15. Demonstrate a balanced sense of confidence, humor, and spiritual stability

Salary and benefits are negotiable, based on qualifications and experience.

Qualified applicants must submit resume and official transcript postmarked by **January 31, 2008** and sent to the following address:

**Mount Gilead Baptist Church
C/O Deacon Ronnie Hunter
Post Office Box 25431
Durham, North Carolina 27702**

Pastoral Vacancy

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

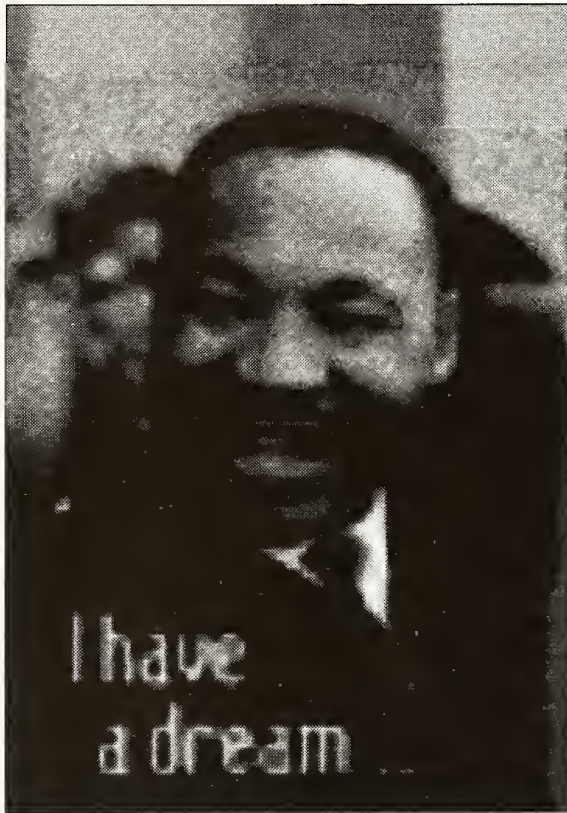
Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Wilson, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- ✓ Must be licensed, ordained, Missionary Baptist Minister
- ✓ Must be living or willing to live near Wilson area
- ✓ Must be able to render service for all worship services here at Ebenezer
- ✓ Must be able to relate to all ages in the church
- ✓ Must have Theological or Seminary training
- ✓ Must be at least 37 years old and at least two years of Pastoral experience preferred
- ✓ Must be able to lead, preach, teach the gospel, and counsel the membership
- ✓ Must be able to motivate members to tithe
- ✓ Must enhance spiritual growth of the church
- ✓ Must be willing to submit a criminal and traffic background check and furnish a credit report

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include you home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to: Deacon Sylvester Dupree
P.O. Box 7605
Wilson, NC 27893



A Simple Guide To Filling the Pulpit



by

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., BS, M. Div., D. D. DHL

To purchase this book please contact:

Liz McPhatter
(910) 424-2344

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Hidden Hill Baptist Church Spartanburg, South Carolina

Members are in search of an ordained Minister who loves God, is organized, and knowledgeable of the Holy Bible.

Seeking someone with the ability to teach as well as preach, with a nurturing spirit, excellent communication skills and the ability to work well with others.

A candidate with formal theological training is desired.

Salary: *Negotiable*

Please forward resume to:

New Hidden Hill Baptist Church
Attn: Bro Marion Drummond
P.O. Box 517170
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29301

For questions please call: (864) 266-5194

Please note all final candidates will sign a waiver for criminal, credit/and financial background check.

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Ahoskie Baptist Church Ahoskie, NC

Is currently accepting applications for the position of Pastor. New Ahoskie Baptist Church is a member of the West Roanoke Baptist Association.

The qualifications for a pastor adopted by the Committee are:

- a) A person who is led by the Spirit of God in all matters and performs pastoral duties according to the scriptures and the needs of the church.
- b) A person who is ordained and licensed with strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
- c) A person who is able to conduct worship services on a full time basis.
- d) A person who has acquired degree from an accredited Seminary .
- e) A person who has the ability to teach God's word and carry out administrative, leadership and counseling duties.
- f) A person who has the ability to communicate and work with all age levels.
- g) A person who will participate in outreach ministries.
- h) A person who is family and community oriented.
- i) A person who is a good role model of moral and ethical conduct,
- j) A person who supports church functions including teaching and attending Sunday school, Bible study, prayer meetings, and one who visits the sick and shut-in.
- k) A person who has a vision for the spiritual, intellectual and financial growth of the church.

Along with a resume, a potential candidate must provide:

- a) Two professional references including name, address and telephone number.
- b) Name, address, and telephone number of previous or current church affiliation, including the pastor's name, if applicable.
- c) Proof of religious credentials (License/ordination).
- d) Proof of degree for confirmation or transcript of completed courses if degree has not been conferred.
- e) A mission statement for the church.

If you feel God is Leading you to this call please submit resume' and supporting documentation to:

New Ahoskie Baptist Church
Pastor Search Committee
Deacon Charles McCullough, Chairman
PO Box 371
Ahoskie, NC 27910

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMITTING A RESUME IS FEBRUARY 29, 2008.

PASTOR VACANCY

New Hill Baptist Church • Clayton, NC

Qualifications:

1. Born again Christian.
2. Must have the biblical qualities of a Pastor defined in Timothy
3. Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister.
4. Is factual in doing and caring out the functions of the church and has the ability to teach and preach God's word.
5. Working experience with all ages in church.
6. Family and Community oriented.
7. Believe and abided by the Baptist Doctrine and Church covenant
8. Supportive of the General Baptist State Convention.
9. Must be at least 40 years or older and pastoral experience.
10. Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check.
11. Must be willing to share their vision for spiritual growth of the church.
12. Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administration and counseling ability.
13. Have the knowledge of Missionary Baptist Church Doctrine Policies and willingly abide by them.

References/Resume • 3 references with address and contacts included

Send Reference and Resume to: Sis Cora Sneed
750 King Circle
Selma, NC 27576
(919) 965-5315

HOW TO REACH US

PRESIDENT
DR. GREGORY K. MOSS, SR.
(704) 334-5309
GMOSS1@BELLSOUTH.NET

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE
DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
(252) 355-2966
shmbaptist@earthlink.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
DR. NILOUS AVERY, II
(704) 637-0954
AveryRevKin@aol.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
(704) 598-2219
ldlynch@ebccharlotte.org

3RD VICE PRESIDENT
DR. RICKY BANKS
(252) 335-5035
pastorrickybanks@yahoo.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT
DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
(919) 807-1194
mountpeachbc@aol.com

Executive Secretary-Treasurer
DR. HAYWOOD T. GRAY
(919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR/MANGING EDITOR
MRS. PORTIA H. BRANDON, M. DIV.
(919) 821-7466 portiaanderson@hotmail.com

WBH & FMC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER
Dr. PRISCILLA BRODIE
pbrodie@wbhfm.org

WBH & FMC, PRESIDENT
MRS. BRONNIE HARRIS DANIELS,
PRESIDENT (336) 767-6156

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, PRESIDENT
MISS LULA GAINEY
(910) 728-0021
lulagaaney@ccs.k12.nc.us

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT
MR. THEODORE DAVID
(919) 508-5468
Theodore.david@pgnmail.com

USHER'S CONVENTION, PRESIDENT
MRS. HELEN THOMPSON
(910) 488-5322

GBSC and MMBB Offer Essential Benefits

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (GBSC) and The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) partner to make the following essential benefits available to pastors and other employees of GBSC-related organizations:

- The Benefits for Life program builds retirement income while providing pre-retirement disability and life insurance protection
- The Tax-Deferred Annuity gives employers a way to make additional retirement contributions for their employees
- The Annuity Supplement cuts current taxes as employees save on a pre-tax basis
- Medical, dental and long-term care insurance are also available at group rates.

MMBB's has been ministering to churches and their employees since 1911.

For more about the plans or MMBB's financial ministry, please call:

Mr. Dexter Perry, A&B Management Services, Inc. 1400 Crescent Green, Suite G-100, Cary, North Carolina, 27511 Phone 919.858.7817, or Ms. Rose Harper, MMBB, Phone 800.222.3872 ext. 2348.

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Special lighting effects
- Design plans
- Structural design
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

Upcoming
Events...

BAPTIST Informer



ALL of the TIME God Is Good!

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. • Mid-Winter Board Session • Jan. 28-30, 2008
A Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant • Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, 2008
Georgia World Congress Center • Atlanta, GA

PARTICIPANTS



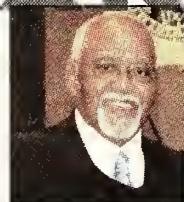
Rev. Dr. William J. Shaw, President
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.



Rev. Dr. Stephen J. Thurston,
President; National Baptist
Convention of America, Inc.



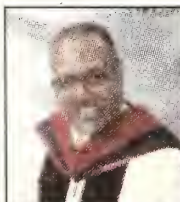
Rev. Dr. T. DeWitt Smith, Jr.,
President; The Progressive
National Baptist Convention



Rev. Dr. C.C. Robertson,
President; National Missionary
Baptist Convention of America



Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr.,
Senior Minister Emeritus
Riverside Church, NY



Rev. Dr. Charles G. Adams, Pastor
Hartford Memorial Baptist Church
Detroit, Michigan



Former U.S. President
Jimmy Carter



Former U.S. President
Bill Clinton



Ms. Marian Wright Edelman
Founder of the
Children's Defense Fund



Former U.S. Vice President
Al Gore

Vertical text on the right side of the page, possibly a mailing label or address, including a zip code '27601'.



SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST

Information

Volume 131, No. 2

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

February 2008

"BUILDING UPON A STRONG FOUNDATION" GBSC Former Presidents:



Dr. Charles T. Bullock

President
(2002 - 2006)

Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr.

President
(1998 - 2002)



Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr.

President
(1994 - 1998)

Dr. W.B. Lewis

President
(1990 - 1994)



Dr. C.R. Edwards

President
(1969 - 1974)

Dr. J.R. Manley

President
(1978 - 1982)



Dr. E.B. Turner

President
(1982 - 1986)

GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC

I greet you in Jesus joy.

The wisdom and grace of God has guided us into a new year. And how thankful we are for the mercy of God and His marvelous blessings for the previous years. January (as all of our months) was packed with numerous events. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet and One-Day Session of the Woman's Auxiliary highlighted our convention activities.

We are facing the same discrepancies--inequality in schools, poverty and war, we faced during the King years. I believe our churches and in particular, our pastors, have a divine mandate to embrace and engage in social justice and human rights. God will hold us accountable for squandering the gifts

and resources provided by Him to stand as a witness of His care and concern for all persons. Whatever we can do in accordance with how we have been gifted to lift the plight of the poor, oppressed, marginalized, widowed and orphans, is needed and expected. "Thus saith the Lord, oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, the widows...then I will cause you to dwell in the land" Jeremiah 7:6-7.

I am convinced one of the major challenges we face across the spectrum

I am convinced one of the major challenges we face across the spectrum of the General Baptist family and beyond is the lack of committed and quality leadership.

of the General Baptist family and beyond is the lack of committed and quality leadership. To this point, I have asked the leadership of this administration in this month to participate in a leadership retreat as we did last year.

We expect to deepen our relationships, gain a better understand of roles, further the vision as given by God, and hold one another accountable. We then will be better able to serve the Lord's causes through the convention and pro-



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

vide inspired and prophetic leadership.

Thanks to all for the continued support of our efforts.

And remember to encourage others to participate with and be supportive of this great work. Jackie and I wish you the best in this year and beyond. May God bless you and the work of our convention. ■

Special Announcement

Please note change of location for upcoming events.

For more information, please call

Dr. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer. (919) 821-7466

Congress of Christian Education

Congress of Christian Education One Day Session

February 9, 2008
8:00 AM

First Baptist Church
Dr. Dumas A. Harshaw, Jr., Pastor
101 South Wilmington St.
Raleigh, N.C. 27601

Ushers' Convention One Day Session

February 23, 2008
8:00 AM

Springfield Baptist Church
Rev. Daniel Sanders, Pastor
4309 Auburn-Knightdale Rd
Raleigh, NC 27610



Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive Secretary
-Treasurer

▪ **February 6, 2008**
Ash Wednesday

February 9, 2008 ▪
One Day Session

Congress of Christian Education
First Baptist Church (Raleigh, NC)

▪ **February 23, 2008**
One Day Session

Ushers Convention
Springfield Baptist Church
(Raleigh, NC)

March 8, 2008 ▪
Study Commission
State Laymen's League
Providence Baptist Church,
(Edenton, NC)

▪ **March 8, 2008** ▪ VBC Clinic
Congress of Christian Education
First Baptist Church (Burlington, NC)

March 16, 2008 ▪
Palm Sunday

▪ **March 21, 2008**
Good Friday

March 23, 2008 ▪
Easter

▪ **April 5, 2008**
VBS Clinic
Congress of Christian Education
Pee Dee Headquarters
(Laurinburg, NC)
6-7 2008

GBSC Mid-Year Session ▪
The Center at
Halifax Community College
Roanoke Rapids, NC

1. What is Campaign 750?

Campaign 750 is an effort to have 750 Churches agree to give \$100.00 each month designated for State Missions. The second part of the Campaign is to identify three (3) persons in each of the 750 Churches who will give \$10.00 each month designated for State Missions.

2. Does my Church have to give every month?

Yes. In order for the Campaign to be successful and the necessary funds raised, each Church that enrolls will be expected to contribute each month.

3. When are funds due?

Campaign 750 funds are due by the tenth day of each month. Please be sure that your financial staff mails your check in sufficient time to be received at the Baptist Headquarters by the tenth day of each month.

4. Does our Church need a special form?

No. All your Church needs to do is to make a note on the check for *Campaign 750* and the proper accounting of your funds will be noted.

5. May we send our contributions for missions and objectives in the same check as *Campaign 750*? PLEASE DO NOT. Please send a separate check for *Campaign 750*. Your funds will be deposited into a restricted account separate from the account where other monies are deposited.

6. Can my Church pay up ahead of time?

If your Church wishes to send its funds in advance (for example, \$300.00 for a quarter), it may do so. However, Churches are encouraged to send the funds monthly.

7. Why is it important to send the funds monthly?

By sending funds monthly, we are much better able to budget for the Convention's expenses. We can project what we will receive each month and plan to pay the Convention's bills which are received each month.

8. May a Church send more than \$100.00 a month?

Campaign 750

Most certainly. The \$100.00 is the minimum amount requested. This amounts to \$25.00 a Sunday for those Churches with services every Sunday. (it's only \$12.50 a service if your Church has two services on Sunday.) Some Churches will decide to send more when thinking of their resources and blessings.

9. What about our Church's contributions to the other objectives?

Your Church is still expected to contribute regularly to support the objectives of the Convention. The *Campaign 750* donation is above and beyond what your Church is currently sending. If your Church is not supporting the Convention, *Campaign 750* gives your Church a good starting point.

10. How should we find individuals in our Church to contribute? Whatever method you use is fine. You may solicit three people to give for an entire year. You may solicit three different people each month.

11. How should the funds collected from individuals be sent in?

Our preference would be that the Church collect the funds and send them along with the Church's funds once a month. However, if the individuals choose to send their contributions directly to us, please be sure that they indicate *Campaign 750* on their check as well as give the name of your Church.

12. What will be done with the funds when we send them in?

Campaign 750 funds will be deposited directly into a restricted account. As the Convention has needs to use the funds send, money will be transferred from the restricted account. By handling the funds this way, the Headquarters will be best able to account for all contributions received.

13. What will the funds be used for?

First, the funds will be drawn upon to pay for OPERATIONS expenses. Secondly, the funds will be drawn upon to pay for PROGRAMMING expenses. Finally, the

funds will be drawn upon to pay for CONVENTION DEBT TO VENDORS.

14. How long will it take to pay off the Convention's debt?

Along with other strategies to retire our debt, it is estimated that the Convention's debt could be settled in twenty-seven (27) months if *Campaign 750* is fully implemented.

15. What will happen once the debt to vendors is paid?

The Convention will then apply funds from *Campaign 750* to pay funds due to the objectives from previous fiscal years.

16. What happens once the funds due to objectives is paid?

Once the Convention has met all of its debt obligations (both to vendors and to the objectives), the funds from *Campaign 750* will be used to expand the Convention's programming and services.

17. Will we stop enrolling Churches once 750 have enrolled?

Certainly not. We would like to see every General Baptist Church participate. 750 is a goal to work toward. We hope to exceed this goal.

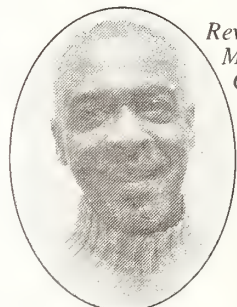
18. Could an Association or and Association Auxiliary enroll?

Yes. We would welcome the support from Associations or Auxiliaries of Associations.

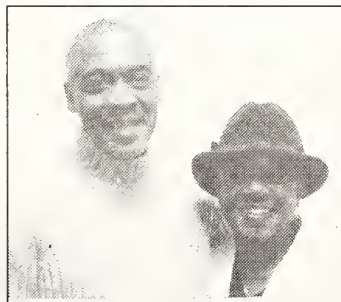
19. What if our Church loses track of our contributions? Not a problem. You will receive a receipt and the Baptist Headquarters will be able to provide a statement of your contribution upon request.

20. Can our Church designate where we want *Campaign 750* funds applied? No. If you wish to make a contribution for a certain reason, please do not label your funds *Campaign 750*. Funds for *Campaign 750* will be used according to the greatest immediate need: either operations, programming, or debt reduction. You may always send a designated contribution which will be applied according to your instructions.

The Chairman of the GBSC Management Committee served as Acting Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Reverend
Marvin T.
Clowney



The Clowney's
attend GBSC Staff
Christmas Luncheon

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Reverend Dr. Haywood T. Gray was on an extended leave from Baptist Headquarters, from December 1, 2007 thru January 1, 2008. Chairman Reverend Marvin T. Clowney of the GBSC Management Committee served as Acting Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Rev. Clowney is the Pastor of First Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina.

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

Shaw Divinity School 35th Annual Conference

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President



Rev. Ricky Banks

Shaw Divinity School
35th Annual
Alexander/Pegues
Ministers' Conference

This year's conference will be held during Holy Week, March 17 - 21, 2008. We anticipate that preachers throughout the state and country will help us to make this conference indeed a Special and Holy Conference to the Lord. Our theme this year is "Therapeutic Preaching: Healing Covered Wounds". Program partici-

pants are as follows:

- Rev. Dr. Urias Beverly
- Rev. Dr. Lonieta T. Cornwall
- Rev. Dr. Marsha Foster-Boyd
- Rev. Dr. Alice Graham
- Rev. Dr. Arlee Griffin
- Rev. Dr. Titus Haynes
- Rev. Dr. John Kinney
- Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
- Rev. Dr. Darin Moore
- Presiding Prelate Bishop, Adam J. Richardson, Jr.
- Rev. Dr. Carolyn Showell
- Rev. Dr. William Turner, Jr.
- Rev. Dr. Edward Wheeler
- Rev. Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes
- Rev. Dr. Johnny Youngblood

The registration fee will remain the same as last year.

Early Registration:	\$150.00 until March 8th, 2008
Late/On Site.....	\$200.00
Seminary Students.....	\$100.00
Alumni Luncheon.....	\$25.00
Continuing Education (CEU's).....	\$25.00

On Line Registration:

Go to the Shaw University website. <http://www.shawuniversity.edu/>
Quick Links: Upcoming Events

Hotel reservations must be made directly to the hotels. A list of hotel and their numbers may be obtained from the office of Continuing Christian Education.

For additional information contact:

Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Director of Continuing Christian Education or Rev. Lilipiana D. Darensburg, M.Div., Conference Coordinator at the following address:

Shaw University Divinity School
118 E. South Street
P.O. Box 2090
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602
(919) 546-8575 or (919) 546-8654

Fax 919-546-8571

From The Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President

The New Year is now in full swing as time marches on. For some, it is back to "business as usual." For others, the New Year provides the opportunity for new commitments, new goals, new objectives, and new challenges, new directions, and new victories. My prayer is that we face these new opportunities with renewed energy, enthusiasm, and enlightenment. Along with these opportunities should come the joy of serving as a living witness for the Lord through total stewardship (T5: Time, Talent, Treasure, Temple [the body], and Testimony).

Observe what Jesus declares in John 14:12: "...anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. (You) will do greater things than these, because I am going to the Father" (NIV). Jesus actually says the believer will do "greater things...greater works!" Greater works:

- Greater works than what Jesus did?
- Greater works than Jesus who healed the sick, fed the thousands, raised the dead, and taught the masses?
- Greater works than Jesus who had compassion for the left out, the kept out, and the put out?
- Greater works than Jesus who loved the children, gave worth to women, included the outcasts, forgave sinners, and equipped the disciples?
- Greater works than Jesus who lived among us, was betrayed by us, hung, bled, and died for us, rose for us, declared all power over death and the grave for us, indwells within us and works through us?

Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes, and YES!
GREATER WORKS! Jesus said so!

General Baptists, let us join our

faith, pool our resources, combine our efforts, lift our prayers, inspire our contacts, fulfill our stewardship, and walk worthy of our calling as we do GREATER WORKS. God performs these great works. Yet, God works through us, with us, among us, for us, and in spite of



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

us! God blesses us with the means to fulfill the greater work of kingdom building. There is much "kingdom work" to be done in our communities through individuals, the local churches, associations, and our great convention. Are we ready to glorify God by edifying others? Are we ready for GREATER WORKS? Yes we are, yes we can, and yes we will!

Get on board with your gifts of stewardship through the convention's objectives and particularly State Missions. State Missions is the engine that propels our convention "To Convince the Unconvinced ... through Education, Missions, and Fellowship" (Matthew 28:19-20).

Let us join with our President, Dr. Gregory T. Moss, Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Haywood T. Gray, Officers, Auxiliaries, and Kingdom Builders around this great state to share with others the joys and challenges of this fruitful ministry. All it takes is your response to the call. Let us endeavor to bless the world with our willingness to give and serve. Take a few moments right now to send your generous contribution to GBSC. GREATER WORKS await us in 2008, the year of new beginnings.

"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV).

To the churches in the General Baptist family:

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

(Galatians 1:3-5, NIV)

TRENT RIVER OAKY GROVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
JACKSONVILLE, NC
Reverend Dr. W.K. Raynor, Moderator

2007 - 2008 QUEEN

Mrs. Dreiner Kinsey

Evening View Missionary Baptist Church
Reverend Dr. John C. Smith, Pastor

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

Official Roster

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels

VICE PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Audrey Battle
Reverend Linda Inman
Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow
Mrs. Ellender LeMay

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie

EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Mrs. Eva Geer

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Mrs. Madgaline Whitley

SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ms. Vanessa Gregory

ASSISTANT SECRETARY EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mrs. Ida Dunston

RECORDER

Ms. Darlene Esters

ASSISTANT RECORDER

Ms. Vanessa Gregory

HISTORIAN

Mrs. Doris Burke

ORGANIST

Ms. Barbara Kelly

PIANIST

Mrs. Alice Green

DIRECTOR

Mr. Waverly Camp

EDITOR, HELPER

Mrs. Patsy R. Camp

YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

Ms. Helen Judd

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Judie Crowder

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Anjanette W. Chapman

YOUTH DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR

Ms. Louise Lassiter

ASSOCIATE YOUTH SUPERVISOR

Ms. Jewyl Dunn

YOUTH PRESIDENT

Minister Malcolm Eatmon



Bronnie Daniels

Mrs. Bronnie Daniels
President, WBH & FMC

We express Praise to God for having met with the members and visitors of our Convention during the One-Day Session in January at the Greenville Convention Center, Greenville, in the name of Jesus. We express thanks to each of you who came and shared in ways which glorified God and edified each other.

February, the sixth month of our fiscal year and the month for emphasis in regard to love and African American history, is now with us. In the Scripture, Hebrews 10:23-25, we are told Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much more as you see the Day approaching.

When we reflect on our One-Day Session and the many other meetings, we see the evidence of the Scripture. In these meetings we are admonished to hold fast to our hope, Christ Jesus, and not waver and are reminded that He is faithful. Our history shows that as the Convention grew and fulfilled her charge to fulfill, that the need for more meetings was inevitable. The leaders under the guidance of the Holy Spirit understood and understand that they were (we are) to consider one another in order to stir up love and good works. Thus they saw (we see) the need of the many congregations not forsaking the assembling of themselves (ourselves) together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as they (we see) the Day of Christ's return approaching. Such meetings helped them, help us to stay focus so that they did not, we do not turn away from THE WAY and follow other ways which dominate the world's system of yesterday and today. Through Christ in these meetings they found, we find strength, comfort, nourishment and joy, for there was, is need for more steadfastness as we manifest His love through good works. Yes, meeting together in His name, Jesus, God blesses and the Holy Spirit energizes and enables us.

Therefore, we see from the early church history and our African American church history the needed benefits received when we meet together in His love, and in the words of the hymnist, we speak:

"We Gather Together"

"We Gather Together"

*We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;*

The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,

Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.

*Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning,*

Thou, Lord, wast at our side: the glory be Thine!

*We all do extol Thee, leader in battle,
And pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.*

*Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised: O Lord, make us free! Amen*

—Netherlands folk song
Translated by Theodore Baker

Happy Valentine's Day!

• Reminders •

1. Self Denial Envelopes. Please write to the Woman's Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602 in order to receive these, or fax your request to 919-833-7599.
2. State-Wide Leaders' Workshop, April

5, 2008. Pre-Registration will be \$10.00; On-site, \$11.00. Pre-Registration deadline is March 14, 2008. Please contact us if you do not receive information. The State-Wide Leaders' Workshop will be held at St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, on April 5, 2008.



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

3. Budget. for 2007-2008 is \$803,325.00 which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

5. Quotas 2007-2008 have been sent out to church missionary circle presidents or a contact person. If your church has not received a suggested quota, please write the Woman's Convention at P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Or contact the Convention's Office immediately at (919) 833-4823. Please give us the name of contact person, mailing addresses and telephone number, and the name and location of church. Missionary Unions, Auxiliaries and District Conferences should have received quotas this year also.

HOW TO REACH US

PRESIDENT
DR. GREGORY K. MOSS, SR.
(704) 334-5309
GMOSS1@BELLSOUTH.NET

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE
DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
(252) 355-2966
shmbaptist@earthlink.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
DR. NILOUS AVERY, II
(704) 637-0954
AveryRevKin@aol.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
(704) 598-2219
ldlynch@ebccharlotte.org

3RD VICE PRESIDENT
DR. RICKY BANKS
(252) 335-5035
pastorrickybanks@yahoo.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT
DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
(919) 807-1194
mountpeachbc@aol.com

Executive Secretary-Treasurer
DR. HAYWOOD T. GRAY
(919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR/MANAGING EDITOR
MRS. PORTIA H. BRANDON, M. DIV.
(919) 821-7466 portiaabrandon@hotmail.com

WBH & FMC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER
Dr. PRISCILLA BRODIE
pbrodie@wbhfmc.org

WBH & FMC PRESIDENT
MRS. BRONNIE HARRIS DANIELS,
PRESIDENT (336) 767-6156

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, PRESIDENT
MISS LULA GAINNEY
(910) 728-0021
lulagainey@ccs.k12.nc.us

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT
MR. THEODORE DAVID
(919) 508-5468
Theodore.david@pgnmail.com

USHER'S CONVENTION, PRESIDENT
MRS. HELEN THOMPSON
(910) 488-5322

Congress of Christian Education One-Day Session 2008



Lula Gainey, President

**Ms. Lula
Gainey**

The Congress Officers are eagerly planning our Mid-year Session, which will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008. Please mark your calendars and plan to share in the enriching class sessions that will be offered for your Spiritual growth. A detailed class list is attached for your viewing.

If you are interested in joining the Congress Teaching Staff, please e-mail your Resume and detailed personal data to our Congress Dean, Mrs. Janifer Campbell at: jcampbell@lewischapel.org.

As we start the New Year a fresh, please be reminded that ALL CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS are challenged to meet your annual financial quota of \$400.00 for the Congress (Sunday School/BTU) in "2008".

DIVISION 1: Ministerial Development

- Ministering to Families in Bereavement*
- Casting and Understanding the Vision*
- Preaching the Word in the 21st Century*

DIVISION 2: Leadership Development

- Re-Thinking Christian Education*
- Dealing with Difficult People*
- Parliamentary Procedure*
- Developing the Leader within You*
- Building an Effective Church Leadership Team*

DIVISION 3: The Sunday School

- The Sunday School with an Intentional Mission and Goal*

DIVISION 4: Evangelism and Mission

- Total Church Evangelism*
- Evangcube-A Simple to Witness*

DIVISION 5 Teachers' Training and Development

- Ministering to Adult Students*
- Ministering to Young Adult Students (Adults 18-35)*
- Ministering to High School Students (Grades 9-12)*
- Ministering to Middle School Students (Grades 6-8)*
- Ministering to Older Elementary School Students (Grades 3-5)*
- Ministering to Younger Elementary School (Students Grades 1-2)*
- Ministering to Preschool Students (Pre K - Kindergarten)*

DIVISION 6: Youth Ministry

- Oratorical Contest Interest*

DIVISION 7: Biblical & General Studies

- Biblical Studies (Certification Class)*
- Unshakable Faith-A Practical Guide to New Testament Theology*
- Foundations for Christian for Christian Living*
- Effectual Prayer*
- Six Battles Every Man Must Win*

DIVISION 8: Music Ministry

- Developing Your Music Ministry*

DIVISION 9: Youth Division

- Youth Assembly Program*
- North Exhibit Hall*

**63rd National Baptist Student Union Retreat
March 27-29, 2008**

Westin & Crowne Plaza Hotels
LBJ Freeway & Coit
Dallas, Texas

Retreat Seminars 2008

- What is the Call of God?
- What Do Baptists Believe?
- Living the Life You Sing About
- "You Can't Tell Me What to Do!"
- Single Parent: It's Not About You!
- Can You Love God and Sex?
- Seeking "Greek" and Christ
- Dating: Abusive Relationships
- Why Dance for God?
- Temptations and Relationships
- What Makes You Angry?
- The Virtuous Woman
- Has the Gospel Music Gone Too Far?
- Music for All: Solo, Musician, Director
- What Makes a Man a Man?
- Shouting & Sinning: What's up with That?
- Date Rape: Did She say Yes or No?
- How to Win that Man, that Woman
- Moving Beyond Mistakes
- Learning to Forgive
- Obedience and Disobedience: Facing Them
- The Church & Hip Hop
- My Space, You Tube & Character?
- Marriage: What to do, and look for
- Why's and How's of Worshipping the Lord
- Tatoos & Body Piercing: Art or Mutilation?
- College Students and Money Management

Registration:

- \$65.00 per person, non-refundable when paid
- 3 nights at either hotel 1 person to 4 pr room (Thursday - Saturday)
- \$325.00 tax included

For Registration and Hotel Reservation send your Check or Money Order to:

National Baptist Student Union
4821 Barbel Road
Durham, NC 27713

For more information: 919-667-5554 :
Deadline Due Date: February 15th

Retreat Session Schedule

Thursday, March 27th

- Registration 1pm
- BSU Mass Choir Rehearsal 5pm
- Official Opening (Worship/Preaching) 7pm

Friday, March 28th

- Worship & Preaching 8am
- Seminar Series I 10am
- National Director's Reception 12pm
- Seminar Series II 1pm
- Mr/Miss BSU Pageant/Beautillion 7pm
- Mr. Chester Baldwin & Texas Mass 9pm

**History of GBSC
CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Baptist State Sunday School Convention of North Carolina was organized in the First Baptist Church in the city of Raleigh, May, 1873. The object of this organization, as set forth in the call, was to prosecute Sunday School missions; to cooperate with the American Baptist Publication Society in its work already well under way in the State.

GRAY'S CREEK ASSOCIATION

The Gray's Creek Association was organized soon after the war in Bladen County, with only three churches in the organization: New Hope, New Light and Gray's Creek. Five associations have been formed out of the Gray's Creek: The Lumber River, the Union, the Lake Waccamaw, the Hammond's Creek and the Kinston Lake.

THE EBENEZER ASSOCIATION

The Ebenezer Association was organized in the year 1890 in the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Cleveland County. There were thirteen churches in the organization. Rev. A. Ellis was the first Moderator; Rev. W. A. Roberts, Secretary; Brother B. Gingles, Treasurer. Like other associations this organization has fostered Home and Foreign Missions, helped weak churches and assisted in the cause of education, especially in that section of North Carolina.

THE YADKIN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Yadkin Association was organized in the Thomasville Baptist Church September 17, 1874. Rev. H. Cowan, C. Ellis and W. Leak were in the organization. The following churches composed the Association: Pleasant Hill, Pee Dee, Thomasville, Red Hill, Macedonia, Saron, Mt. Pleasant, Snuggs' Grove, Mt. Vernon, Leak's Chapel, Olive Grove, Garris Grove, Moore's Grove, Hamar's Grove, Liberty Hill, Troy-Norwood, Wadesboro.

The ministers of this Association are Elders W. Leak, B. R. Richardson, M. Ingram, H. G. Hyatt, I. M. Flake, K. W. Wall, Alfred Reed, S. D. Davis, Levi Ingram, S. A. Dunlap, P. J. Ewing. The membership in 1906 was nine hundred. The church property amounted to five thousand two hundred dollars. Altogether there were raised by the Association three thousand six hundred dollars, which was used in the cause of missions, education and aged ministers.

THE PEE DEE UNION ASSOCIATION

The Pee Dee Union Association was organized Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1899, by Revs. E. W. Andrews, W. H. Diggs, G. C. Bowden, J. E. Ellerbee and F. M. McCall, at Saron Baptist Church. The following churches compose this Association: Pleasant Grove, Providence, Mt. Moriah, Belford, Diamond Grove, Friendship and Mt. Olive. The Association had a membership of seven hundred in 1906; church property to the amount of a thousand dollars. It had, besides its usual expenses, contributed regularly to Home and Foreign Missions.

THE SHILOH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION (WEST)

The Shiloh Baptist Association northwest of Charlotte, N. C., was organized at the Washington Church, near Waco, N. C., 1867. Rev. Samuel Fox, of Waco, was the principal mover in the organization. At one time this Association formed a part of the Mecklenburg Association, and the two remained together about two years. Afterward there was a separation--the one assuming the name of the Ebenezer, while the other retained the name of Shiloh. Since that time the Association has developed the following membership: Mt. Sinai, Salem, Gold Hill, Bethel, Mt. Vernon, Fancy Hill, Springfield, Smithfield, Mt. Carmel, Dallas, Galilee, Mt. Moriah, Mt. Olive, Providence, St. Philips, Woodford Chapel, Providence, Maiden. It had a membership of eight hundred and thirty-one in 1906.

HIGH POINT MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The High Point Missionary Baptist Association was organized at High Point, N. C., the second week in August, 1891. Revs. Anthony Wilborn, S. Thomas, F. R. Howell, W. D. Haden and others composed the organization. It took its name from the name of the town where the first meeting was held. This Association came out from the Rowan, and is composed of churches in the counties of Guilford, Alamance, Randolph, Davidson and Orange. Considering the Association to be one of the small associations and composed of small churches, no association in the State is more loyal to the work of the Convention than the High Point Association. The following churches compose the Association: Elm Grove, Locust Grove, Jones, Gibsonville, New Light, Mt. Pisgah, Rocky Springs, Laticure, Friendship, St. John, Graham, Locust Grove (Alamance), Cross Roads, Main St., Hillsboro, Austin Grove, Mechanic, Asheboro, Randleman, Trinity, Thomasville, Mt. Pleasant, Liberty Grove, Rock Grove. The High Point Association has a membership of twelve hundred and fifty, and houses of worship valued at five thousand dollars.

THE LAKE WACCAMAW MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

This Association was organized at the Baptist church near Lake Waccamaw, and on which account it takes its name. The organization dates from the year 1884. Five churches came out from the Gray's Creek Association and formed the Lake Waccamaw: Little Wheel of Hope, Whiteville, White Pond, Sandy Plain and Welch's Creek, with the following ministers: D. Graham, I. Cain, M. Morrison, R. Johnson, C. R. Baldwin, J. A. Spaulding and D. J. Moore. St. John and St. James Churches were added to the original number. The property of these seven churches amounted to three thousand five hundred dollars. Revs. P. J. McKoy, J. S. McKoy, T. H. Crawford and A. S. Mitchell have been added to the list of ministers.

THE NEUSE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Neuse River Baptist Association was organized in the town of Halifax, N. C., in 1866. Rev. Ananias Buck, Benjamin Moore, John Washington and C. Johnson were in the organization. The churches of Northampton, Halifax, Edgecombe and a part of Warren formed this Association. The organization soon developed into a large body of churches. While the Association has boasted of large numbers, twenty thousand members in the different churches, comparatively little was given to missions outside its bounds, and but little educational work accomplished. A feeble effort was made to establish a school at Weldon, N. C. A site was purchased with a small building, and for two years a school was carried on, but the building burned and a tract of land was purchased outside the town of Weldon. As in all the other associations of North Carolina there were some splendid men and leaders, but somehow they exerted but little influence, and hence the small amount of good accomplished either for missions or education.

THE BEULAH ASSOCIATION

This Association was formed in part out of the Neuse River Association and the West Roanoke Association. All the churches of the West Roanoke Association in Northampton County and a number from the Neuse River in 1903 agreed and formed the Beulah Association. Rev. W. T. H. Woodward, of Littleton, N. C., was the first Moderator. From its incipency the Beulah Association was a part of and loyal to the State Convention. Its moral and financial support was given to the Rich Square Academy at Rich Square, N. C., and the Garysburg High School, at Garysburg, N. C. The Beulah Association was greatly hindered in its infancy on account of the indisposition of its Moderator, who was stricken down with paralysis.

THE OLD EASTERN MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association was organized at James City in the church then known as "Slab Chapel," but since the name has been changed to Pilgrim Chapel. Its first Moderator was Rev. Samuel Peterson, with Fred Long as Secretary. Hull Grimes, Nat Benton, Elias Brown, Henry Simmons, Emanuel Reynolds, Thad Wilson, Thos. Erkett and John Washington were in the organization which took place in the fall of 1865. In 1866 a number of the members of the Old Eastern Association obtained letters and organized an association in Halifax County, the Neuse River Association. Later on the New Bern Eastern Association was formed from the Old Eastern in the same way. In the early history of this Association some of the delegates and preachers walked seventy-five and even a hundred miles to attend the annual sessions. In 1899 the Association numbered sixty-five churches, with church property amounting to twenty thousand dollars. In 1900 a site was purchased at Greenville, in Pitt County, for the purpose of carrying on an associational school.

THE WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Wake Baptist Association was organized with Rev. George W. Harris Moderator, G. W. Freeman, Clerk. "The promotion of the Kingdom of Christ," putting it in terse language, was the object of the Wake Baptist Association. It was in the Wake Association that the Oxford Orphan Asylum was conceived. A committee was appointed to meet with others in Henderson, and as a result of this conference the Grant Colored Orphan Asylum was established. The Association in 1908 had forty-three churches, forty-two ordained and twenty-seven licensed preachers; forty-three Sunday Schools, with six thousand one hundred and thirty members to the churches, and three thousand two hundred and twenty-six pupils in regular attendance in the Sunday Schools. Many of the churches of the Wake Association have B. Y. P. U. Societies. The Association loyally supports the Lott-Carey Convention and the Educational and Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

THE BRUNSWICK ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION

The Brunswick Atlantic Association was organized December 5, 1896, in Pleasant View Baptist Church, Brunswick County. There were but five churches in the organization. In 1908 there were thirteen. Rev. J. H. Rhoe and Rev. J. S. Gore were with the Association in its origin, and for many years afterward were the leaders. There were eight ordained preachers and twelve hundred members. There was a Sunday School Convention connected with this Association organized a year previous at Whiteville, N. C. Rev. D. C. Gore, G. A. Best and William Davis were the leading forces of the Sunday School Convention for several years. There were five hundred members represented in the schools composing the Convention.

THE GOLD HILL ASSOCIATION

The Gold Hill Association embraced the churches west of the Ebenezer Association, and in 1908 had on its roll fifteen churches. Like many other associations for many years after its organization its greatest need was a sufficient number of able men to properly conduct its affairs; yet despite its hindrances its growth was seen from year to year. Together with the Ebenezer Association the Gold Hill gave its support to the Western Union Academy at Rutherfordton, N. C.

THE OAKY GROVE AND TRENT RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Oaky Grove and Trent River Association came out from the New Bern Eastern, and was organized in 1882. But few churches at first, the number soon grew to twenty-two churches. Their boundaries lay west of the New Bern Eastern, and with the educational fever felt over the State they began the establishment of a school at Jacksonville, N. C. For a number of years after its establishment Revs. W. H. Moore and Everett were the leaders. With few churches and small revenues the school grew slowly but surely, and with it the Association.

THE BEAR CREEK ASSOCIATION

The Bear Creek Association was organized in 1872 by Rev. R. H. Harper, who was in the organization of the Educational and Missionary Convention, together with Rev. W. H. Croom, Rev. J. C. Carroll, Rev. I. N. Patterson, Rev. A. A. Smith, the Secretary for many years, did much to strengthen the cause of the Bear Creek Association. Rev. W. L. Hood was for many years the Moderator. In 1906 the records contained a list of thirty-four churches, a membership of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, and church property valued to the amount of twelve thousand one hundred and seventy-five dollars. The Association was always generous to worthy objects as was shown from their annual reports.

THE MIDDLE ASSOCIATION

The Middle Association came out from the Shiloh Baptist Association, and was organized 1891. The Shiloh Association had purchased a school site at Warrenton, N. C., and each of the churches of the body was assessed to meet the annual payments on the school property. Many of the churches remote from Warrenton did not feel the same interest in the school project and complained that they were called upon to meet the assessments, and hence decided to withdraw. Eleven churches signed a call for letters which the mother association granted, and a meeting was held at Shiloh Baptist Church, Kittrell, N. C., and an organization effected under the name of the Middle Association.

THE MIDDLE DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Soon after the close of the war in the Providence of God there came to the city of Wilmington Rev. Wm. H. Banks from the State of Virginia. For a time he was the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Wilmington, N. C. For some cause a division occurred and the pastor, together with a number of the members withdrew, and organized the Ebenezer Church. Rev. Wm. A. Greene united with Rev. Banks and they began the organization of churches in New Hanover, Duplin, Sampson and Bladen Counties; ordaining men to the gospel and establishing the work generally. There were eighteen churches in the organization. Rev. Wm. Devane, Henry Andrews and E. J. Bell were appointed successively as missionaries to labor in the counties of Brunswick, Pender, New Hanover, Sampson and Duplin to organize new churches, strengthen those already organized, and to build up the work in general. The Burgaw High School was the product of the Middle District Association. This school proved a decided blessing in many respects to the Association and to that section of North Carolina.

THE MOUNTAIN AND CATAWBA ASSOCIATION

The Mountain and Catawba Association was organized at Claremont, N. C., in the year 1875. The following ministers were present in the organization: Rev. B. F. Watts, Berry Lyons and Brother D. Lynch. The object set forth in the formation of the Association was education and missions. The Baptists in that section of the State were not so numerous as in other sections, and hence the Association was necessarily composed of fewer churches and leaders. The organization finally gained enough to swell the number to twenty-two, and with the increase of churches there was an increase of men. Rev. W. S. Dacons came to the Association at an opportune time. Like many other associations throughout the State in 1905 the Association, together with the Convention, which had been organized five years prior, decided to establish a school at Claremont, N. C., and Rev. Dacons, of Statesville, N. C., was appointed to take charge of the school. The Mountain and Catawba, like most of the mountain associations, for some cause did not unite with the State Convention for many years, but accomplished a splendid work in their immediate section.

THE NEW BERN EASTERN MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

This Association, although it soon grew to be as large as the parent Association, came out from the Old Eastern Association. The first session of this body was held in the Cedar Grove Baptist Church New Bern, N. C., 1875. There were included in this Association the churches in the counties of Pamlico, Beaufort, Hyde, Jones and Craven. There were as many as fifty and sometimes a larger number of churches represented in the annual meetings of this Association. In the early history of this vast body, representing twenty-five thousand in membership, with much ignorance predominant, bitter strife was often precipitated, and for a time it looked as if the Baptist cause throughout that section was hopeless.

KENANSVILLE EASTERN ASSOCIATION

The name of the Kenansville Eastern Association originated with the place of its first meeting, which was Kenansville, N. C., November, 1870; and, too, there was a white association by the same name. The following ministers were present in the organization: T. Parker, A. B. Williams, B. B. Spicer, D. T. Best and John F. Hill. The first Moderator was Rev. A. B. Williams. The following churches were represented and composed the first meeting: First Baptist Kenansville, Six Run, First Baptist Clinton, Warsaw and Hill's Chapel. The largest number of churches afterward represented at any annual session was forty-eight. The two leading spirits of the Association for many years were Rev. Thomas Parker, who was Moderator for twenty-four years, and Hon. A. R. Middleton, Secretary for thirty years. The school at Faison, N. C., became one of the objects of the Association, and the Sunday School Convention of the same name. Foreign Missions came in for a great share of the Association's interest, and especially since one of its men was on the foreign field. The Association was represented regularly in the Convention.

THE WEST UNION ASSOCIATION

The West Union Association came out from the Kenansville Eastern in the year 1904, soon after the old association had held its annual meeting in Wilmington, N. C. Like the mother association the West Union began with five churches, but it began at once to increase in numbers, and as it had for its object the Union Academy at Clinton it began at once to assert its usefulness and development. Soon the First Church at Clinton, which was in the organization of the Kenansville Eastern, united with the West Union. Other churches, especially from Sampson County, fell in line, which greatly strengthened the body both in size and in finance. Rev. A. A. Smith pastor of the First Church of Clinton, was the Moderator. Rev. C. T. Underwood was quite active in the organization, and was greatly helpful to its existence.

THE NEW HOPE ASSOCIATION

The New Hope Association was organized in Chatham County in 1870. Revs. C. L. Hackney, E. H. Cole, C. D. Hackney, Jack Taylor and Wm. Taylor formed the ministry in the organization. The association consisted of forty-two churches, with a membership of ten thousand. Many of the ministers of the Association in 1908 attended Shaw University. Revs. J. H. Dunston, L. H. Hackney, B. F. Hopkins, M. W. Brown and J. H. Caldwell, following in the wake of the old men of the organization, made the New Hope Association what it was. Whatever the Baptists of the State undertook that is what these men fell in line with, and ceased not until that object was accomplished.

THE ROWAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Rowan Baptist Association was organized in 1877 in a hospital at Salisbury, which was afterward purchased by the Baptists there and was organized as the Dixonville Baptist Church. Rev. Harry Cowan, Z. Horton and Rev. Cumbe Ellis were the ministers present in the organization. Rev. Harry Cowan was the first Moderator. At the Association in Charlotte in 1908, there were sixty-five churches, with a membership of twelve thousand, and church edifices worth two hundred thousand dollars. Altogether the best edifices among the Baptists of North Carolina were to be found in the bounds of the Rowan Association. This was said as well of the leaders. It was from this Association the strongest support came to the State Convention, especially in the early years of its history.

HAMMOND'S CREEK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Hammond's Creek Baptist Association was organized in the year 1886, with the Rev. Gilbert Monroe as its first President. Seven churches met together for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom in the world. Since its organization eight more churches were added. Such heroes as the late Revs. Joseph Mackay, Waymon Kelly, Luke Hodge, Levi P. Troy and Gilbert Monroe were present in its first meeting. The work of Rev. Luke Hodge, whose name the Hodge's Institute bears, still lives. The Sunday School Convention in connection with the Association was an able factor in aiding the cause of organizing this Institute in our bounds. Rev. George Williams was the first President of the Convention organized in the spring of 1886, and N. McCall was Secretary. The Convention and Association acting together for the cause of education and uplifting of its members. The Hammond's Creek Association and Convention have been loyal to the State Convention. Rev. Geo. Williams was for many years the exponent, and through him and others these bodies were loyal and faithful.

THE JOHNSTON DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

This Association was organized in 1886 at Piney Grove Church, Johnston County. The Johnston Association was once a part of the Wake Association. Revs. E. B. Blake, P. T. Young, R. R. Johnson, John Jefferson, Charles Thompson, James Chavis, S. B. Smith, J. C. Pool, W. A. Jones were in the organization. Rev. E. B. Blake, who was then the acknowledged leader, was elected the first Moderator; Rev. W. A. Jones, who afterward took the leadership, was the first Clerk. There were eleven churches in the organization. In 1908 there were thirty-five. A Secondary Baptist School was before the Association for several years, and was put on foot, and located in Smithfield, N. C., in 1908. There were several churches in the Association, with splendid property. The thirty-five churches in 1908 might be fairly estimated at twenty thousand dollars. Much of the progressiveness and aggressiveness of the Association in the first years of its history was due to the energy and push of Rev. W. A. Jones, although pastor of four of the largest churches set an example by remaining in Shaw University Theological Department until he finished his course, which greatly enabled him to lead the Association, although most of his time holding a place in the ranks.

THE PEE DEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Pee Dee Baptist Association was composed largely of the Baptist churches in Richmond, Scotland and Moore Counties. There were but few in the organization in 1870, yet like most of the associations of the State the number grew rapidly. Although the Pee Dee had one of the strongest advocates the State Convention possessed in the person of Rev. S. W. Dockery, for many years there was some opposition to the Convention; but with the accession of such men as H. I. Quick, J. J. Hines and J. S. Brown the opposition was overcome. The Pee Dee brethren fell in line with the spirit to organize associational secondary schools, and provided such a school at Hamlet, the most central location in the Association bounds.

THE WAYNESVILLE ASSOCIATION

The Waynesville Association was organized 1880 at Waynesville, N. C., with the Hemphills, B. F. and Calvin; also Rev. Ponders and Rev. Frank Lindsay. It was named for the village in which it was organized. The following churches composed this Association: Waynesville, Scott's Creek, Webster, Bryson City, Franklin, Piney Grove, Birdtown (an Indian Church), Murphy and Blue Ridge, Ga. This Association united with the Mud Creek to do Home Mission work. This is likewise done through the union. James Ritchie, A. H. Wilson, M. L. Page, Wm. Love, Calvin Hemphill, A. L. Copeland and C. L. Stewart are the leading ministers of this Association.

THE ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Zion Association was along the Seaboard Air Line Railroad beyond and west of the Pee Dee. From the organization to the time of the death of Rev. J. H. Ratliff, of Deep Creek, he was the much loved Moderator of the Zion Association. Possibly the most progressive and ablest minister of the Association for many years was Rev. J. F. Davis. Although a layman, A. J. Beverly, intelligent, manly and of a modest Christian spirit, added great strength to the Association, especially in the school work which was begun long after the beginning made by the Pee Dee people, but was pushed to a rapid growth and development. The Zion Academy was the pride of the Baptists of that section. For several years after its establishment Prof. E. H. Lipscombe was the principal.

THE UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

This Association, composed largely of the churches of Cumberland County, was organized 1883. The McDonalds, H. C. and J. J., N. B. Dunham, O. Watkins, J. M. Whitted and W. H. Anders were first in this Association for many years after its organization. Dr. E. E. Smith, of Fayetteville, Revs. J. J. Hines and J. S. Brown were added afterward. Dr. Smith had no equal in the Association, and compared favorably with the ablest men in the denomination. Soon after connecting himself with the body he became its Moderator, in which capacity he was able to lead his brethren into usefulness and prominence. The Theological Department at Shaw University and the Fayetteville Normal School received its largest donations for education. Like many of the associations of North Carolina, the Union had a Sunday School Convention in connection with it, which also did much good in works of education, charity and missions.

THE LANE'S CREEK ASSOCIATION

The Lane's Creek, which was organized in 1891, was never a very large body compared with the large associations of the State, and yet small in number and in the size of the churches it was generous. There were sixteen churches and twenty-four ministers in 1897. A difference of opinion respecting the standing of one of its leading ministers was a dispute for years, and did more than all else to impair its usefulness. "Shall an individual be allowed to marry again if the other party is living, though the cause of separation be a Bible cause?" was the question which constantly brought confusion in the ranks of the Lane's Creek brethren. In 1907 the Association was submerged, and with two other associations helped to form a new one.

THE MUD CREEK ASSOCIATION

The Mud Creek Association was organized near Asheville, St. John Baptist Church, 1878. There were present in the organization Rev. Caleb Johnson, B. F. and C. W. Hemphill and Rev. Lindsay. The Association, as it was finally constituted, were the Asheville First Church, St. Luke, Swannanoa, St. John, Arden, Concord, Hendersonville, Flat Rock, Mills River, Davidson River, Brevard and a few others. Altogether there were fifteen hundred members in these churches which compose the Mud Creek Association. There was also a Sunday School Union connected with the Mud Creek. This Union, together with others beyond the mountain, have purchased land at Arden and have undertaken the erection of a school building.

THE SHILOH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Shiloh Association was one of the first organized in the State, and one of the first to undertake the secondary school project. Rev. Isaac Alston was for many years its Moderator; M. F. Thornton, a prominent layman of the First Church of Warrenton, its Clerk. The growth of this Association soon placed it among the leading associations for the colored Baptists of the State. After years of progress it began to wane, the Middle Association being the first to pull away, and in its annual session of 1908 a part of the Association met in Ridgeway and the other part in Henderson. Through strenuous efforts the property purchased in Warrenton for school purposes was paid for at an original cost of six thousand dollars, but as a long standing debt amounted to eight thousand. For several years this school was the pride of the Baptists of the State, but there arose differences in the management which were never healed, and hence the usefulness of the work was greatly hindered. While the Association had many noble and able men in its ranks these differences which we have mentioned kept them from doing what they might have done.

THE WEST ROANOKE ASSOCIATION

The West Roanoke was formed in 1884, included the churches of Hertford County and a part of Northampton with Bertie County. The brethren from Bertie felt that the school at Winton in Hertford was too far away for them to enjoy its benefits, and hence they established in the county, and at Windsor, the Bertie Academy. The Northampton people, with a school of high grade at Rich Square, felt that their pro rata should come to them for the support of their school, and this caused the West Roanoke Association to divide its annual contributions with the three schools. Every association, with few exceptions, felt they should have a school of their own, and in the case of the West Roanoke they were content only with three. With years of experience it was seen to be unwise, that the schools should have been fewer, which would have given better support, and yet there was untold good accomplished in these schools throughout the State. The West Roanoke Association raised the largest amount of money raised by any association in the State: as much as twenty-five hundred dollars in an annual sitting. The Moderator of this Association for many years was the President of the Lott-Carey Convention and President of the State Convention. This was sufficient to arouse the brethren of the West Roanoke in behalf of both State and Foreign Missions; and hence the Association became prominent not only in that locality but throughout the State and elsewhere.

THE REEDY CREEK ASSOCIATION

The Reedy Creek Association was composed of the churches north of the Shiloh and between the Shiloh and the Neuse River, including churches in Warren, Halifax, Northampton and Nash Counties. The Reedy Creek was never as large as the Shiloh or the Neuse River. Like nearly all the associations with a school on their hands, the Reedy Creek fostered the school at Littleton under the principalship of Mr. Warwick. Rev. Jack Mayes, of Littleton, who was in this body in its origin, was foremost for many years, in fact until his death, which occurred in 1906. Rev. L. J. Alexander and Rev. S. Grigg, of Wise, N. C., took the lead in after years and did much to bring the Association abreast with the best associations of the State.

THE MIDDLE GROUND ASSOCIATION

Not only was the West Roanoke Association formed out of the East Roanoke, but it seemed practicable and wise to the East Roanoke brethren in 1899 that letters should be granted to the remaining churches beyond the sound, and that they should be set apart into a new organization, and hence, like the original thirteen States which formed themselves into a union and government, thirteen of the churches lying between East and West Roanoke formed themselves into the Middle Ground. The East and West Roanoke, having some of the ablest and strongest men of the denomination as leaders, there was but little for the Association forming a wedge to accomplish, and hence their growth was slow.

THE EAST CEDAR GROVE ASSOCIATION

This Association came out from the Cedar Grove Association and was drawn out by sectional lines from all the churches east of Roxboro. Rev. J. R. Cozart was easily the acknowledged leader of the new faction, and his influence did much to shape the child, so that it soon became stronger in every way than the parent. Revs. J. M. Taylor, W. H. Lyons and Mayes greatly assisted in the new organization. Rev. R. H. Harris, though a member of the old body, was conservative and greatly aided the new body by his prayers and counsel. The East Cedar Grove Association from its organization was a friend to missions and education, and never did they turn deaf ears to a worthy cause. It kept in line with the State and Foreign Mission Conventions, and in fact with every effort of the Baptists of the State which meant progress. They were not encumbered with local projects, as many of the Associations of the State, and hence were in a better condition and position to do for objects on the outside.

LUMBER RIVER ASSOCIATION

This Association was composed of the churches of Columbus County with a few from the adjoining counties. The Thompsons, E. M. and A. H., together with several others, organized the Lumber River Association. This Association was not among the largest in number, but did a decided service in the support it gave to the school at Lumberton, which took its name from Rev. A. H. Thompson. Like many other associations in the State, these fathers could do but little more than organize them and push them off, leaving the real work to be done by the younger men. In some cases the young men had first to contend for the place as leaders while the old men lived, but not so with the fathers of the Lumber River Association. When W. C. Pope, J. D. Harrell and James McKellar came to the front, with Avery and Knuckles in charge of the educational work, these old men gave way and with the prayers and benedictions said "Go ahead, young men, and carry the work forward where we have left off." These young men went ahead, and as a result three imposing buildings were erected on the school site at Lumberton, and one of the best secondary schools of North Carolina was put into successful operation. Several of the ministers of the Association, that they might have the benefit of the school and a pleasant social surrounding, erected homes near the school, making it a village in itself, attractive in appearance and the pride of the Negro Baptists of North Carolina. As an expression of its pride in the wonderful developments and improvements of the Baptists of this locality, the State Convention met with the Sandy Grove Baptist Church, which proudly lifts her spire in the midst of these school buildings and Baptist village.

THE CEDAR GROVE ASSOCIATION

In 1868 the Cedar Grove Association was organized in Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Roxboro, Person County, N. C. Pleasant Grove, Mt. Zion and Cedar Grove were in the organization. Revs. R. P. Martin, Rev. Rudley Williams, Rev. Steven Williams and eElijah Jones. The Association was first called the Pleasant Grove, and afterward at a meeting at Pleasant Grove the name was changed to the Oak Grove Association.

At the third meeting of the Association Rev. L. C. Ragland, a white minister, united with the body of colored brethren, and remained with them until his death. His scholarship and piety served his brethren well for at such a time just such a man was needed. Rev. D. A. Howell came to his brethren and greatly aided the Association in its rapid growth. Through these and other men the Association soon developed into a membership of forty-two churches.

Revs. A. J. Graves, A. L. Johnson, J. R. Cozart, R. H. Harris and W. H. Toler did much to make the Association what it proved to be in missionary and educational endeavor. The unusual thing was the constant change of name, but it was afterward changed to the Cedar Grove, and kept its name as well as its faith in the principles as taught in the Scriptures. Like most of the Associations of the State, this Association caught the spirit of education to do educational work and purchased a site at Roxboro, N. C., but somehow there was always some objection to the project, and the school was not established. This difference and others finally led to a separation of the churches and the formation of another Association known as the East Cedar Grove Association. After this separation Rev. A. L. Johnson led in the effort and a school site was selected at Yanceyville, but even as late as 1908 there was still division on the school question which greatly weakened the body in other respects, and yet with all the division on the school question the Association was a great help in that section of the State.

* Resource: *A History of the Negro Baptists in North Carolina*, By Rev. J.A. Whitted, - D - D

HISTORY OF GBSC LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

The Baptist Laymen's League, a young auxiliary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, was organized December 4, 1947 at the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. The organization was officially approved by the parent body on December 16, 1947. Out of this effort, a One-Day Session was planned and held at Shaw University on September 12, 1948. Thirteen churches sent representatives to the One-Day Session and the Laymen's League movement started.

POEM OF REFLECTION

PASTOR, PREACHER, TEACHER

Pastor stands before the congregation
And proclaims, "Thus saith the Lord!"
Utters prayers, baptizes folk,
Marries and buries with the best;
Shouts and sings with a loud voice
At morning and evening time;
Called by God to bring the Word
Blessed be, blessed be.

We treasure our pastor for kind words,
great sermons,
Marvelous information, insight and compassion,
Knowledge and patience,
For being the person God created,
To bring us beyond Calvary,
To the Resurrection and the New Jerusalem.

O pastor, preacher, teacher,
We depend on you to bring the Word
from on high
To lift God's praises up to the sky
and back to us,
In God we do trust.

We seek God through you.
You're not God.
You're more than the various roles
you perform,
You are God's chosen;
We commend your work
May you be blessed.
Be true to yourself and your call.
God loves you, and us, through you.

Let's honor each other;
Giving honor to God,
Love to our neighbor, and to ourselves;
Pastor, preacher, teacher,
You, too, are God's creature;
We love you,
God bless you;
Well done!

A Living Legend

First Baptist Church

Celebrating 61 Years of Spiritual Leadership

Dr. John Ruffin Manley



Pastor, Preacher, Teacher

Sunday, December 9, 2007 • 11:00 a.m.

First Baptist Church

106 N. Roberson St. • Chapel Hill, North Carolina

• Biographical Sketch of Dr. John Ruffin Manley •

Dr. John R. Manley was born in Murfreesboro, N.C., and educated in the Public Schools of Hertford County, N.C. He is the son of the late Ruffin and Beulah Manley. He graduated and received Degrees (A.B. & B.D.) from Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C. He also is a graduate with Degrees (THM), from Duke University, Durham, N.C. He engaged in further study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and completed Special Work in Hospital Chaplaincy at N.C. Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill.

Dr. Manley was the first African American elected to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City School Board. HE is a Past President of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.; as well as Past Moderator of the New Hope Association. HE was a member of the Chapel Hill Planning Board; President of the local NAACP; President of the Ministerial Alliance of Chapel Hill and Carrboro vicinity; Recording Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina; Chairman of the local group

responsible for the Anti-Poverty Program in Chapel Hill and Moderator of the New Hope Association.

Additionally, he is a member of the Executive Board of the Lott Carey Convention, and a member of the Masonic Lodge. He was a member of the Chapel Hill Community Development Task Force for equal employment in State government; a member and former Vice Chairman of the Governor's Council on Sickle Cell Syndrome, and served on the Employment Security Commission of NC on which he played a major role in having an office located in Chapel Hill, N.C.

In 1995, Dr. Manley was appointed to serve as a member of the North Carolina Foundation for Alternative Health Programs, Board of Directors by the Honorable James B. Hunt, Governor of the State of North Carolina. In addition to this prestigious appointment, Dr. Manley was also appointed by the Governor of N.C. to serve on the Dr. Billy Graham 1906 Crusade Committee.

A 3.7 million dollar Affordable Housing Facility for senior citizens was built in Chapel Hill, North Carolina – namely the First Baptist and Manley Estates, Inc. Dr. Manley is the first President of the Board of Directors for the Corporation.

Dr. Manley is Pastor of First Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, N.C. He is also the former Pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church; Chapel Hill (served 46 years). His sixty-one years of ministry at First Baptist church is reflective of a life of service to mankind, and he continues to give this time, talents, and energy freely in many facets of his ministry.

Dr. Manley's spiritual leadership continues to provide the vision that keeps First Baptist a vital part of the community, state, and nation – and most importantly, a part of God's Kingdom.

Dr. Manley was married to the late Mrs. Gloria Royster Manley of Oxford, N.C. He has one son – John R. Manley II (licensed realtor and broker), and two grandsons – Jon R. Manley III and Justin M. Powell.

The Hill Street Baptist Church (Asheville, NC)

A Historical and Momentous Occasion

The Hill Street Baptist Church (Asheville, NC) under the pastor leadership of Dr. Keith A. Ogden celebrated its annual appreciation program for Pastor and First Lady Emeritus (Dr. Nilous and Mrs. Christine Avery), Sunday December 2, 2007 at 3:00 PM. The guest preacher was Dr. Avery's seminary class mate, Dr. C. R. Edwards. During the celebration the Hill Street unveiled the naming of its Education Building, the "Dr. Nilous M. Avery Multi-Purpose Building", in white letters affixed to the brick on the outside of the church.

This was a historical and momentous occasion for a leader who served the Hill Street Family and Community with distinction and impeccable integrity for 51 1/2 years of service (1951-2002). Under the leadership of the present senior pastor Dr. Keith A. Ogden, plans are in the process to change the name of the daycare center from Hill Street Daycare Center to The Hill Street Christine Avery Daycare Center. Mrs. Christine Avery formed and started the church daycare over 45 years ago with the Lord being her helper.

Dr. C. R. Edwards preached a profound and power packed word. He talked from the subject: Dr. Nilous M. Avery "Full Proof Ministry". Dr. Keith A. Ogden, Senior Pastor Hill Street Baptist Church
135 Hill Street - Asheville, NC



BLACK HISTORY CALENDAR

All year long there are days worth remembering which honor the great achievements of African Americans.

JANUARY

- 1st - Emancipation Proclamation made in 1863
- Kwanzaa celebration ends
- 5th - Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity founded at Indiana U. in 1911
- 9th - Fisk University founded in Nashville, TN in 1866
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity founded at Howard U. in 1914
- 10th - George Washington Carver born in 1864
- 11th - Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957
- 12th - The Congressional Black Caucus organized in 1971
- 13th - Delta Sigma theta Sorority founded at Howard U. in 1913
- 15th - Martin Luther King, Jr. born in 1929
- Alpha Kappa Alpha (1st Black Greek) Sorority founded at Howard U. in 1908
- 16th - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority founded at Howard U. in 1920
- 17th - Dr. Daniel H. Williams born in 1856
- Boxer Muhammad Ali born in 1942
- 18th - Actor James Earl Jones born in 1931
- 19th - Baptist Church organized by Blacks in Savannah, GA in 1788
- 25th - Constance B. Motley appointed the first Black Woman federal judge in 1966
- 30th - Harlem Globetrotters formed by Abe Saperstein in 1927
- 31st - Jackie Robinson born in 1919

FEBRUARY

Black History Month

- 1st - Langston Hughes born in 1902
- 5th - Henry "Hank" Aaron born in 1934
- 12th - NAACP founded in 1909
- 14th - Frederick Douglass born in 1818
- Morehouse College founded as Augusta Inst. in 1867
- 15th - Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957
- 23rd - William E.B. DuBois born in 1868
- 25th - Hiram Revels of Mississippi was the first African American elected to the US Senate in 1870

MARCH

- 2nd - Howard University chartered in 1867
- Freedmans Bureau for Black Education established in 1865
- 6th - Dred Scott decision in 1857
- 13th - Eli Whitney patented the cotton gin in 1794

- 14th - African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church founded in 1821
- 16th - Freedom's Journal, first African American newspaper, published in 1827
- 17th - C.B. Scott patented the street sweeper in 1896
- 21st - 25th - Selma to Montgomery Civil Rights march in 1965
- 23rd - Right to vote 15th Amendment ratified in 1870
- 30th - Morehouse College founded as Augusta Institute in 1867
- 31st - Jack Johnson born in 1871

APRIL

- 5th - Booker T. Washington born a slave in VA in 1856
- 8th - Hank Aaron set new Major League Baseball home run record at 715 in 1974
- 9th - First Civil Rights Bill passed over Presidential veto in 1866
- Paul Robeson born in 1898
- 14th - First Abolition Society founded in Philadelphia in 1775
- 15th - Asa Phillip Randolph born in 1889
- Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee founded at Shaw Univ. in 1960
- 20th - Fisk University opens in 1866
- Harriet Tubman starts working on the Underground Railroad in 1853
- 23rd - National Urban League founded in 1910

MAY

- 1st - Howard U. chartered by Congress in 1867
- Gwendolyn Brooks wins Pulitzer Prize in 1950
- 6th - Civil Rights Act passed in 1960
- 1st Black Masonic Lodge founded in Boston, Prince Hall, 1787
- 13th - Joe Lewis born in 1914
- 17th - Supreme Court School Segregation ban in 1954
- 19th - Malcolm X born in 1925
- 24th - Lincoln University founded in Pennsylvania in 1854
- 26th - Voting Rights Bill passed in 1965
- 29th - Tom Bradley elected first Black Mayor of Los Angeles

JUNE

June is Black Music Month

- 4th - First Baptist Church in the US founded in 1665
- 10th - Richard Allen started the Independent Methodist Movement in 1794
- 14th - First Abolition society founded

in 1775

- 12th - Medgar Evers killed in 1963
- 21st - A.M.E. Zion Church organized in 1821
- 27th - A. Phillip Randolph became president of the first Black labor union, The Sleeping Car Porters

JULY

- 2nd - Thurgood Marshall born in 1908
- 1964 Civil Rights Bill signed by President L.B. Johnson
- 4th - Tuskegee Inst. founded by Booker T. Washington in 1881
- 8th - Billy Eckstine born in 1914
- 10th - Mary McLeod Bethune born in 1875
- 13th - Thurgood Marshall becomes first Black US Supreme Court Justice in 1967
- 21st - National Association of Colored Women founded in 1895
- 23rd - 14th Amendment adopted in 1868
- 31st - Whitney Young, Jr. born in 1921

AUGUST

- 6th - Mathew Henson helped discover the North Pole in 1909
- President Lyndon Johnson signed Voters Rights Bill in 1965
- 7th - Ralph Bunche born in 1904
- 8th - Mathew Henson born in 1865
- 14th - Ernest Everett Just born in 1893
- 21st - Nat Turner revolt in 1831
- 22nd - Civil Rights March on Washington held in 1963
- 23rd - A.M.E. Church organized in 1796
- National Negro Business League organized by Booker T. Washington in 1900
- 25th - Althea Gibson born in 1927
- 27th - Roy Wilkins born in 1901

SEPTEMBER

- 7th - John Merrick, co-founder NC Mutual Life Ins. Co., born in 1859
- 12th - Jesse Owens born in 1913
- 1st African American Masonic Lodge organized in 1787
- 15th - Jan E. Matzeliger born in 1852
- 22nd - Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Ralph J. Bunche in 1950
- 26th - Maggie L. Walker, Banker & Organizer, born in 1867

OCTOBER

- 9th - Morgan State College founded in 1869
- 11th - Rev. Martin Luther King awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964
- 12th - Frank Robinson became the first Black Major League Baseball manager in 1975

- 16th - John Brown attacked Harper's Ferry in 1859
- 17th - Louis Farrakhan led the Million Man March on Washington, D.C. in 1995
- 26th - Mahalia Jackson born in 1911
- 31st - Booker T. Washington inducted into the hall of Fame for Great Americans in 1945



Portia H. Brandon

NOVEMBER

- 9th - Benjamin Banneker born in 1731
- Howard University Medical School opens in 1868
- 16th - W. C. Handy, "Father of the Blues", born in 1873
- 18th - Sojourner Truth born in 1797
- 17th - Omega Psi Phi Fraternity founded at Howard University in 1911
- 20th - Garrett T. Morgan patents the traffic signal in 1923
- 21st - Shaw University founded in North Carolina in 1865
- 24th - Scott Joplin born in 1868

DECEMBER

- 5th - Montgomery AL Bus Boycott began in 1955
- 15th - Bill of Rights took effect in 1791
- 16th - Andrew Young appointed US Ambassador to the United Nations in 1976
- 23rd - Madame C.J. Walker born in 1867
- 24th - National Council of Negro Women founded in 1935
- 26th - Kwanzaa celebration begins

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BAPTIST INFORMER

When Reverend Hairston took over as editor in 1942, it has been noted that the paper was known as the *Union Reformer*. Our Baptist paper, now the *Baptist Informer*, is still a journal of North Carolina Baptists. It is an agency devoted to informing our people of what they are doing and what they can do.

(A *Splendid Enterprise*: W. B. Lewis, Claude R. Trotter, Sr., John W. Fleming)

Preaching As Rhetorical: Tribute to the Homiletical Genius of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Fullwood is a PhD. candidate in homiletics, adjunct instructor of preaching, Shaw University Divinity School, Apex School of Theology and Pastor of the Riley Hill Baptist Church, Wendell NC

Since the latter eighteen-century, African American preachers have played a significant role in shaping political, economic and social reform. Using their oratorical skills and eloquence of style, these preachers forged the moral consciousness of America. They provided insight into the power of the pulpit and the social relevance of the gospel. None of them attracted worldwide attention like Martin Luther King, Jr., with his philosophy of nonviolent social change. He did more than any other leader in his generation to make freedom and equality a part of America's public policy. He succeeded in reshaping the moral and political character of the nation. As in the tradition of the abolitionist preacher, he was summoned by the events of history.

King's homiletical ability yielded persuasive preaching on social issues. Using rhetorical resources inherited as progeny of the African American church tradition, he protested against injustice. These pulpit skills and artistry were as important as his social reform message. He preached in ways that moved people and changed society with the sermonic power of the pulpit. Because of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, America and the world were exposed to the most eloquent African American preacher during his time. Using his brilliant oratory, "he routinely cited the Bible as the authority for his social activities, and cast the civil rights movement in the light of biblical events and characters." His educational preparation equipped him for moral and political leadership. His oratorical power as a preacher enabled him, however, to communicate persuasive arguments that influenced change in America's social and political climate.

Finding himself before a national audience, King's political and social message was articulated in the African American homiletic tradition, which serves as a model in current academic homiletics. King moved the classical homiletic of the African American preacher beyond indigenous context. Through the aid of news media coverage, the rest of America was exposed to the unique homiletic and preaching tradition of the African American church. His homiletical power captured national attention, but it was the civil rights struggle that provided the forum that revealed his preaching skills to the nation and the world. His gift of oratory elevated him to prominence and controversy. Swaying a nation by transforming the "public domain into a pulpit," he awakened the moral conscience of America, and a new community was not only envisioned but realized.

King made two significant contributions: as a preacher and civil rights leader that are inextricably related. His first contribution was bringing about social reform. He caused America to rethink its values regarding justice and equality for all citizens. His second contribution was in the area of homiletics. He used the power of the pulpit and his oratorical effectiveness in delivery to inspire, persuade and stir rage in the nation and the world. These vehicles of expression represented his rich rhetorical resources characteristically found in African American preaching. King's preaching style, in terms of oratory and eloquence, were important tools of persuasion. While King's social reform agenda marks a significant milestone in historical and contemporary contexts, his use of rhetorical strategy as vehicle of expression imaged him as perhaps the world's greatest orator/preacher. It was not the substantive content only, but the rhetorical genius employed in the heralding of the message that profoundly affected the conscious of this country.

Sources: O.C. Edwards, *A History of Preaching* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2004); Richard Lischer, *The Preaching King: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Word That Moved America* (New York: Oxford University, 1995) and C. Eric Lincoln, ed. *Martin Luther King Jr.: A Profile* (New York: Hill and Wang).



Dr. Al Fullwood

In Loving Memory



Dr. Jimmy Coleman Sr.

Dr. Jimmy Coleman, Sr., 59, was born to the late Carrie Lee Evans Coleman and John Walter Coleman on October 1, 1948 in Raleigh. He transitioned to his eternal home on December 29, 2007 at Wake Medical Center.

He grew up in Fourth Ward in the City of Raleigh. At an early age, he joined Fayetteville Street Baptist Church which is now known as First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church. He was a very active member of his church and served as past Chair of the Trustee Board.

Jimmy was educated in the Raleigh Public School System and was a 1966 graduate of J. W. Ligon High School. He received his B.A. in Business Administration from Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh, North Carolina in 1972; his Master's degree in Business Administration and Correctional Education in 1974 from Montclair State College in New Jersey; and his Doctorate in Criminology from Meridan University in Lafayette, Louisiana, in 1992. He completed numerous certifications and training during his life's work.

His professional career spanned over thirty years in State government until his retirement from the North Carolina Department of Insurance as a Senior Deputy Commissioner of the Regulatory Services Division. He leaves to cherish his memories and mourn his loss: his loving and devoted wife, Representative Linda Coleman of the home; three daughters, Monica Coleman of Washington, DC; Kionna Coleman of the home; and Latisha Coleman of Raleigh; two sons, Lamont Gill of Wake Forest and Jimmy Coleman Jr. of the home; two sisters, Bernestine Mack and Clarice Winston and one brother, Gene Evans, all of Raleigh; six uncles, George (Catherine) Muldrow; Charlie (Carolyn) Muldrow; Paul Muldrow; Ernest (Marguerite) Williams; James Evans and Bobbie Goins, all of Raleigh; two aunts, Dorothy (Charles) Ferrell and Virginia (William) Cunningham, both of Raleigh; six grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



SEPT. 19, 1922 - DEC. 27, 2007

Mrs. Lulu Harris Robinson, 85, died on December 27, 2007. Lulu Robinson was born September 19, 1922 in St. Mary's, Georgia, where she received her early education in a community that was dedicated to family, higher learning, and public service. She earned a baccalaureate degree at Fort Valley College in 1944, and a master's degree in religious education from Atlanta University. She also engaged in further studies of religion, philosophy, and ethics at Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary in New York. Following in her parents' footsteps, Mrs. Robinson devoted her career of more than 40 years to teaching. In 1948, she moved to



Lula Robinson

Denmark, SC to serve as director of Christian Education at Voorhees College. Soon after joining the Voorhees family, she met the Registrar, Dr. Prezell R. Robinson. After a two-year courtship, the two were married in a sunrise service on Easter Sunday, 1950.

Mrs. Robinson is survived by her beloved husband of more than 57 years, Prezell R. Robinson, President Emeritus of St. Augustine's College; her loving daughter, JesSanne Johnson (Anthony); and two grandchildren, Bryson and Bryanne, all of Raleigh.

The family will receive visitors from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 2, 2008 at the Saint Augustine's College Chapel. The funeral service was held at noon, Thursday, January 3, 2008 at Saint Augustine's College Chapel in Raleigh.

"Pioneer Child Care Institution"



Dr. George Cook, Jr.
President,
Executive Board
Central
Children's
Home

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Mr. John P. Cureton - President
Ms. Ernestine J. Joyner, Esq. - Vice
Ms. Francine L. Chavis, MD - Secretary
Mr. James Speed, CPA - Treasurer

At Large:

Dr. Theodore Brooks
Reverend Norman T. Davis

General Membership

Rev. Wesley Elam
Mrs. Carolyn F. Edwards
Mrs. Pattie Brown
Mr. Walter Chawlk
Mrs. Carolyn Torian
Dr. Michelle C. Ogle
Ms. Tammy Tuck
Mr. James C. Russell
Dr. George Cook, Jr.
Mr. Archie Rahmaan
Mrs. Octavia Ivory
Mr. Edgar F. Merritt
Mr. Howard Clement, III
Rev. Ricky Banks
Mr. Telessie McGhee
Mrs. Valerie S. Collins
Mrs. Annette P. Myers

Honorary Membership

Dr. Priscilla Brodie
Dr. Charles T. Bullock
Rev. John W. McNeil
Mrs. Esther High
Dr. John E. Hall
Mr. Milton Fitch, Jr.
Mrs. Thelma Wailer
Rev. Haywood T. Gray

Administration

Mr. Alston, Sr. ASCW - Executive Director
Mr. James A. Moseley, Sr. BA - Associate Director
Mrs. Angela I Williams, BS - Business Manager

From the Office of Reverend Norman T. Davis

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Grace and Peace be unto you from God our Father and His only Son Jesus the Christ.

As a New Year begin, I want to thank the GBSC for your loving and kind support in two thousand and seven. The best year we have seen since I have been on the board, since nineteen eighty nine. I pray that you will keep up the strong support in 2008, we now have seventeen children and hoping to get to 30 as soon as possible. The children are our children, and they need our support 365 days

a year; For dental care, doctor care, school supplies and all other things they need, such as professional counseling.

We need every church in this state to help us to remain solid.

Dr. George Cook will speak to you soon in His own way in what his plans are for the home, and I whole hearted support to the new president.

A copy of His letter to all board members and a public announcement will conclude this report.

All board members have been asked to give one thousand dollars a year and

raise \$3,125 so that other foundations will know the board members are serious about giving to the home.

We need Mr. Alston to stay on board until the new director is in place, it is a must.

The board members do not run the day to day of the home. He has agreed to do this, we are working as hard as a board and committee can to do the right thing. ■



Rev. Norman Davis

Central Children's Home of North Carolina, Inc.

"Pioneer Child Care Institution"

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. George Cook, Jr. (Pastor of Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church of Charlotte) serving in the capacity of the President of the Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following:

The retirement of our current Executive Director is extended until further notice. A diligent search for a successor is in progress. The entire Board of Directors is fully committed to a new direction. We realize new approaches are essential in addressing the challenges confronting children and their families in today's society. In this regard, an independent consultant has been retained to determine the effectiveness of our current program services. Likewise, the consultant will recommend the innovative strategies to address new service demands of those needing our help. To provide adequate resources, the Board of Directors is dedicated to improving fund raising efforts to include developing land assets to establish an endowment to support future operations.

Furthermore, we respectfully request that you continue your support of the Central Children's Home as we diligently search for an Executive Director to carry on our tradition of great work.

Dr. George Cook, Jr. - Executive Board President

December 10, 2007

Dear Board Members:

As we move toward the transitioning of our present Executive Director some concerns have surfaced with reference to continued support of Central Children's Home. The misperception of some in the community is that we are going out of business; whereas others are asking why continue to give since we have no knowledge of what's going on, or any knowledge of where to go from here.

In order to off-set any further misperceptions a News Release from the Board of Directors of CCH as to our unwavering commitment to continue to provide quality service to at-risk children and their families in a proficient manner is a "must".

Therefore, a statement of our resolve must be issued immediately, if not sooner. To the right is a News Release for your perusal and response. ■

United Theological Seminary

Nurture of Piety, Love of Learning, Pursuit of Justice

Proctor Symposium and D.Min. Reunion

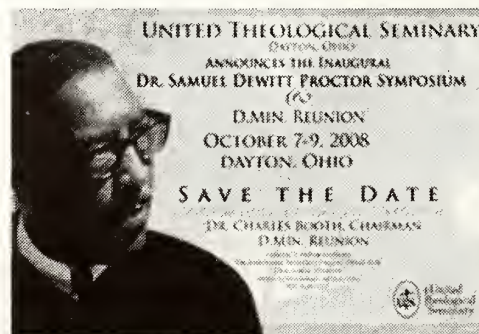
Dear D.Min. Alumni/ae,

We are pleased to announce the Inaugural Dr. Samuel Dewitt Proctor Symposium and Doctor of Ministry Reunion planned for **October 7-9, 2008 in Dayton, OH.**

Please be sure to mark the dates now.

Watch for additional information on United's calendar as it becomes available. And we look forward to seeing you on campus in October.

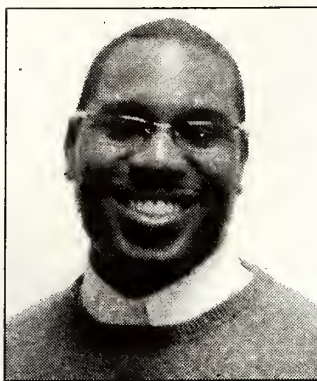
Yours in Christ,
Dr. Josephine Whitely-Fields
Director of Doctoral Studies
United Theological Seminary



HISTORY OF THE CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME

In August, 1882, the Colored Orphanage Association was formed in Henderson, North Carolina by members of the Shiloh and Wake Missionary Baptist Associations. The idea of a home was presented by Dr. Augustus Shepard who had become familiar with the large number of homeless and neglected children by traveling throughout the state.





Installation Service for
Pastor-Elect
Lamont Johnson, Sr.

Sunday, December 9, 2007
3:30 P.M.

Providence Missionary Baptist Church
1120 East Washington Street
Rockingham, North Carolina 28379

Baptist Ushers' Convention
ONE DAY SESSION
Saturday, February 23, 2008

Saturday, February 23, 2008

To: Moderators and Presidents in the Ten Districts of the General Baptist State Ushers' Convention

The General Baptist State Ushers' Convention One Day Session will convene Saturday, February 23, 2008 (Registration 8:00 am) (Call to order 9:00 am) at the Springfield Baptist Church, Raleigh, N C. We look forward to your attendance for the Ushers' program and workshops.

Ushers, please be in accordance to the State uniform dress code: white uniform of common styles for women, with white gloves, white shoes and state pin; black or dark blue dress suits for men, with white shirts, black or dark blue tie, black shoes, white gloves and state pin.

Each church and Association has been asked to support of Assessment of \$400.00. Please ask your church to sent

this donation to one of our sessions or mail it to;

GBSC Baptist Headquarters,
 603 S. Wilmington St.,
 Raleigh, NC 27601,
 (919) 821-7466;

Fax (919) 836-0061;
 (800) 639-GBSC (4272); GBSC of
 NC01@aol.com.

Ushers, please continue to financially support the Convention with your individual \$10.00 registration fee.

User Presidents please email all public notice to be advertised in the Baptist Informer to:

Bro. William Pointer, Jr.
 Co-Chairman Publicity Committee
 Reporter to the Baptist Informer
 GBSUC Executive Board
 P.O. Box 1107
 Oxford, N.C. 27565
 (919) 693-5019
 williamlpointerjr@yahoo.com.

Pre-Installation Services for
Pastor-Elect Lamont J. Johnson, Sr.

December 5, 2007-----Sermon-----Rev. Dr. Leonzo S. Lynch
 2nd Vice President of GBSC
 December 6, 2007----- Sermon----- Rev. Oscoe Gardeen
 Pastor of Elizabeth Baptist Church of Monroe North Carolina
 December 7, 2007-----Sermon-----Rev. Dr. Robert E. McGowens
 Chairman of Evangelism, GBSC

Pastoral Installation Services

Presiding Officer: Rev. A. B. Herring, Pastor
 Juniper Level Baptist Church
 Garner, North Carolina

December 9, 2007

Greeting----- Rev. Dr. Gregory Moss
 President, GBSC

Greeting-----Rev. Samuel Norman, Moderator
 Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Ed., Association - Hamlet, North Carolina

Greeting-----Rev. Dr. Rudolf Tripp
 Director of Continuing Ed., Shaw University - Raleigh, North Carolina

Sermon-----Rev. Andre' L. Coffee
 Pastor of First Timothy Baptist Church - Newark, New Jersey

Charge to the Church-----Pastor Bill W. Johnson, Sr.
 St Paul Baptist Church - Elizabeth, New Jersey

Charge to the Pastor-----Rev. Dr. Haywood Gray
 Executive Secretary Treasurer, GBSC

Laying on of Hands-----Pastor Q. Burrell
 First Baptist Church - Weldon, North Carolina

Presentation of Keys-----Deacon Billy Ingram
 Providence Missionary Baptist Church - Rockingham, North Carolina

GBSC and MMBB Offer Essential Benefits

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (GBSC)] and The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) partner to make the following essential benefits available to pastors and other employees of GBSC-related organizations:

- The Benefits for Life program builds retirement income while providing pre-retirement disability and life insurance protection
- The Tax-Deferred Annuity gives employers a way to make additional retirement contributions for their employees
- The Annuity Supplement cuts current taxes as employees save on a pre-tax basis
- Medical, dental and long-term care insurance are also available at group rates.

MMBB's has been ministering to churches and their employees since 1911.

For more about the plans or MMBB's financial ministry, please call:

Mr. Dexter Perry, A&B Management Services, Inc. 1400 Crescent Green, Suite G-100, Cary, North Carolina, 27511 Phone 919.858.7817, or Ms. Rose Harper, MMBB, Phone 800.222.3872 ext. 2348.

A Simple Guide To Filling the Pulpit

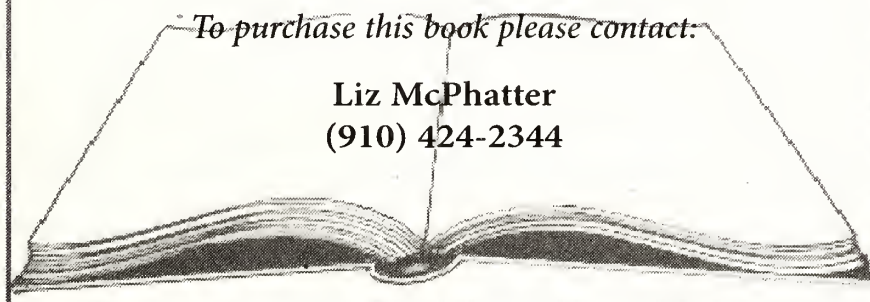


by

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., BS, M. Div., D. D. DHL

To purchase this book please contact:

Liz McPhatter
(910) 424-2344



BAPTIST *Inform*er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portia Brandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

PASTORAL VACANCY
New Hidden Hill Baptist Church
 Spartanburg, South Carolina

Members are in search of an ordained Minister who loves God, is organized, and knowledgeable of the Holy Bible.

Seeking someone with the ability to teach as well as preach, with a nurturing spirit, excellent communication skills and the ability to work well with others.

A candidate with formal theological training is desired.

Salary: *Negotiable*

Please forward resume to:
 New Hidden Hill Baptist Church
 Attn: Bro Marion Drummond
 P.O. Box 517170
 Spartanburg, South Carolina 29301

For questions please call: (864) 266-5194

Please note all final candidates will sign a waiver for criminal, credit/and financial background check.

MINISTER OF MUSIC VACANCY
EBENEZER MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Wilson, NC

is currently accepting applications for a Minister of Music.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must be a Christian dedicated to Christ and the church
- Must prove his/her music ability with skills in teaching, playing for services and programs
- Must have experience in directing and working with choirs
- Must be responsible to the Pastor and the church for planning, conducting, and evaluating the Music Ministry of the church

Mail all application material to: Minister Betty Wiley
 P.O. Box 3293
 Wilson, NC 27895

ORANGE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 Durham, NC

POSITION VACANCY: Administrative Assistant

Purpose: The Orange Grove Church Administrative Assistant will provide secretarial, and administrative support to the Pastor, staff, and ministries of the church. This position also provides reception and support for guests and congregational needs; by answering the telephone, maintaining the front office and handling day-to-day administrative duties. Individual must have a clear understanding of the mission and vision of the church as it relates to the membership and community involvement.

Qualifications

- Associates Degree or 3-5 years Secretarial/Administrative work experience
- Proficient in the use of Microsoft software programs, including Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Access, and Publisher
- Strong organizational skills; detail-oriented; high level of initiative and creativity
- Able to operate phone system; experience with multi-line systems desired
- Able to prioritize work and multitask
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Able to work with minimal supervision
- Open, friendly, and service oriented personality, high level of professionalism.
- Ability to communicate effectively with tact and courtesy in person, by phone and in writing.
- Must be accessible, responsive, and flexible to handle the changing needs of the church.

Salary: Negotiable

To Apply: Submit application, resume and references to:
 Orange Grove Missionary Baptist Church
 505 East End Avenue
 Durham, NC 27703
 Attn: Human Resources Committee

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
 Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
 Thomas L. Jones

PASTORAL VACANCY
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

722 Sikes Avenue • Wadesboro, N.C.

Is accepting letters of interest/resume's for licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Reply only if you are sincerely interested and meet the stated qualifications.

1. Must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach the gospel.
2. Must be family oriented, with a reputation of being a good role model.
3. Must have a strong reputation of honesty and integrity.
4. Must be a graduate of a four-year accredited college or university.
5. Must be an effective communicator with sufficient command of the English language.
6. Must possess strong knowledge of Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
7. Must be an effective leader, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
8. Must have skills necessary to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
9. Must have at least four years of experience as pastor, but will consider years of experience as an assistant pastor.
10. Must have excellent teaching skills (Biblical).

Please reply to:

The First Baptist Church
 Pastor's Search Committee
 Deacon Jay J. Clark
 P.O. Box 157
 Hoffman, N.C. 28347
 (910) 2814819

Please include the following information in your reply: name, age, marital status, phone numbers, and an e-mail address. Application form will be mailed to you.

Pastoral Vacancy

BROWN NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Brown New Calvary Baptist Church of Thomasville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must have the Biblical qualities of a Pastor as defined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- Must possess a Passion for God, His Word, and His People
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups within the church
- Must live or be willing to live within 60 mile radius of the church
- Must be at least 34 years old and pastoral experience preferred
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual growth of the church
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability

All applicants should mail the following to the address below:

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include their home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to: Brown New Calvary Baptist Church
Attn: Pulpit Committee
200 Doak Street
Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

Church Musician Vacancy

St John Missionary Baptist Church

Vanceboro, NC

Some of our selection criteria:

1. Dependable
2. Committed to the cause
3. Willing to travel with choir
4. Carries a music anointing
5. Experienced with keyboard and organ
6. Meet for rehearsals on Saturdays before performances.
7. Know what music is needed to strengthen the service.
8. Play by ear / know some keys with ability to transpose as necessary.
9. Can teach voice parts /3 part harmony
10. Can conduct music workshops for church / community
11. Can assist choir in producing other packaged recordings
12. Willing to play for all choirs in the church.

Interested candidates are asked to send a letter of interest and a sample copy of music on tape / CD to:

St John Missionary Baptist Church
C/O Search Committee
PO Box 664
Vanceboro, NC 28586
Attn: Renee Adams-Whittaker
Email to: reneevanceboro@aol.com

Pastoral Vacancy

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Wilson, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- ✓ Must be licensed, ordained, Missionary Baptist Minister
- ✓ Must be living or willing to live near Wilson area
- ✓ Must be able to render service for all worship services here at Ebenezer
- ✓ Must be able to relate to all ages in the church
- ✓ Must have Theological or Seminary training
- ✓ Must be at least 37 years old and at least two years of Pastoral experience preferred
- ✓ Must be able to lead, preach, teach the gospel, and counsel the membership
- ✓ Must be able to motivate members to tithe
- ✓ Must enhance spiritual growth of the church
- ✓ Must be willing to submit a criminal and traffic background check and furnish a credit report

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include you home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to: Deacon Sylvester Dupree
P.O. Box 7605
Wilson, NC 27893

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Ahoskie Baptist Church

Ahoskie, NC

Is currently accepting applications for the position of Pastor. New Ahoskie Baptist Church is a member of the West Roanoke Baptist Association.

The qualifications for a pastor adopted by the Committee are:

- a) A person who is led by the Spirit of God in all matters and performs pastoral duties according to the scriptures and the needs of the church.
- b) A person who is ordained and licensed with strong knowledge of the Missionary Baptist doctrines, policies and practices.
- c) A person who is able to conduct worship services on a full time basis.
- d) A person who has acquired degree from an accredited Seminary .
- e) A person who has the ability to teach God's word and carry out administrative, leadership and counseling duties.
- f) A person who has the ability to communicate and work with all age levels.
- g) A person who will participate in outreach ministries.
- h) A person who is family and community oriented.
- i) A person who is a good role model of moral and ethical conduct,
- j) A person who supports church functions including teaching and attending Sunday school, Bible study, prayer meetings, and one who visits the sick and shut-in.
- k) A person who has a vision for the spiritual, intellectual and financial growth of the church.

Along with a resume, a potential candidate must provide:

- a) Two professional references including name, address and telephone number.
- b) Name, address, and telephone number of previous or current church affiliation, including the pastor's name, if applicable.
- c) Proof of religious credentials (License/ordination).
- d) Proof of degree for confirmation or transcript of completed courses if degree has not been conferred.
- e) A mission statement for the church.

If you feel God is Leading you to this call please submit resume' and supporting documentation to:

New Ahoskie Baptist Church
Pastor Search Committee
Deacon Charles McCullough, Chairman
PO Box 371
Ahoskie, NC 27910

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMITTING A RESUME IS FEBRUARY 29, 2008.

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

PASTOR VACANCY

New Hill Baptist Church • Clayton, NC

Qualifications:

1. Born again Christian.
2. Must have the biblical qualities of a Pastor defined in Timothy
3. Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister.
4. Is factual in doing and caring out the functions of the church and has the ability to teach and preach God's word.
5. Working experience with all ages in church.
6. Family and Community oriented.
7. Believe and abided by the Baptist Doctrine and Church covenant
8. Supportive of the General Baptist State Convention.
9. Must be at least 40 years or older and pastoral experience.
10. Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check.
11. Must be willing to share their vision for spiritual growth of the church.
12. Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administration and counseling ability.
13. Have the knowledge of Missionary Baptist Church Doctrine Policies and willingly abide by them.

References/Resume • 3 references with address and contacts included

Send Reference and Resume to:
 Sis Cora Sneed
 750 King Circle
 Selma, NC 27576
 (919) 965-5315

PASTORAL VACANCY

St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church
 Rockingham, NC

Is currently accepting resumes for a Pastor
 Resumes will be accepted until March 31, 2008

QUALIFICATIONS

- **Must be between the ages of 30-55 years.**
- **Must be a graduate of an Accredited College and Seminary.**
- **Must have at least (3) years of Pastoral Experience.**
- **Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister.**
- **Must reside within a (75) mile radius from the church.**
- **Must have the ability and skill to teach, counsel, perform various types of ceremonies.**
- **Must represent the church Association, State and National Conventions.**
- **Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check.**
- **Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the church.**

Submit resume to: **St Stephen Missionary Baptist Church**
Attn: Pulpit Committee
P O Box 772
Rockingham, NC 28380

PASTORAL VACANCY
Temple Chapel Baptist Church

900 September Lane
 Charlotte, North Carolina

Some of our selection criteria:

1. Experience - experienced pastor
2. Born Again - spirituality
3. Education - seminary, licensed, ordained
4. Articulate - able to communicate to all ages
5. Charisma - able to hold the attention and imagination of congregation
6. Biblical - Bible based teacher
7. Family - oriented towards family values
8. Bylaws - able to abide by TCBC bylaws
9. Leadership - skilled in leading
10. Orderly - well versed in parliamentary procedures Roberts rules of order
11. Christ like - living a Christian life inside and outside of church

Qualified Candidates:

Please send appropriate information to:

Temple Chapel Baptist Church
 C/O Search Committee
 900 September Lane
 Charlotte, NC

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church

102 Mt. Olive Road • Windsor, North Carolina 27983

REOPENED 11-01-07
PASTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE



Full-time Senior Pastor for Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church with an approximate membership of over 400 African-American congregants located in rural eastern North Carolina

Qualifications: The successful applicant must possess at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college, university or seminary and proven ability to prepare and deliver stimulating and inspirational sermons. A Master in Theology or some other religious area or pursuing the same is preferred. Additionally, this candidate will have the following traits: a firm grasp of Baptist policy, thorough belief in and knowledge of the principles of our faith, demonstrated aptitude to teach, broad education preparation and good health.

The candidate shall be a person serious in purpose, careful in speech, sound in Baptist doctrine, and above reproach in life and conduct. The candidate shall have an appreciation for a diversity of religious music and a zeal for Christian education. Further, the candidate must:

- Be a spiritual leader able to cast a vision for growth and expansion
- Possess at least 3 years of pastoral experience (Senior, Associate, Assistant)
- Possess high interpersonal relationship skills
- Demonstrate a compassionate approach to visiting members (including sick, shut-in, and the needy)
- Possess good leadership development ability
- Possess sound budget/financial management skills
- Possess a record of impeccable administrative and organizational abilities
- Possess strength in evangelism
- Possess praiseworthy counseling ability
- Be a person dedicated to fulfilling the mission of the church in harmony with God's Holy Word

Salary and benefits are open for negotiation, commensurate with qualifications and experience. The deadline to submit applications is until the position is filled.

All interested parties should submit a letter of interest, which requests an application to:

Pulpit Search Committee
 Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
 Post Office Box 214
 Lewiston, North Carolina 27849

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
 Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
 Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

Upcoming
Events...

BAPTIST Informer

THE HISTORY OF BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N.C., INC.



“Building Upon a Strong Foundation”

(1867 - 2008)

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



*A Historical and
Momentous
Occasion*

**The Hill Street
Baptist Church**
Asheville, NC



BAPTIST Informer

Volume 131, No. 3

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.



March 2008



GBSC THEME "To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC

Greetings to my beloved General Baptist family. I greet you in Jesus joy. With March upon us, our convention is buzzing with Kingdom activity. In February, our Congress, under the leadership of President Lula Gainey, staged an exciting event designed to teach and train Christian education leaders and youth from all over the state. We are grateful for the hospitality of Dr. Dumas Harshaw and the disciples of First Baptist Raleigh. They left no stone unturned, ensuring the success of the Congress and it's more than capacity crowd.

At the time of this article, the Ushers one-day session had not been held. If the success of the Congress is any indication, host church Springfield of Garner and the Raleigh area will provide an environment conducive for enhancing the ministry of ushers across the state.

Still concentrating on developing our convention leadership, we will have our second leadership retreat. During which we will evaluate the first year of

this administration's work, enhance our skills and assess our ability to lead and develop plans for the next three years in accordance with our vision and purpose.

The administration is exploring the possibility of grouping meetings of the parent body and its auxiliaries in an effort to cut down on the amount of meetings and the travel distance to attend them. It is our sincere desire to help the convention to become better stewards of our associations' and local churches' time. Please pray as we deliberate on this and other items important to the health and well being of our work.

In conversation with Executive-Secretary Haywood T. Gray, there is still a need for our churches to give CONSISTENTLY to our operations (State Missions) and our objectives. Let us strive to send monthly to help and support our causes. Remember, for churches (and associations) who have not been giving at all or on a consistent basis, \$1300.00 per year (less than \$110.00 per month) for State Missions is the least we can do. Our commitment and responsibility as members of the

GBSC family call us to make good on the same. Of course there are those churches that can and do far exceed the minimum. Thank you for your generosity. To those whom much is given, much is required. Stay the course!



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

There is excitement across the state about our work. Let us continue to build on the momentum and raise our work to levels never before seen in our great Convention's history. It is our time to add to a wonderful legacy and to advance the Kingdom through our ministry and missions.

The Shaw Divinity School Pastor's Conference will be held during Holy Week. Please make plans to attend. If you cannot, please lift the conference in prayer that those who do attend will be enlightened and enhanced. May God bless you and our convention.

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Palm Sunday.....Violet (Red)
Mon -Thurs.....Violet (Red)
Good Friday.....Black (Red)
Easter.....White

Ash Wednesday
Lent
Lent is a forty day period of penance meant for sharing the sorrows and sufferings of Christ by the self-denying Christians. The last week of Lent is know as Holy Week

Palm Sunday
March 16, 2008
The last Sunday of the Lent is known as the Palm Sunday. This is when Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem where he was greeted warmly by the crowd.

Maundy Thursday
March 20, 2008



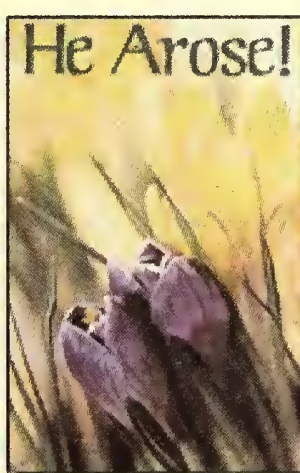
The Last Supper
The Thursday of the Holy Week is associated with the Last Supper. The day is known as Maundy Thursday, or, Holy Thursday. It is the day before crucifixion. On this day Jesus had his supper, his last course, with his disciples.



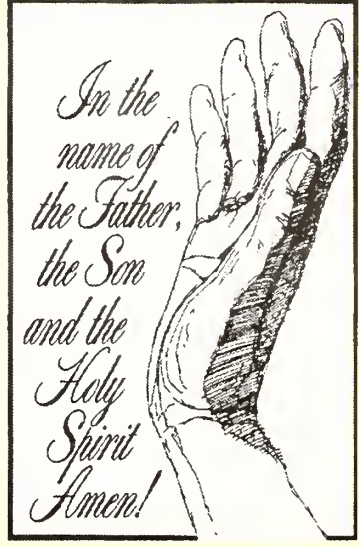
The Crucifixion
Good Friday is the day Jesus was crucified outside the walls of Jerusalem, at the top of the Calvary Hill. He died on the Cross for the Sin of the World.

Good Friday
March 21, 2008

The Ressurrection



The meaning of Easter is Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection symbolizes the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in Him.

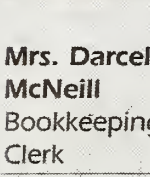


GBSC STAFF

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Rev. Selma Hunter
Finance Consultant



Mrs. Darcell McNeill
Bookkeeping Clerk



Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Baptist Informer Managing Editor

Save These Dates

THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Mid-Year Session MAY 6-7, 2008

The Center at Halifax
Community College
100 College Dr • Weldon, NC

THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

All Baptist Assembly

M.C. Benton Jr. Convention Center
301 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Phone: 336.727.2976
Fax: 336.727.2879

July 27-31, 2008

Congress of Christian Education 2008 Calendar of Events

April 5, 2008
VBC Workshop
Pee Dee Assoc
Laurinburg, NC

May 6-7, 2008
GBSC Mid-Year Session
Roanoke Rapids, NC

June 15-21, 2008
National Bapt Congress
Louisville, KY

June 23-25, 2008
GBSC Oratorical Contest

July 17-18, 2008
GBSC Single/Marriage Conf

July 27-31, 2008
All Baptist Assembly
Winston Salem, NC

October 28-29, 2008
GBSC Annual Session(TBA)

Ushers' Convention 2008 Calendar of Event

March 17, 2008
Ushers' Executive Meeting
10:00 AM-Raleigh, NC

May 6-7, 2008
GBSC Mid Year Session
Roanoke Rapids, NC

May 17, 2008
Usher's Executive Meeting
10:00 am • Baptist Headquarters

August 16, 2008
Ushers' Executive Board Meeting
10:00 am • Baptist Headquarter

October 18, 2008
Ushers' Executive Board
Baptist Headquarters • Raleigh, NC

October 28-29, 2008
GBSC Annual Session
Winston Salem, NC

November 7-8, 2008
Ushers' Retreat Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

Marriott WINSTON-SALEM

Winston-Salem Marriott®
425 North Cherry Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Phone: 1-336-725-3500 • Fax: 1-336-728-4025
Toll-free: 1-877-888-9762

Single & Double rooms \$92.00 + tax

Guest Accommodations: Luxuriously appointed with amenities that ensure a comfortable and productive stay. Marriott's new bedding package, wireless high speed internet access and coffee maker.

Hotel Policies

Check-in: 03:00pm Check-out: 12:00pm



EMBASSY SUITES
HOTEL®
Winston-Salem

460 North Cherry Street
Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 27101
Tel: 1-336-724-2300 • Fax: 1-336-728-4020
Suite- \$117.00 +12.75 % tax

Guest Accommodations: Each suite is beautifully decorated with a private bedroom and spacious living room. All of our suites are fully equipped with two televisions, a refrigerator, microwave oven, coffee maker, two telephones with data ports and a well lit dining-work table.

Hotel Policies

Check-In: 3:00 PM - Check-Out: 12:00 PM

Parking:

Self Parking: 10.00 City owned parking
Valet Parking: 12.00 w/ unlimited access

Laymen's League 2008 Calendar of Events

March 8, 2008
Laymen's Study Commission
Providence MBC
Edenton, NC

April 18, 2008
Laymen's Banquet
Mid Annual
Mt Zion First Baptist
Rocky Mount, NC

April 19, 2008
Laymen's Mid Annual Session
Mt Zion First Baptist
Rocky Mount, NC

May 6-7, 2008
GBSC Mid-Year Session
Roanoke Rapids, NC

May 17, 2008
Mini-Skills Exhibit
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

June 14, 2008
Study Commission Meeting
Penn Ave Baptist Church
Oxford, NC

July 11-12, 2008
Laymen and Boys Summer Retreat
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

July 27-31, 2008
All Baptist Assembly
Winston Salem, NC

August 23, 2008
Scouting Camporee
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

September 13, 2008
Laymen's Men's Retreat
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

September 26-27, 2008
Southeastern Walter
Cade Workshop
Greenville, SC

October 28-29, 2008
GBSC Annual Session

December 13, 2008
Study Commission Meeting
Gethsemane MBC
Salisbury, NC

Election Year Activities and the Prohibition on Political Campaign Intervention for Section 501(c)(3) Organizations

Dr. Howard Parker
Vice President At Large

During election campaigns, many churches and other section 501(c)(3) organizations are uncertain about the extent to which they can discuss issues of importance in the campaigns or interact with candidates for public office. They are also uncertain about the role they can play in encouraging citizens to register and vote. This fact sheet is intended to help organizations understand what they can and cannot do when an election campaign is under way.

The Prohibition on Political Campaign Intervention

Under the Internal Revenue Code, all section 501(c)(3) organizations are absolutely prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective public office. The prohibition applies to all campaigns including campaigns at

the federal, state and local level. Violation of this prohibition may result in denial or revocation of tax-exempt status and the imposition of certain excise taxes.

Those section 501(c)(3) organizations that are private foundations are subject to additional restrictions that are not described in this fact sheet.

What is Political Campaign Intervention?

Political campaign intervention includes any and all activities that favor or oppose one or more candidates for public office. The prohibition extends beyond candidate endorsements. Contributions to political campaign funds or public statements of position (verbal or written) made by or on behalf of an organization in favor of or in opposition to any candidate for public office clearly violate the prohibition on political campaign intervention. Distributing statements prepared by others that favor or oppose any candidate for public office will also violate the prohibition. Allowing a candidate to use an organization's assets or facilities will also violate the prohibition if other candidates are not given an equivalent opportunity. Although section 501(c)(3) organizations may engage in

some activities to promote voter registration, encourage voter participation, and provide voter education, they will violate the prohibition on political campaign intervention if they engage in an activity that favors or opposes any candidate for public office. Certain activities will require an evaluation of all the facts and circumstances to determine whether they result in political campaign intervention.

Voter Education, Voter Registration and Get Out the Vote Drives

Section 501(c)(3) organizations are permitted to conduct certain voter education activities (including the presentation of public forums and the publication of voter education guides) if they are carried out in a non-partisan manner. In addition, section 501(c)(3) organizations may encourage people to participate in the electoral process through voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives, conducted in a non-partisan manner. On the other hand, voter education or registration activities conducted in a biased manner that favors (or opposes) one or more candidates is prohibited.

Individual Activity by Organization Leaders

The political campaign intervention

prohibition is not intended to restrict free expression on political matters by leaders of organizations speaking for themselves, as individuals. Nor are leaders prohibited from speaking about important issues of public policy. However, for their organizations to remain tax exempt under section 501(c)(3), leaders cannot make partisan comments in official organization publications or at official functions of the organization. To avoid potential attribution of their comments outside of organization functions and publications, organization leaders who speak or write in their individual capacity are encouraged to clearly indicate that their comments are personal and not intended to represent the views of the organization..

Candidate Appearances

Depending on the facts and circumstances, an organization may invite political candidates to speak at its events without jeopardizing its tax-exempt status. Political candidates may be invited in their capacity as candidates, or in their individual capacity (not as a candidate). Candidates may also appear without an invitation at organization events that are open to the public.

A candidate may seek to reassure the organization that it is permissible for the organization to do certain things in connection with the candidate's appearance. An organization in this position should keep in mind that the candidate may not be familiar with the organization's tax-exempt status and that the candidate may be focused on compliance with the election laws that apply to the candidate's campaign rather than the federal tax law that applies to the organization. The organization will be in the best position to ensure compliance with the prohibition on political campaign intervention if it makes its own independent conclusion about its compliance with federal tax law.

Speaking as a Candidate

When a candidate is invited to speak at an organization event as a political candidate, the organization must take steps to ensure that:

- It provides an equal opportunity to political candidates seeking the same office;
- It does not indicate any support for or opposition to the candidate (this should be stated explicitly when the candidate is introduced and in communications concerning the candidate's attendance); and
- No political fundraising occurs.

Equal Opportunity to Participate

In determining whether candidates are given an equal opportunity to participate, an organization should consider the nature of the event to which each candidate is invited, in addition to the manner of presentation. (www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/Org)



Dr. Howard Parker

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President

Jesus declared to His disciples in Matthew 5:14: "You are the light of the world." Jesus also promised His disciples they would receive God's power to accomplish what no other power on earth could do (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8). Through them, God's power would provide light to a world that was bound by the darkness of lesser powers. Through them, God's light would enlighten, equip, and empower them to be witnesses of the Christ, even "to the ends of the earth." The oppressive power of Roman imperialism was no match for the promised power the disciples would receive in order to serve as "the light of the world."

The same is true today. My sisters and brothers in the Lord, YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD! This is the promise of the Christ from the Christ to all who trust and follow Jesus our Lord. No wonder the Apostle Paul could exclaim with confidence: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in

the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20, NIV).

We receive this world-illuminating power from God through an intimate

"To the [General Baptist Family] of God in [North Carolina], to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:2-3, NIV).

companionship and communion with the once crucified, but now risen Christ! With this power:

- we overcome weakness because God's power works through human weakness;
- we are rescued and healed; thus, we become rescuers and healers because God's power rescues and heals those who are handcuffed in the ruins of destructive experiences;
- we become a Christian community which reaches out to the least, the lost, those who are left out, looked over, and let down because God's power strengthens Christian communities.

The work of State Missions involves numerous ministries that endeavor "to convince the unconvinced to be convinced." Two of these ministries are providing opportunities for the General Baptist family to shine our light. Under the leadership and insight of our President Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr. and Executive-Secretary Dr. Haywood T. Gray, the Evangelism Ministry, under the coordination of Chair Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowan, and the Prison Ministry, under the coordination of Chair Reverend Michael R. Smith, Sr., are continuing to empower and equip God's people to glorify God and edify others.

Thank you General Baptists for shining your light and the opportunity to serve God and humanity. We need your gifts. We appreciate your support. We cherish your prayers. Please support the kingdom work of our convention through State Missions with your generous and cheerful gifts of total stewardship (time, talent, treasure, temple, testimony). "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen." (1 Corinthians 16:23-23, NIV).



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

Upper Sampson Home and Foreign Mission Union Churches Join together

Dr. Lorenzo Lynch
2nd Vice President



Dr. Lorenzo Lynch

Sis Carolyn Bronson, President of Ingold First Baptist Church Missionary Circle presented checks totaling \$1,000 to Dr. David E. Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention in Washington, DC, on behalf of Ingold First Baptist Church and other churches of the Upper Sampson Home and Foreign Mission Union.

The money was collected to purchase surgical gloves for Zimbabwean doctors. Sis. Bronson read an article in the Lott Carey Herald about doctors in Zimbabwe who must wash and then re-use their surgical gloves. During her Missionary Circle meeting at Ingold First Baptist Church Sis. Bronson suggested the Circle take on the project of purchasing gloves to send to Zimbabwe. After discussing the idea with Dr. Goatley, he suggested send-

ing money in lieu of sending gloves because of exorbitant shipping costs.

When Sis Bronson attended the Women's Convention in Winston-Salem, she mentioned this project to Sis. Pamela

Baptist Church, Big Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church, First Baptist Church-Clinton, and Lisbon Street Missionary Baptist Church.

Dr. Goatley talked about our African



Sis. Carolyn Bronson presents checks to Dr. Goatley for surgical gloves. Sis. Darlene Bronson looking on.

Spates, President, Upper Sampson Home and Foreign Mission Union, who thought it was a good project in which all churches could participate. Area churches that participated are Chapel Hill Missionary

brothers and sisters who wonder who are those who reach out to help them. In answer to an inquiry about the use of needles, Dr. Goatley stated that "...doctors use the old fashioned pump type and ster-

ilize them for re-use." African medical staffs are in dire need of many things that we take for granted, such as smooth rubber sheets on the bed, disposable needles and gloves, cotton swabs, cafeterias with food, and clinics or doctors close by, to name a few. Dr. Goatley expressed his heartfelt thanks for the contributions made to Zimbabwe through the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention.

Sisters' Carolyn and Darlene Bronson had a very pleasant and enlightening visit at Lott Carey, headquartered in Washington, and DC. Reflections of their conversation with Dr. Goatley mad them realize how truly blessed we, as African-Americans, are. "When you think of the horridness of slavery and how our ancestors came through it...and then us. If you believe the scripture that says, 'Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee...', then you must know that God set us apart for a purpose, and in this we are truly blessed."

Sis. Bronson sincerely thanks the members of Ingold First Baptist Church and other participating churches for your kindness. May God continue to richly bless each of you.

Shaw Divinity School 35th Annual Alexander/Pegues Ministers' Conference

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President

This year's conference will be held during Holy Week, March 17 - 21, 2008.



Rev. Ricky Banks

We anticipate that preachers throughout the state and country will help us to make this conference indeed a Special and Holy Conference to the Lord. Our theme this year is "Therapeutic Preaching: Healing Covered Wounds".

Program participants are as follows:

Rev. Dr. Urias Beverly, Rev. Dr. Lonietta T. Cornwall, Rev. Dr. Marsha Foster-Boyd, Rev. Dr. Alice Graham, Rev. Dr. Arlee Griffin, Rev. Dr. Titus Haynes, Rev. Dr. John Kinney, Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr., Rev. Dr. Darin Moore, Presiding Prelate Bishop, Adam J. Richardson, Jr., Rev. Dr. Carolyn Showell, Rev. Dr. William Turner, Jr., Rev. Dr. Edward Wheeler, Rev. Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes and Rev. Dr. Johnny Youngblood

The registration fee will remain the same as last year.

Early Registration.....\$150.00 until March 8th, 2008
Late / On Site.....\$200.00
Seminary Students.....\$100.00

Alumni Luncheon.....\$ 25.00
Continuing Education (CEU's)... \$ 25.00
On Line Registration:

Go to the Shaw University website.
<http://www.shawuniversity.edu/>
Quick Links: Upcoming Events

Hotel reservations must be made

directly to the hotels. A list of hotels and their numbers may be obtained from the office of Continuing Christian Education.

For additional information contact:
Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Director of Continuing Christian Education or Rev. Lilipiana D. Darensburg, M. Div., Conference Coordinator at the following

address:

Shaw University Divinity School
118 E. South Street
P. O. Box 2090
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602
(919) 546-8575 or (919) 546-8654
Fax 919-546-8571

Monday 3/17/08	Tuesday 3/18/08	Wednesday 3/19/08	Thursday 3/20/08	Friday 3/21/08
Shaw University Divinity School (SUDS) 35th Annual Alexander/Pegues Ministers' Conference Theme: "Therapeutic Preaching: Healing Covered Wounds" 1:00PM-5:30PM Conference Registratin Opens Progressive Energy Building 1:00PM-3:00PM Vendor Set-up 3:00PM-6:00PM Vendors 7:00PM Opening Session Greetings President of Shaw University General Baptist State Conventinn of NC., Inc. President Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of NC Graduate Student Government Association Monday Evening Worship Service Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr.	8:00am - 8:30am Devotional 8:30am -9:45am Music and Healing Dr. Lonietta T. Cornwall 10:00am - 11:30am Morning Worship Rev. Dr. Carolyn Showell 11:30am -12:30pm Distinguished Alumni Service & Preacher Rev. Dr. Arlee Griffin 12:30pm-12:45pm Conference Photograph 12:45pm - 1:15pm Shaw University Divinity School Alumni Roundup & Business Meeting 1:30pm - 3:15pm Luncheon In The Cafeteria 3:30pm - 5:00pm Workshop HEALING THE WOUNDS OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALES AND FEMALES Rev. Dr. Urias Beverly 7:00pm Tuesday Evening Warship Rev. Dr. Gregory Moss, Sr.	8:00am - 8:30am Devotional 8:30am-9:45am Worship and Healing Rev. Dr. Rudolph Tripp 10:00am - 11:30am Morning Worship Rev. Dr. William Turner, Jr. Luncheon Up Close with Rev. Dr. Gardner Taylor 12:00pm -1:30pm 1:30pm-3:15pm Afternoon Worship Hour Rev. Dr. Urias Beverly 3:30pm - 5:00pm Workshop HEALING THE WOUNDS OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALES AND FEMALES Rev. Dr. Marsha Foster-Boyd 7:00pm Wednesday Evening Worship Rev. Dr. Johnny Youngblood	8:00am - 8:30am Devotional 8:30am-9:45am Leadership and Healing Rev. Dr. James T. Roberson, Jr. 10:00am - 11:30am Morning Worship Rev. Dr. Marsha Foster-Boyd Lunch On Your Own 12:00pm - 1:30pm 1:30pm - 3:15pm Afternoon Worship Hour Rev. Dr. Darin Moore 3:30pm - 5:00pm Workshop FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes 7:00pm Thursday Evening Warship Rev. Dr. John Kinney	8:30am -10:30am Prayer Breakfast The Late Dr. James H. Car Panelist Discussion: Facilitated by: Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes Rev. Dr. Titus Haynes Rev. Dr. Urias Beverly Rev. Dr. Alice Graham Ecumenical Holy Communion Service 11:30am -12:30pm Dr. Edward Wheeler

A final farewell to our known fallen clergy Dr. John E. Trotman, Sr.

Dr. Vincent J. Terry
4th Vice- President



Dr. Vincent J. Terry

Public Schools and earned a B.A.

Rev. Dr. John E. Trotman Sr. age 83, son of the late Rev. and Mrs. William H. Trotman, Sr. passed away on Wednesday Jan. 28, 2008 at Albemarle Hospital. Pastor Trotman received his elementary and secondary education in the Elizabeth City

Degree in History and Sociology from Virginia Union University. He received his Bachelor and Master of Divinity Degree from Virginia Union Theological Seminary. The Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree was conferred on him by the Roanoke Theological Seminary in recognition of his dedicated service and leadership. His Pastorates include: St.

Sunrise 1924 - Sunset 2008



Dr. John E. Trotman, Sr.

Stephen Missionary Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, N.C.; First Baptist Church in Lexington, Va.; Calvary Baptist Church in High Point, NC and Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, N.C. After 23 years of dedicated leadership, Pastor Trotman retired from Cornerstone Missionary Baptist and was honored with the distinc-

tion of Pastor Emeritus. Funeral Services will be held on Saturday Feb. 2, 2008 at 1 p.m. in the afternoon at Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church. He leaves to cherish his memories and legacy, two daughters, Tanya T. Allen of Greensboro, N.C. and Yolanda M. Trotman of Huntersville, N.C.; a son, John E. Trotman Jr. of Durham, N.C.; a sister, Mable Smith of Elizabeth City, N.C.; and four grandchildren.

"Well done thou good and faithful servant: thou has been faithful over a few things. I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

"Overcoming Evil With Good"

Rev. Michael R. Smith, Sr., M. Div.

Keep overcoming evil with good!

Chairman Smith Called to Chaplaincy Administrator of Programs in Bureau of Prisons

Reverend Michael R. Smith, Sr., has been called to serve as the Chaplaincy Administrator of Programs in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. His responsibilities will be to provide policy development and implementation of administrative operations for recruiting, hiring, and training of chaplains serving in federal prisons around the country. He has served for the past four years as the Chaplaincy Services Administrator for the BOP Mid-Atlantic Region. Reverend Smith has been involved in prison ministry for the past 28 years, beginning at Raleigh's Central Prison in 1979. He has sought to reach, reconcile, and restore lives impacted by crime and incarceration in prisons around the country. He continues to be a leading resource and authority on prison ministry and educating the local church in responding more effectively to the crime and incarceration crisis. Reverend Smith will now be working out of the Bureau of Prisons Central Office in Washington, D.C. He will continue to provide leadership to the GBSC Anti-Crime and Incarceration Ministry (AIM). Chairman Smith believes we must continue on the offensive in overcoming evil with good by taking the Cross of Christ to the "least of these" in our society because this is the example of Jesus Christ. The time is now for the Church to intensify our efforts to reach out to the largest mission field in our country.

Michael R. Smith

IMPORTANT UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

THE NORTH CAROLINA RE-ENTRY ACTION PROJECT (REAP) COMMUNITY ADVOCACY FOR EX-OFFENDER REENTRY CONFERENCE

Monday - Wed / MARCH 10-12, 2008
The Friday Center, Chapel Hill, NC
Contact - www.ncreap.com / Office - 919 530-7535 / Email - info@ncreap.com

REVOLUTIONARY CHURCH MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Sponsored by BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH - Kelvin Redmond, Pastor
Wed - Friday / APRIL 16-18, 2008
BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH
4501 Spring Forest Rd., Raleigh, NC 27616
Contact - Office 919 872-7712 / 800 308-4935 / www.bodyofchristchurch.org

OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD PREACHING SERIES

Invite Chairman Smith or Vice Chairman Solomon to come to your church or association to share biblical messages regarding the Church's response to crime and incarceration. Also training is available to equip you to serve more effectively.

AIM CONTACT INFORMATION

Chairman Michael R. Smith, Sr. - O - 919 575-3900 x5065 / CP - 919 349-5686
Email - mrsmithgbsc@aol.com & mrsmith@bop.gov
Vice-Chairman Melvin B. Solomon - CP - 910 724-3139 / Church - 252 492-3834
Email - smb04@doc.state.nc.us

Central Children's Home

Dr. George Cook, Jr. President, Executive Board Central Children's Home



Dr. George Cook, Jr.

Greetings to the General Baptist State Convention family.

The Central Children Home North Carolina is one of the objectives of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Inc.

These children are our children and they need our support for dental care, medical care, school supplies, professional counseling and many other needs. We need every church in this state to help us to remain solid.

We have seventeen children now, trying to get thirty one. We have four very

nice cabins, two for women and two for men, and we need around the clock supervision for the home.

The children attend Granville County School.

We need Mr. Alston to stay on board until the new director is in place to handle the day to day operation of the home. He has agreed to do this and we are working hard as a board and committee to do the right thing.

A special thanks to Dr. Haywood Gray, Dr. Priscilla Brodie and to all the Baptist family. Now is the hour we need you the most. As you bless these children God will bless you.



Rev. Norman Davis

Central Children's Home of North Carolina, Inc.

"Pioneer Child Care Institution"

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. George Cook, Jr. (Pastor of Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church of Charlotte) serving in the capacity of the President of the Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following:

The retirement of our current Executive Director is extended until further notice. A diligent search for a successor is in progress. The entire Board of Directors is fully committed to a new direction. We realize new approaches are essential in addressing the challenges confronting children and their families in today's society. In this regard, an independent consultant has been retained to determine the effectiveness of our current program services. Likewise, the consultant will recommend the innovative strategies to address new service demands of those needing our help. To provide adequate resources, the Board of Directors is dedicated to improving fund raising efforts to include developing land assets to establish an endowment to support future operations.

Furthermore, we respectfully request that you continue your support of the Central Children's Home as we diligently search for an Executive Director to carry on our tradition of great work.

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

2008 Calendar

MARCH
23 Easter

APRIL
Prayer Month for Foreign Mission
5 State Wide Leaders' Workshop - St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte

MAY
3 Ministers' Wives and Widows Weekend Retreat
24 United Southern Assembly, 9:30 am

JUNE
7 Young Adult Retreat
9-13 Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
15-19 First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
21 United Easter Assembly, 9:30 am
22-27 Second Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
28 Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et. al.)
29 Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY
27-31 Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem

AUGUST
Prayer month for The Family
11-15 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention

SEPTEMBER
8-12 National Baptist Convention
27 Family Missions Conference

OCTOBER
Prayer month for Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School
10 Shaw University Founder's Day convocation
11 WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER
1 Youth Evangelism Conference
3 World Day of Prayer (BWA Woman's Dept)
11 WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters
27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER
25 Christmas Day



Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC Executive
Secretary-Treasurer



Bronnie Daniels

Last month we shared about love because that month usually sets forth special love celebration. However, we continue to emphasize love this month and during the course of the year. One of our study books is *Trusted Steward*. Certainly our stewardship is affected always by love. Because God loved, loves, He gave and gives. Therefore, if the love of God and the Spirit of Christ fills and controls our hearts/lives, then as trusted stewards we must love (obey) God and love (care for) our neighbor. Let us consider scriptures I Chronicles 29:10-14, Job 38-39, Matthews 25:14-29, I Corinthians 4:7, II Corinthians 9:6-12 and Colossians 1:17. We are called to be trusted stewards of all God has given us and assigned to our hands. May we submit to this trust and be effective stewards and Mission stewards in regard to the Cause and Mission of Christ as the Woman's Convention.

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee. Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in cease-less praise, Let them flow in cease-less praise.

Take my voice, and let me sing, Always, only, for my King. Take my lips, and let them be Filled with messages from Thee, Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my will, and make it Thine; It shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is Thine own; It shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store. Take my-self, and I will be Ever, only, all for T-hee, Ever, only, all for Thee. Amen.

—Frances Ridley Havergal

Reminders

1. State-Wide Leaders' Workshop, April 5, 2008. Pre-Registration will be \$10.00; On-site, \$11.00. Pre-Registration deadline is March 14, 2008. Please contact us if you do not receive information. The State-Wide Leaders' Workshop will be held at St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte, April 5, 2008. The session should begin at 9:00 A.M.; however on-site registration should begin at

"Godly Love and Stewardship"

8:00 A.M.

Please bring food (non-perishable) items for the North Carolina Food Bank North Carolina Young Adult Department. Please be sure that expiration dates have not expired.

2. Budget for 2007-2008 is \$803,325.00 which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Please be reminded that of the funds you send for objectives

ately at (919) 833-4823. Please give us the name of contact person, mailing addresses and telephone number, and the name and location of church. Missionary Unions, Auxiliaries and District Conferences will receive quotas this year also. Please give as you are led and enabled by the Holy Spirit!

4. Self Denial Envelopes. Please write to the Woman's Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602 in order to receive these, or fax your request to 919-833-7599.



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION AUXILIARY TO GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

FIRST QUARTER.....SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER
SECOND QUARTER..... DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY
THIRD QUARTER.....MARCH, APRIL, MAY
FOURTH QUARTER.....JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

2/3 should be sent for State Missions. State Missions funds provide all funds for the cost of all ministries and operations for home missions done with and for you in the conventional state-wide ministry.

3. Quotas 2007-2008 have been sent out to church missionary circle presidents or a contact person. If your church has not received a suggested quota, please write the Woman's Convention at P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Or contact the Convention Office immedi-

Ministers Wives/Widows' Retreat is scheduled for May 3rd, 2008. All Ministers' Wives/Widows are invited.

6. The date for the Leadership Training Conference will be June 2nd - 6th, 2008 instead of June 9th - 13th, 2008. The dates for the Youth Bible Camp are June 8th - 13th, June 15th - 20th, June 22nd - 27th, 2008 instead of June 15th - 19th, June 22nd - 27th, June 29th - July 1, 2008. As originally given in the Missionary Helper.

ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!

The WBH&FMC United Southern Assembly
(All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts V & VI)

"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand." II Corinthians 1:24

Introductory Statement: For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state. Thus under the leadership of President Daniels, the Woman's Convention seeks to implement this initiative.

Purpose(s): To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings across the state (one setting per quarter)

To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through/with the Woman's Convention

Attendees: All above named persons in Districts V & VI

Date: May 24, 2008

Time: 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Place: First Baptist Church, Kenansville

District Chairpersons:

District	Group	Chairperson
5	1	Mrs. Mattie Garmon
5	2	Mrs. C. Trumilla McDowell
6	1	Ms. Joyce A. Hardison
6	2	Mrs. Arvella Marlowe

Youth Ministry: Ways to Boast Youth Congregation

Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor

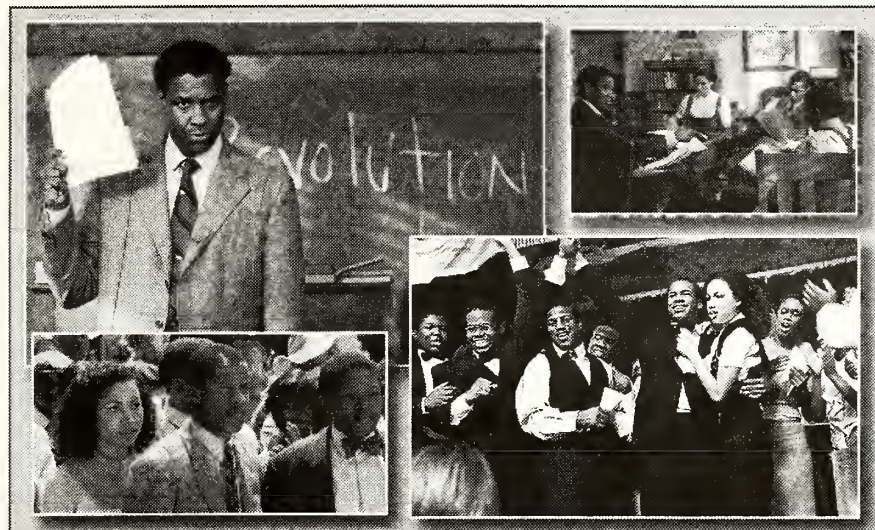


Portia H. Brandon "The Great Debaters," opened Dec. 25, 2007 in U.S. theaters, is a fictionalized account of the remarkably successful 1935 debate team at Wiley College, a small United Methodist-related, historically black school in Marshall, Texas. The film is nominated for a Golden Globe Award for best motion picture drama. The story focuses on four young debaters and their mentor, Melvin Tolson, who taught at Wiley and coached the champion debate team. Washington directed the film and also stars as Tolson, a poet and author.

As the film progresses, the interpersonal issues with team members, faculty, parents and the world at large help to mold these young people. They learn to bring not just their research to the

debates, but their passion as well. These lessons paid off well for them in later life. Alumni of the debate team went on

(along with Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins and Whitney Young.)
Ways to Boast Youth Congregation



to successful careers in various fields. James Farmer, Jr., became one of the founders of the Congress of Racial Equality and is considered among the "Big Four" of the civil rights movement

The Great Debaters reminds us that the values of debate are the values of the academy itself. To be true to our core values, we need to promote the activities that create better Christians and better students. Debate does this. An America where academic debate becomes a prominent fixture on every campus would be a better America. Every church, college and university has many James Farmers strolling the hallways; but we must lay the foundation for

achievement. There will be no better opportunity to bring this to fruition than the one that now lies before us. The time for debate is now.

There are many reasons to get involved with an active debate ministry:

1. Learn to think on your feet! Debate encourages you to be able to think quickly about interesting issues. Not only will you learn the pro's and con's about important issues - you'll learn how to present your arguments in a persuasive manner that will help you win rounds today and arguments throughout the rest of your life.
2. Get over your fear of speaking in public.
3. It requires no multimillion dollar complexes, playing fields, stadiums or expensive equipment. All that is necessary are classrooms, coaches, office supplies and support from parents, and church member. Debate is an inexpensive, educational and effective way to both promote schools and enhance the quality of the academic experience.
4. It looks GREAT on your college transcript! Many colleges and universities actively look for great debaters in the way that they look for great football or basketball players. Why? Because they know that debaters have the skills that are required for success in college. ■

2007 Trent River Oakley Grove Moderator's Banquet Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div. - Banquet Speaker



L-R-Rev. C. B. Chadwick, Moderator W. K. Raynor, Mrs. Portia Brandon, Rev. A. M. Kelly, and Rev. F. Manley

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

HOW TO REACH US

PRESIDENT
DR. GREGORY K. MOSS, SR.
(704) 334-5309
GMOSS1@BELLSOUTH.NET

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE
DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
(252) 355-2966
shmbaptist@earthlink.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
DR. NILOUS AVERY, II
(704) 637-0954
AveryRevKin@aol.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
(704) 598-2219
Idlynch@ebccharlotte.org

3RD VICE PRESIDENT
DR. RICKY BANKS
(252) 335-5035
pastorrickybanks@yahoo.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT
DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
(919) 807-1194
mountpeachbc@aol.com

Executive Secretary-Treasurer
DR. HAYWOOD T. GRAY
(919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR/MANAGING EDITOR
MRS. PORTIA H. BRANDON, M. DIV.
(919) 821-7466 portiaabrandon@hotmail.com

WBH & FMC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER
Dr. PRISCILLA BRODIE
pbrodie@wbhfmc.org

WBH & FMC, PRESIDENT
MRS. BRONNIE HARRIS DANIELS,
PRESIDENT (336) 767-6156

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, PRESIDENT
MISS LULA GAINNEY
(910) 728-0021
lulagainey@ccs.k12.nc.us

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT
MR. THEODORE DAVID
(919) 508-5468
Theodore.david@pgnmail.com

USHER'S CONVENTION, PRESIDENT
MRS. HELEN THOMPSON
(910) 488-5322

Congress Officers (2006-2010)

Lula Gainey, President
 Frank Byrd, 1st VP
 M. L. Kaufman, 2nd VP
 Betty Adams, 3rd VP
 Roosevelt Baxter, 4th VP
 Janifer Campbell, Dean
 Jamale Johnson, Asst. Dean
 Alberta Moore, Secretary
 Antiono Scott, Asst. Secretary
 C. Trumillia McDowell,
 Oratorical Director
 Debbie Moore,
 Asst. Oratorical Director
 David Eggeston, Musician



2008 Oratorical Contest • June 23-25, 2008

TOPICS • TOPICS • TOPICS

Senior Division
 (rising high school seniors
 as of July 1, 2008)

- Being Trustworthy Is Important To Succeeding in Life
- Standing for Jesus when it is not popular
- Extreme makeover
- You cannot fake your faithfulness
- Let the Lord build your house
- Jesus is for Losers
- Equipped!
- Alcohol and Christian teens don't mix
- Why I am loyal to God

Junior Division
 (9th, 10th, 11th grade as of July 2008)

- Sometimes feel like life is not fair, but I continue to be fair to others
- What does being a Christian mean to me
- Tell me who I am
- Just keep walking
- Building on a good foundation
- Signed, sealed and delivered!
- How to persuade and influence peers
- What is wrong with teenage smoking
- What Christianity means to me
- IF not me, "Who"?

Preparatory Division
 (6th, 7th, 8th grade as of
 July 1, 2008)

- Being treated unfair makes me feel bad
- Get Real
- Peer Pressure should not affect my actions
- Being honest takes courage
- My friend Jesus
- Jesus is...
- Do you hear what I hear?
- Where would you be without God?
- Heaven or Hell
- A faithful friend



Ms. Lula
Gainey

All contestants must be a member in good standing in the local church as well as the Association. This means also that the local church must meet or have met the Congress quota of \$400, and the Association must meet or have met the Congress quota of \$400.00 for the current year!

James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Rules and Procedures • www.BaptistlifeNC.org

Evangelism - Be An Example

J.E. Watkins

INTRODUCTION: 1 Tim. 4:12

1. Someone is watching you.
2. Ancient orators taught that, to be heard, the speaker had to apply PATHOS, LOGOS and ETHOS. People watch to see if what you do matches with what you say.
3. Timothy was being watched. So Paul could teach others how to live through Timothy.

Officers and Members

(Officers (2006-2010))
 Dr. Robert McGowens,
 Chairperson
 Rev. James Smith,
 Vice Chairperson
 Rev. Monica Redmond, Secretary
 Rev. Anthonette Wright,
 Asst. Secretary
 Rev. Otis G. Byrd
 Rev. Billy Houze
 Rev. William Clayton
 Rev. Brenda Caldwell
 Rev. Grainger Davis
 Rev. Osco E. Gardin
 Dr. A.T. Griffey
 Dr. Benjamin Hinton
 Rev. Chester Hopkins
 Rev. LaMont Johnson
 Rev. Darryl Napper
 Minister Alexander Shuford
 Minister Jamaine Smith

4. He instructs, commands: Be an example....

DISCUSSION: Be an example...

I. IN WHAT YOU SAY. "IN WORD"

1. The standard is truth, John 17:17.
 - 1) As the oracles of God, 1 Pet. 4:11.
 - 2) Agreeing with Scripture, the Word, 2 Tim. 3:16-4:2.
 - 3) Speaking by the authority of Jesus, Col. 3:17.
 - 4) Speaking truth, Eph. 4:15.
2. The standard is love.
 - 1) Truth in LOVE, Eph. 4:15.
 - 2) With GRACE, Col. 4:6.
3. The standard is purity.
 - 1) Not corrupt but edifying, Eph. 4:29. (Dobie)
 - 2) Idle words don't meet the standard, Matt. 12:36.



II. IN HOW YOU LIVE. "IN CONVERSATION" (ACTS 1:1)

1. Paul describes what he means by "in-conversation."
 - 1) How you love, "In Charity."
 - a. Lay down your life, 1 John 3:16-18.
 - b. See need...give.
 - c. 1 Cor. 13.
 - d. No longer a thief but a giver. Work to give. Eph. 4:28
 - 2) In Your Attitude (Zeal). "In Spirit."

a. Consider the example of Stephen, Acts 6:9-10.

b. The Christians who were scattered, Acts 8:4.

c. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, Dan. 3:16-18.

d. The kind of attitude it takes to preach in season and out of season.

3) In Your Faith. "In Faith."

a. Like Abraham, Rom. 4:19-21.

b. Like Paul, 2 Tim. 4:6-8.

c. Paul describes the example as "steadfast, unmovable, abounding in the work," (1 Cor. 15:51-58)

4) In Your Purity. "In Purity."

a. Part of "pure religion." (James 1:27)

b. We become pure by leaving behind the sins of the flesh and by the blood of Jesus, 1 Cor. 6:9-11

CONCLUSION:

1. We are to be examples. Timothy was commanded to be an example but that implies that others were to follow his example, and become examples.
2. If someone were to follow your lead, where would they end? Heaven and blessing? Or Hell and misery?
3. If you are not the example you ought to be today....

GBSC NC Laymen's League

Officers (2006-2010)

Theodore David, President
 (919) 508-5468

Richmond Turner,
 1st Vice President

2nd Vice President
 Gregory Gabriel

3rd Vice President
 James Jeter

4th Vice President
 William Pointer

Publicity Chair - Dallas Foster

Ushers' Convention

Officers (2006-2010)

Helen M. Thompson, President

Charles W. Dunn,
 1st Vice President

2nd Vice President
 Archie T. Lofton, Jr.

3rd Vice President
 Norman H. Dorsey, Sr.

4th Vice President
 Valerie Singleton

Mary Belle, Recording Secretary

Viola N. Thorton,
 Assist Recording Secretary

Martin Clowney, Dean

Charlie Rhodes, Assistant Dean

Youth Supervisors: Felton Davis
 Charlie Rhodes

State Coordinator
 Nancy High

Preaching As Entertainment

Rev. Joe Jackson,
President Minister's Council Auxiliary

I wish to continue the conversation regarding current trends in preaching having a strong entertainment element. Marva J. Dawn in her book, *Reaching Out without Dumbing Down: A Theology of Worship for This Urgent Time*, discusses the role of television commercial influencing worship methods that usurps the place of God.

She argues that in traditional advertisement the prime focus was always about the facts concerning the product, and consumers made decisions solely on the quality of the product being sold. Over the last several decades there has been a shift in methods in the advertisement community. The merit of the product is not the selling point, but rather esthetically-pleasing images and language that have little or no connection to the product context or content. Images of movie stars, famous athletes and running brooks are associated with but tell nothing about the value and

credibility of the product. It is no longer "product-research" but "market research" intended to determine what makes the consumers feel valuable as opposed to focusing on the value of the product. The television commercial uses methods of "pseudo-therapy" and "psycho-dramas." Again, the goal is to get the consumers to feel good about themselves in ways unrelated to the value of the product.

The preacher must realize the influence that the television commercial has on homiletics, and the danger of reducing preaching to an act aimed to make the pew feel good. Preaching is never an exercise in which the outcome is determined by the fancy of the pew more than the quality of the product proclaimed-- message of Christ. The sermon's primary focus is not about the character of the pew but the character of the product—the Word. The subject of preaching is always Jesus Christ, and not the preacher or the pew. Any and every decision tilting people toward Christ must not be related to the one who proclaims but the proclaimed. It is not the personality of the preacher but the sermon that has a theological function and embodies the power of proclamation. ■

MA in teaching - 1 year program

The program is only for a year and you get a Masters plus your teaching certification. The deadline is March 3, 2008.

Are you ready to influence the lives of hundreds of young people? Are you ready to make a difference in your community?

Are you "Ready to Teach"?

Howard University has just been awarded a multi-million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Education to recruit, train and certify people that are interested in becoming teachers. We are looking for candidates who would like to teach English, Mathematics, Reading, Science or Special Education in Chicago (IL); Clayton County (GA); Houston (TX); Prince George's County (MD); or Washington (DC). The best part -no experience or background in education is required!

The Ready to Teach program is ACTIVELY recruiting candidates for the 2008-2009 Cohort. Through this program you can earn a Master's of Arts in teaching Degree and get your teaching certification in one short year!

The Ready to Teach program even provides scholarships and financial assistance to its candidates. The program is geared towards African-American males, but everyone is encouraged to apply. Hurry, the application deadline is March 3, 2008!!!

For admissions requirements and more information please visit the website at www.readytoteach.org or feel free to contact me Trenile Tillman at tillman@howard.edu.

Please forward this information to your friends, family, colleagues, children, etc.

Trenile Tillman
Program Assistant
Howard University
School of Education
Ready to Teach Program
202-806-6500 (phone)
202-518-1166 (fax)



Dr. Al Fullwood

Revolutionary Church

CONFERENCE

2008

April 16-18

For pastors and church leaders there is a privilege, yet a burden in serving others in the Kingdom of God. As a pastor I understand the challenges that you are faced with on a daily basis. You often serve without reward and often with limited resources, which can bring about disappointment and frustration. At the same time we all want growing, thriving churches giving our people the very best in equipping them to serve their communities. You need the Revolutionary Church Conference!

We will concentrate on at least seven areas that will address many specific concerns for the church today, yet in the African American context: Church Growth/Health, Christian Education/Discipleship, Expository Preaching/Teaching, Outreach/World Missions, Children's/Youth Ministry, and Worship Ministry. The title of this conference says it all. If you really want a "Revolution" in your personal life and ministry, The Revolutionary Church Conference is the place to be!

-Pastor Kelvin Redmond

SPEAKERS

Dr. Robert Smith

Dr. Joel Cliff Gregory

Dr. Maurice Watson

Dr. Charles Arr

Dr. Allen R. McFarland

4501 Spring Forest Road | Raleigh, North Carolina 27616 | www.bodyofchristchurch.org/revolutionary

@ a Glance

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16
4:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. : Registration
7:00 p.m. : Worship Service

THURSDAY, APRIL 17
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m. : Registration
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. : Workshops I
10:30 a.m. : Plenary Session I
12:00 p.m. : Men's Luncheon
12:00 p.m. : Women's Luncheon
2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. : Workshops II
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 : Workshops III
7:00 p.m. : Evening Worship Service

FRIDAY, APRIL 18
8:00 a.m. : Early Morning Prayer and Praise
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. : Workshops IV
9:00 a.m. : Women's Breakfast
10:30 a.m. : Plenary Session II
12:00 p.m. : Lunch – On your own
2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. : Workshops V
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. : Workshops VI
7:00 p.m. : Closing Service
9:30 p.m. – until : Late Night Celebration

REGISTRATION

Earlybird Registration Deadline: March 24, 2008
Pre-Registration Deadline: April 7, 2008
B4 March 24th / ONLY \$69.00
After March 24th /\$89.00

revolutionary@bodyofchristchurch.org
Phone: 919.872.7712
Fax: 919.872.7661

ARE YOU READY FOR A "REVOLUTION"?



Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
 Martin Luther King, Jr.
 Memorial Address
 Friday, January 11, 2008

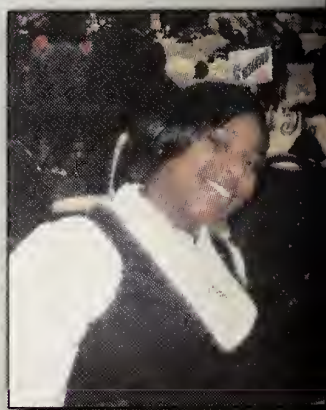
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Address



The Honorable
 North Carolina Governor



Family of Cedric
 Past President, GBSC



Family of Elizabeth W.
 Past President, GBSC

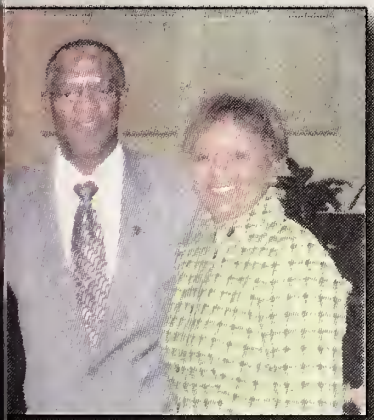


Reverend Terry L. Henry
WBH & FMC Sermon
Saturday, January 12, 2008

er King, Jr. al Awards



Alma S. Adams
e of Representatives



nes (Posthumously)
ess of Christian Education



s Young (Posthumously)
ess of Christian Education





Baptist Informer

RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM



Date: _____

I am enclosing: Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check) Number of Years: (check one)

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Subscription | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Year | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Years | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change (include old address label) | | |

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention
 603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
 (919) 821-7466 • www.gbsc.org

Signature _____



Stewardship Report to the Office of the Executive Secretary - Treasurer of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated.
 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh NC 27601
 (919) 821-7466 • www.baptistlife.org

(This form can be used with your contribution to allocate funds) Date: _____

I am enclosing: Cash / Check (include check #: _____) Amount: \$ _____

From _____ (Church / Individual / Organization)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Pastor's Name _____ (if vacant, indicate date vacancy occurred)

Our Church is a Member of the _____ Association

This contribution was sent by _____

Include an address where contribution receipts can be mailed (if different from above):

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Attention _____

I would like my contribution distributed as follows: Please make checks payable to: GBSC

1. State Missions	1. \$
2. Shaw University	2. \$
3. Shaw Divinity School	3. \$
4. Central Children's Home at Oxford, North Carolina	4. \$
5. Building Fund	5. \$
6. Foreign Missions (Lott Carey)	6. \$
7. Unified Program	7. \$
8. State Congress of Christian Education (Sunday School and B.T.U.)	8. \$
9. State Usher's	9. \$
10. State Laymen's League	10. \$
11. Baptist Informer (Ad / Subscription)	11. \$
12. J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly	12. \$
13. General Baptist Student Fellowship Retreat (BSU)	13. \$
14. Minister's Council	14. \$
15. Other (please indicate): _____	15. \$
16. Other (please indicate): _____	16. \$
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$

Signature _____

Deacon George Harris, Jr.
President of the Franklin County Sunday School & BTU Convention, Inc.

A Man of Faith With A Vision

Rev. Dwight Gill was elected President of the B.T.U. Convention in 1988. At that time, the merger was put in



place and the name was Franklin County Sunday School and B.T.U. Convention.

Rev. Ronald Wheless served as President of the Convention for one year. He was elected President in 1989.

Dea. Chester Pace of Phelps Baptist Church was voted in as President of the Franklin County Sunday School and B.T.U. Convention in 1990. Dea. Pace served for four years as President.



Dea. Pace recommended that the musician's name be put on the front of the programs. He also recommended the first Bible Class teacher of the church that host the Convention would teach the Sunday School lesson for the Convention.

Bro. George Harris, Jr., was voted in as President of the Convention on

October 30, 1994. Bro George Harris, Jr. began his leadership on April 29, 1995 at Manassah Baptist Church where Rev. Samuel Tunstall is pastor.

Recommendations from Bro. Harris:

- That the Convention needs to purchase some land and build a building on it so that the Franklin County Sunday School and B.T.U. will have a home and a place to keep their records. He stated that he had a vision and a plan and he would present it at our next session. It was motion and second to receive and adopt the report from President Harris.

During the October 28 - 29, 1995 session, Pres. Harris presented his pledge system as the way to raise funds to finance the Convention Site. Each person was asked to pledge \$500.00 each with the pastor leading in the donation. It was motion and second that we accept the pledge plan. The motion was carried.

On June 30, 1996, Pres. Harris gave directions to Convention site. The land 4.66 acres was donated by D & C Recreation. President Calvin Jones presented the deed to the Franklin County Sunday School and B.T.U. Convention. A fence was put up and flowers were set out on the lot in 1996.

In Youth Day, a county-wide picnic for all church youths in Franklin County met at the Convention site on the first Sunday in August. Sis. Anna Manning taught the children for two years under the shade tree. The picnic is held annually. Another annual event, started in 1996 which, was the Convention Banquet.

On September 28, 1996 the deed was recorded and dedication plans were to be announced later. September 1998 on the third Saturday, Rev. Barham, Pastor of Jordan Chapel dedicated the land. Pres. Harris stated that the land was being cleared by volunteers and poles were purchased for the fence. The Franklin County Sunday School and B.T.U. Convention was Incorporated, purchased a post office box and letterhead plus business cards and each person on the Executive Board name and phone number.

On May 28, 1998, the President brought a proposal to build a shelter and the Convention agreed to build a shelter on the site that would seat 2,500 to 3,000 people. A well was dug with donations given in the amount of one hundred dollars and more per person. The well was dedicated by Rev. Thomas Richardson, Pastor of Shady Grove.

November 28 - 29, 1998, Pres. Harris presented a proposal to build a 44 feet by 120 feet building. It was motion and second and carried to accept the first building plan of the Convention. President Harris proposed a fund raising and he ask the churches to take a special offering to aid in the building of the Convention along with \$500.00 pledges.

August 28, 1999 the Convention had the land dedication service and the ground breaking for the building.

In the year of 2000, Pres. Harris brought to the Convention a request to close the picnic shelter. A motion was made and was second that we go forth to close in the picnic shelter because we needed bathrooms, a place to store records and a place to have meetings. The first part of this year, it was completed with a ramp and we also have a room to fix food and serve, plus we are still doing some minor touch ups. We also have put up flagpoles, flags, baseball goals, volley ball nets, horseshoes and etc.

We all say, to God be the glory for what he has allowed us to do.

Some committed members who have helped to lay foundation stones that allowed the Franklin County Sunday School and B.T.U. Convention to grow are: Dr. E. L. Brodie, Rev. H. B. Floyd, Rev. J. H. Cook, Bro. Johnny Strickland, Bro. Walter Edgerton, Bro. Halvester Leonard, Sis. Flora Thomas, Bro. H. A. Clemons. Sis. Ellen S. Alston, Sis. Rosa Sutherland, Sis. Clard Wiler, Sis. Katie Keith, Sis. Lucy Dunston, Sis. Sarah J. Davis, Sis. Fannie Conyers (served as Secretary for 32 years), Sis. Lela Bell Floyd, Rev. F. B. Holt, Bro. G. T. Alston, Bro. Arteria Wheless, Sis. Mary L. Williams (served as an Officer for past seven Presidents), Sis. Florine Green Edgerton, Sis. Sadie Smitt, Sis. Arlinda Batchelor (served as Secretary for past six presidents), Sis. Mary Long, Bro. Norris Brodie, Sis. Ida Pace, Sis. Mae Rena Davis, Sis. Louise Perry Johnson, Bro. James Rogers, Bro. Booker T. Driver, Sr., Sis. Mary Brodie, Sis. Sallie Driver, Sis. Susie Conyers, Sis. Lillie Burt Brown, Sis. Louise P. Johnson, Sis. Augusta Strickland, Rev. Thomas Richardson, Bro. Joseph Strickland, Bro. Arthur Williams, Bro. George Harris, Jr., and Sis. Ellender LeMay.



OFFICERS WHO HAVE SERVED THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND B.T.U. CONVENTION ARE:

PRESIDENTS

- Rev. L. A. Brooks
- Bro. J. H. Cannady
- Rev. T. M. Alston
- Bro. Louis McKnight
- Rev. M. E. Neil
- Bro. Arthur Williams
- Bro. Joseph Strickland
- Bro. Charles C. Alston
- Rev. Spencer Massenburg
- Rev. Thomas Richardson
- Rev. Ronald Wheless
- Rev. Dwight Gill
- Bro. Chester Pace
- Bro. George Harris, Jr.

VICE PRESIDENTS

- Bro. H. A. Clemons
- Bro. Melville Person
- Bro. Thomas O. Perry
- Bro. Tommy Perry
- Bro. David Long
- Bro. James Keith
- Bro. Elton Spivey
- Bro. Sylvester Harris
- Bro. Calvin Jones

Working for Healthy Communities

Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Walker
GBSC Health Coordinator



Thomas L.
Walker

What is the role of public health in addressing underlying causes of health disparities? Well, we need to raise questions. In particular, we need to ask why we see race-associated differences in health outcomes. Why do we see these disparities, instead of just documenting them? We need to collect data. We need to be able to talk about it.

We need to address root causes, not just by ourselves as leaders in the faith community, but as public health professionals, as health educators, but in collaboration with other people; I think that we can launch a national campaign against health disparities. And I think that we need to do that if we are about eliminating health disparities.

The National Institute of Health Defines Disparities as "The difference in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of disease and other adverse health conditions that exists among specific population groups in the United States.

The North Carolina Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (OMHHD), in partnership with EBC-ATOM, Inc. has accepted the challenge in fighting health disparities, and identifying barriers that will access quality issues that contribute to Health Disparities among minorities. Barbara Pullen-Smith, the Deputy Director of OMHHD and her office is playing a major role along with partnering with EBC-ATOM in helping eliminate health disparities in African Americans.

The Office of

Minority Health and Health Disparities is dedicated in finding ways to eliminate Health Disparities throughout the state of North Carolina. I, Dr. Thomas L. Walker serve as the Health Coordinator for



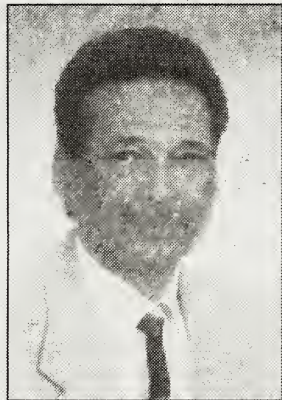
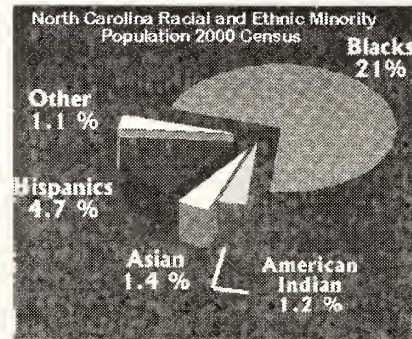
EBC-ATOM, Inc a 501 © 3 Non-Profit organization based under the umbrella of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church located at 652 Raleigh Road, Rocky Mount, NC; and have since been appointed by Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.—

President of the General Baptist State Convention, to be the GBSC Health Coordinator.

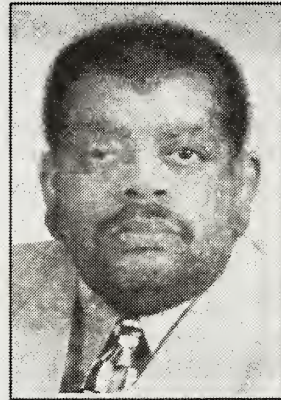
The desired result/outcome will be to have some active health ministry established in their churches and will do ongoing continual health programs to eliminate health disparities. Involve your congregation in health and wellness; designate a person to establish Health Ministries in every GBSC church and to strengthen the ones that already have established a health ministry. Our desired goal is to have churches deal with the total health and wellness by designat-

ing a "Healthy Sunday" giving out water, offering health screenings by giving diabetes and blood pressure checks and offering fitness programs just to name a few.

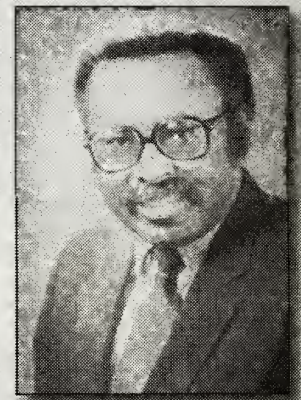
House Bill 1473 provides in part, \$5000,000 in non-recurring funds appropriated to the Department Of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for the Health Disparities Initiative in the 2007-2008 fiscal years as grant-in-aid to honor the memory of the pictured recently deceased members of the NC General Assembly. ■



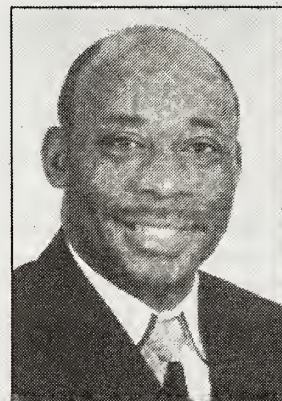
Rep. Howard Hunter Jr.
Democrat, Hertford County
Fifth Representative District: Bertie, Herford and Northampton counties



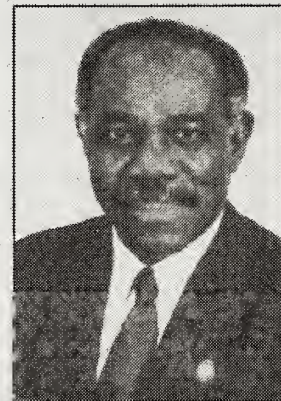
Rep. John Hall
Democrat, Halifax County Seventh Representative District: Portions of Halifax and Nash counties



Rep. William Martin
Democrat, District #31
Guilford County



Sen. Robert Holloman
Democrat, Hertford County
Fourth Senatorial District: Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Northampton, Warren and portions of Vance counties



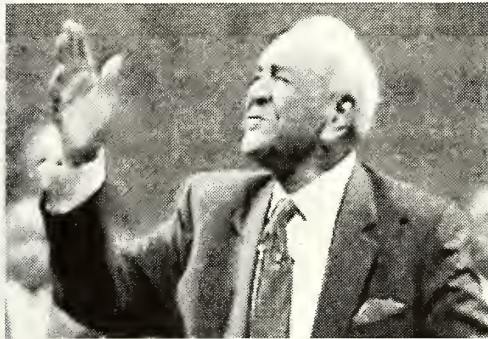
Rep. Bernard Allen
Democrat, Wake County
Thirty-Third Representative District: Portions of Wake County



Sen. Jean Lucas
Senate Majority Whip
Democrat, Durham County
Twentieth Senatorial District: Portions of Durham County

Judgement and Mercy at Palm Sunday

*Judgment and Mercy at Palm Sunday
[The date of this sermon is unknown but
thought to be before 1981]*



Dr. Gardner C. Taylor

And when he was com near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! But now they are hid from thine eyes.

(Luke 19:41-42)

And so, judgment and mercy at Palm Sunday! That is the meaning of the strange pagentry of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem on the humblest of animals and midst the roaring hosannas of a great mass of people, waving their palm branches. All who look upon the coming of the Lord Jesus to Jerusalem and who hear the multitude want to rejoice. We want to enter into the spirit of gaiety and celebration, taking our own palm branches and lifting our voices to join in the thunder of the multitude, crying, "Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord" (Luke 19:38).

Only there is a shadow over it all. We know now that not a week would pass before these happy cries would turn to frenzied screams for the death and end of the strange, quiet man who moves in the midst of this tumult and excitement. The sun shines brightly on Palm Sunday, but grim things are in the offing. So quickly the awful fury of all hell will be loosed in the midday midnight of Calvary's hill, engulfing all, Jew and Gentile alike, Caiaphas and Pilate, in the horror of the death of the Son of God. With what a shudder would these happy shouts end, making many to understand the lament of some simple people whose words haunt the world. "Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble." Yes, in the midst of the merriment and the note of deliverance drawn nigh, a solemnity and a sadness hang over Palm Sunday, determining that the mood of the church on this day of happy shouts is somber, grave, measured.

In this, Palm Sunday is much like life. There is a brightness, a sparkle in our day, and thank God for it. We are often merry. There are days almost

cloudless when our families are all about us and our strength and health within us and the road rises to meet us and the morning wind blows gently in our faces. Thoughtless must be the person who does not sense in all of this, oh, not morbidly, that there are shadows over life too. There are hard duties, sometimes harsh ones, which must be met, burdensome responsibilities which must be shouldered, and parts of the journey which are uphill and taxing. Yes, and in this life there are sorrow and sin and sickness with all the dividends of misery which they bring. Over our dearest and tenderest loves there hovers another shadow, far off, we hope, but certain. It is the awareness that no matter how close we are to those whom God has given us to love, we must part. The mood of Palm Sunday, then, with merriment and sadness mixed is an authentic sample of our lives with their lights and shadows.

At the center of this odd procession which we call the triumphal entry is the figure of Jesus, facing the city of David, Jerusalem. Adoring and pious Christian are has painted him as gentle, tame, inoffensive—Jesus, meek and mild. The Palm Sunday procession where judgment and mercy meet hardly show such a bland, passive soul. The figure at the center of Palm Sunday has a splendid dignity, a royal purposefulness, a grand determination, and almost austere majesty, as he faces the city of Jerusalem. He considers this Palm Sunday entry to be one last offering of himself, on final chance, too, for his people to embrace his way before a terrible and awesome visitation of death and destruction would come upon the city. The awful option of life or death hangs over this day.

Jesus has the courage to face the city, Jerusalem, your city, may city, and every city. He does not ruh from, he moves toward human attempts to fashion some kind of community. He knew that there are hazards, fierce ones, where men and women of good intentions and evil intentions come together, but such are the terms of community. Jesus faced people in community. He did not flee from that enterprise.

A person is no friend, no follower of Jesus Christ who looks with contempt and disdain upon our old, faltering, admittedly imperfect, attempts to establish community, to build a livable society.

There are those who seek their security and salvation in separating themselves from the pain and stress of men and women together in a community. Well, of course people disappoint us and disgust us. Well, we disappoint and disgust them too. Still, does it not seem that Jesus, facing the city, on Palm Sunday, not fleeing

it, is saying that our peace in the earth will never be found in denying our common humanity? In that way lies an endless hell and destruction, as so much of our history tells us, and in blood, over and over again. Something else is needed, at whatever price, at whatever peril, at whatever pain. Edwin Markham speaks of it when he describes one who Drew a circle that shut me out— Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But Love and I had the wit to win: We drew a circle that took him in.

Our hope is in community. It is truer now than ever that "we must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately"—and on gallows of what varied and indescribable agony. Jesus faced the city, offering it light and life, offering it himself.

It was with no sickly sentimentalism, no pious pap, no pale politeness that Jesus faced the old, grand capital of religion—Jerusalem. Coming upon the ancient city, our Lord spoke words of judgment, of God's overseeing inspection and superintending examination. "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace!" Did he behold more than the ugly, massive power of Rome, perhaps evil incarnate in its refined cruelty and never-to-be-satisfied lust for conquest? Did the piercing insight of Jesus see also a community in which angry divisions, brother against brother, sister against sister, would be more destructive than the alien warlords of Rome? Such became the history of Jerusalem before its fall in A.D. 70.

So the eyes of God search any city, any community, any nation, any individual soul. Do we believe that our human affairs, international, national, local, individual, any of them, go on with no eyes to gaze upon them and to judge them save our own? Do you think there is no review of our human doings? No other court except the petty tribunals we set up of dying men and women whose dust will soon be blown by every vagrant wind? History speaks otherwise. There are many evils left in the world, but every great group guilt has been judged by history and history's God. Massive, entrenched institutions of evil have not gone unchallenged, unpunished. The divine right of kings, sweatshop labor, oppression, slavery, doctrines of Aryan supremacy. There is an all-seeing eye. God is still on the throne. This, Jesus was saying to his city and to your community and mine. Do we need to do anything other than search the events around us, crime, the lust for things, the international uncertainty, to hear what is being said to us, to see what is laid out before us? Is not greed strangling our society? Are

drugs and guns, crime in our streets and offices the final epitaph to be written on our society, so advantaged in so many ways, so promising even in its darkest hours? One senses that this nation is intended of God not to be as the old notion had is, a melting pot, but a concert of ethnicity, each bringing the rich notes of his, her origins to the great music of the American undertaking. One wonders if slothfulness, an empty swagger, and slavery to every passing fad are to be the fate of our black community in America where fathers and mothers and theirs before them embraced a bright vision of our destiny and toiled on toward it so gallantly and against such overwhelming odds? The words Jesus, "If thou hadst known...the things which belong unto thy peace," sound so powerfully, solemnly over us.

How is it with you? You will know better than I what gifts of mind and heart you brought to the living of your days and what you planned to do with those gifts. No one can know as you can how far you have fallen short of what you meant to be and what you intended to do. Someone has told of meeting a disheveled beggar in one of the worst sections of London. Asking for a handout, the poor, broken shell of a man said, "I know I don't look like much, but you've no mind the man I meant to be." On a day to be forever regretted someone gave up on integrity and honor and decided that one plays the game, and that's all there is to it. You thought that you were wise, smart, knew your way around when you turned from the God of your fathers and from the old, dear lessons of home and church and school. Now you have only a nameless sadness as you try to push out of your mind the mystery, the loneliness, the uncertainty, the pathos of life with no sense of God to steady you and to keep you. How piercing sound the words of

And when he was com near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! But now they are hid from thine eyes.

(Luke 19:41-42)

BAPTIST *Inform*er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiabrandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

(PALM SUNDAY from page 15)

Jesus over our brokenness, the end of our flight from God, "If thou hadst known...the things which belong unto thy peace!"

The judgment is searching and disarming, but something else appears to sound, also, in the charge of Jesus. One seems to hear in these solemn words a stubborn refusal to write if all off. "If thou hadst known...at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace!" Surely there is a limit, a cutoff point, a terminal line in the time of privilege and opportunity. It runs out somewhere, but I think I hear a reluctance here to close the case, to ring down the curtain forever on opportunity. Still, while darkness comes on, there is a last faint light before the night falls, and on some of us forever. "If thou hadst known...at least in this thy day."

I will not hint it. I will say it boldly. The old, pursuing, persisting love of God has not given up on you, on me, not yet, Jesus left Palm Sunday and headed on his sad and lonely way toward Calvary, the place where he declares in his own death that it is not over, not yet. The sands have not run out, not yet. There in the darkness on Calvary where Jesus died, God made a statement. It is that a way is opened, and a highway. Calvary is the hill of another chance, the mount of a new beginning where the love of God goes all of the way for us people and our salvation. Palm Sunday's sorrow leads to Crucifixion Friday.

It is all there in essence on Palm Sunday, a searching judgment and an endlessly tender mercy. That mercy, that care comes into full view as the pauper King leads his ragtag retinue toward the city of a thousand sacred memories, Jerusalem. The procession comes at last to the southern slope of Olivet, and suddenly the city in all of its stately beauty lies smiling in the morning sunlight. The immaculate marble of the temple and the pinnacles of the city's palaces make Jerusalem a strangely touching sight to the Savior, as his vision beholds, also, the pain and pleasure, the bright friendships and the ugly cruelty, and the things which break souls that transpire in the city's avenues and alleys. Looking across the ravine of Kedron, Jesus beholds the city with its missed opportunities, its pretense toward love of God; he sees what might have been, and from the soul of the world's Savior tears come. Could it be? Is the strong Son of God moved to tears by our poor mortal failure? A hush falls on our souls at this inexpressible sight. It slowly dawns on us that this is no slip, no chink in the armor, an embarrassment to be quickly glossed over. This is the very heart of God laid bare before our eyes, and that heart is infinitely tender and cares about you and about me. Dare we look on this heartbreak and remain unmoved? It is enough to melt the stoniest heart. For Jerusalem, for your city, for mine, for you, for me, the great Savior weeps, and the sobs send visible shudders through his work-hardened, strong body. Ends of the earth, see your Savior weep.

Yes, Calvary is at the gates of Palm Sunday.

I trust myself to these tears of a sobbing Savior; do you? I throw my frail heart, with all its doubts, at the weeping Son of God, I place my hopes, all of them, in the strong hands of him who

openly grieves and sobs for me. Christ weeps, my heart melts. Christ weeps, my will is broken. Christ weeps, my head bows, my knees bend before him. Christ weeps, my life is his. Christ weeps! That wins me forever. Does it you?

Pastoral Vacancy Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC) Raleigh, North Carolina

Job Description:

The 500+ member congregation of Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC) in Raleigh, North Carolina, a predominantly African American congregation, is seeking a pastor who demonstrates an enthusiastic love for Christ, possesses and applies a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and has a clearly defined vision for the church. The individual shall be a born-again Christian who is thoroughly immersed in the Holy Spirit, meeting the scriptural qualifications outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. The pastor will be responsible for intrinsically inspiring and emphatically motivating others to operate in a spirit of excellence while using their gifts and talents for God in planning, coordinating and evaluating all activities of the church. MSBC's friendly, out-going and approachable pastor will be able to relate to all age groups and minister to every person in the congregation. S/he will provide leadership in evangelism, outreach, missions education and missions projects. The pastor shall be of impeccable professionalism and personal integrity at the highest level. MSBC's pastor shall directly with the Deacon Board and associate ministers of the church, while supervising and evaluating the work of a staff of three (3) employees.

Job Requirements:

(Only candidates with these requirements will be considered)

- Exhibit a well developed vision for the future of the church and of doing God's work and enthusiastically share with the church.
- Make the Gospel relevant to people's lives through clarity and creativity in preaching, resulting in increased membership. Strengthen yourself and the church through private and public devotions, prayer and as the leader of Bible study, availing yourself of on-going education.
- Minister in the midst of a crisis, for example death, sickness, or other traumatic events in individuals' lives.
- Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology. Increase youth membership and foster greater Christian service. Have strong skills in program planning and the implementation of youth activities.
- Plan and conduct well-prepared and meaningful worship services that are relevant to all aspects of the congregation which would facilitate congregational growth.
- Minister to, befriend, nurture, support, reconcile, and affirm church members in their homes, through informal contact, and at church; Pastoral counseling.
- Lead the church staff. Manage the affairs of the congregational organization through planning, decision making, delegating, evaluating and managing conflict and stress.
- Set aside time to assist persons facing problems or decisions.
- Be aware of and concerned with community needs, activities, and affairs and be capable of addressing these concerns from a pastoral perspective.
- Share, personally, the Christian faith, enabling laypersons to witness and support denominational missions.
- Display an understanding of the formal and informal structure of the Baptist Church organizations. Be accountable for the integrity and external perception of the Martin Street Baptist Church and use this understanding to influence support to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Church.

Education/Experience:

- At least 5 or more years of active, continuous experience as an ordained Baptist minister in good standing with affiliated religious organizations.
- Advanced degree (Masters or higher) in theological training from an accredited School of Divinity or Seminary.
- 3-5 references required (at least 1 from current employer).

Job Start date: Negotiable.

Job Salary: Negotiable.

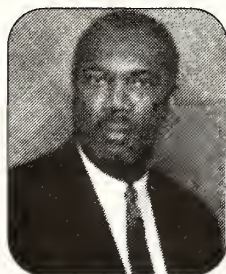
How to apply: (applications due by April 30, 2008)

Please forward a letter of interest discussing qualifications. Include resume, official copies of all college/university and Divinity School transcripts and 3-5 letters of reference to:

Deacon Donald Liles, Chair
Pastor Search Committee
Martin Street Baptist Church
1001 East Martin Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

If you have questions, please call the church office at 919.833.9756 between 9am and 5pm.

A Simple Guide To Filling the Pulpit



by

Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., BS, M. Div., D. D. DHL

To purchase this book please contact:

Liz McPhatter
(910) 424-2344

GBSC and MMBB Offer Essential Benefits

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (GBSC) and The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) partner to make the following essential benefits available to pastors and other employees of GBSC-related organizations:

- The Benefits for Life program builds retirement income while providing pre-retirement disability and life insurance protection
- The Tax-Deferred Annuity gives employers a way to make additional retirement contributions for their employees
- The Annuity Supplement cuts current taxes as employees save on a pre-tax basis
- Medical, dental and long-term care insurance are also available at group rates.

MMBB's has been ministering to churches and their employees since 1911.

For more about the plans or MMBB's financial ministry, please call:

Mr. Dexter Perry, A&B Management Services, Inc. 1400 Crescent Green, Suite G-100, Cary, North Carolina, 27511 Phone 919.858.7817, or Ms. Rose Harper, MMBB, Phone 800.222.3872 ext. 2348.

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

*To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
Dear Christian Leader and Friends,*

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

**New Saint John Missionary Baptist Church
Charlotte, NC**

We are currently accepting applications for position of Pastor.

Qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Licensed and ordained Baptist minister
- Strong Christian leadership
- Have vision for spiritual and intellectual growth of church
- Candidate must be able to minister to congregation (preach and teach)
- Possess management and business skills
- Theology or seminary degree preferred
- Ability to pass criminal and credit background check

This list is not inclusive, but serves as a snapshot of what is expected of a Pastor of New Saint John Baptist church.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and brief biological sketch to:

**Pastoral Search Committee
New Saint John Baptist Church
P.O. Box 16725
Charlotte, North Carolina 28297-6725
Attention: Deacon Bernard Caldwell, Chairman**

PASTORAL VACANCY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

722 Sikes Avenue • Wadesboro, N.C.

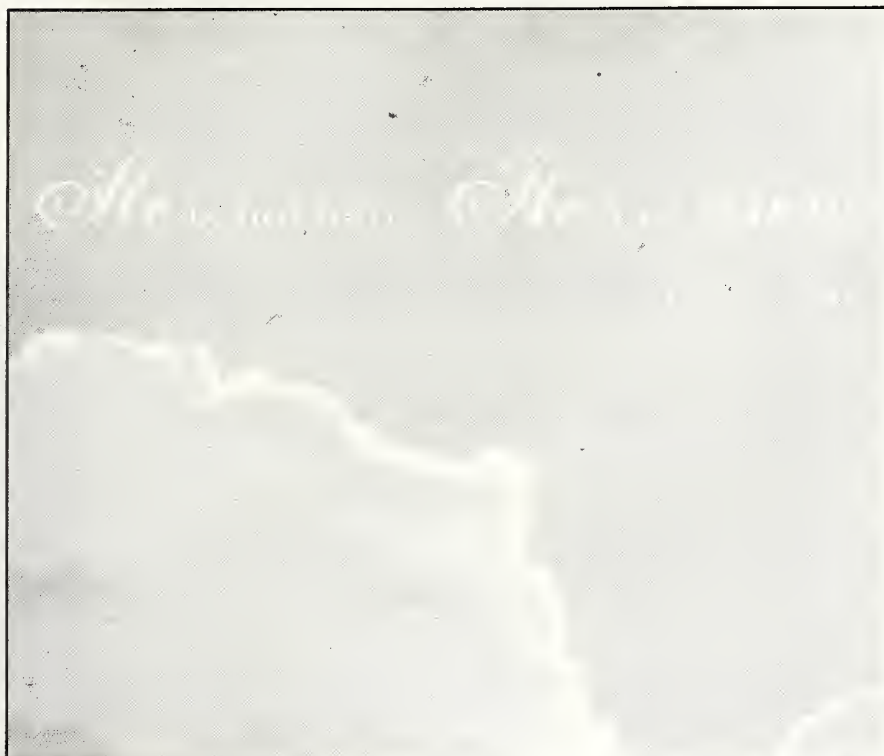
Is accepting letters of interest/resume's for licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Reply only if you are sincerely interested and meet the stated qualifications.

1. Must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach the gospel.
2. Must be family oriented, with a reputation of being a good role model.
3. Must have a strong reputation of honesty and integrity.
4. Must be a graduate of a four-year accredited college or university.
5. Must be an effective communicator with sufficient command of the English language.
6. Must possess strong knowledge of Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
7. Must be an effective leader, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
8. Must have skills necessary to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
9. Must have at least four years of experience as pastor, but will consider years of experience as an assistant pastor.
10. Must have excellent teaching skills (Biblical).

Please reply to:

The First Baptist Church
Pastor's Search Committee
Deacon Jay J. Clark
P.O. Box 157
Hoffman, N.C. 28347
(910) 2814819

Please include the following information in your reply: name, age, marital status, phone numbers, and an e-mail address. Application form will be mailed to you.



PASTORAL VACANCY
St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church
Rockingham, NC

Is currently accepting resumes for a Pastor
Resumes will be accepted until March 31, 2008

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be between the ages of 30-55 years.
- Must be a graduate of an Accredited College and Seminary.
- Must have at least (3) years of Pastoral Experience.
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister.
- Must reside within a (75) mile radius from the church.
- Must have the ability and skill to teach, counsel, perform various types of ceremonies.
- Must represent the church Association, State and National Conventions.
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check.
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the church.

Submit resume to: **St Stephen Missionary Baptist Church**
Attn: Pulpit Committee
P O Box 772
Rockingham, NC 28380

Pastoral Vacancy

BROWN NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Brown New Calvary Baptist Church of Thomasville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must have the Biblical qualities of a Pastor as defined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- Must possess a Passion for God, His Word, and His People
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups within the church
- Must live or be willing to live within 60 mile radius of the church
- Must be at least 34 years old and pastoral experience preferred
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual growth of the church
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability

All applicants should mail the following to the address below:

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include their home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to: **Brown New Calvary Baptist Church**
Attn: Pulpit Committee
200 Doak Street
Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)



Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church

102 Mt. Olive Road • Windsor, North Carolina 27983

REOPENED 11-01-07
PASTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE

Full-time Senior Pastor for Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church with an approximate membership of over 400 African-American congregants located in rural eastern North Carolina

Qualifications: The successful applicant must possess at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college, university or seminary and proven ability to prepare and deliver stimulating and inspirational sermons. A Master in Theology or some other religious area or pursuing the same is preferred. Additionally, this candidate will have the following traits: a firm grasp of Baptist policy, thorough belief in and knowledge of the principles of our faith, demonstrated aptitude to teach, broad education preparation and good health.

The candidate shall be a person serious in purpose, careful in speech, sound in Baptist doctrine, and above reproach in life and conduct. The candidate shall have an appreciation for a diversity of religious music and a zeal for Christian education. Further, the candidate must:

- Be a spiritual leader able to cast a vision for growth and expansion
- Possess at least 3 years of pastoral experience (Senior, Associate, Assistant)
- Possess high interpersonal relationship skills
- Demonstrate a compassionate approach to visiting members (including sick, shut-in, and the needy)
- Possess good leadership development ability
- Possess sound budget/financial management skills
- Possess a record of impeccable administrative and organizational abilities
- Possess strength in evangelism
- Possess praiseworthy counseling ability
- Be a person dedicated to fulfilling the mission of the church in harmony with God's Holy Word

Salary and benefits are open for negotiation, commensurate with qualifications and experience. The deadline to submit applications is until the position is filled.

All interested parties should submit a letter of interest, which requests an application to:

Pulpit Search Committee
Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 214
Lewiston, North Carolina 27849

Upcoming
Events...

BAPTIST Informer



And God Saw

CALVARY "And God Saw"

• The Seven Last Words of Christ •

The First Word: *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. (Luke 23:35)*

The Second Word: *Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise (Luke 23:43)*

The Third Word: *Woman, here is your son. (John 19:26-27)*

The Fourth Word: *My God, my god, why have you forsaken me? (Matthew 27:46)*

The Fifth Word: *I am thirsty. (John 19:28)*

The Sixth Word: *It is finished. (John 19:30)*

The Seventh Word: *Father, into your hands I commend my spirit. (Luke 23:46)*

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



Shaw Divinity School 3th Annual Alexander/Pegues Ministers' Conference Holy Week: March 17 - 21, 2008 Program Participants



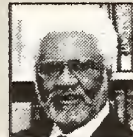
Rev. Dr. Gardner Taylor



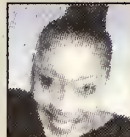
Rev. Dr. Arlee Griffin



Rev. Dr. Alice Graham



Rev. Dr. Titus Haynes



Rev. Dr. Carolyn Showell



Rev. Dr. Marsha Foster-Boyd



Rev. Dr. Johnny Youngblood



Rev. Dr. Darin Moore



Rev. Dr. John Kinney



Rev. Dr. Gregory Moss



Rev. Dr. Urias Beverly



Rev. Dr. William Turner, Jr.



Rev. Dr. Edward Wheeler



Bishop Adam Richardson, Jr.

4/1/2008

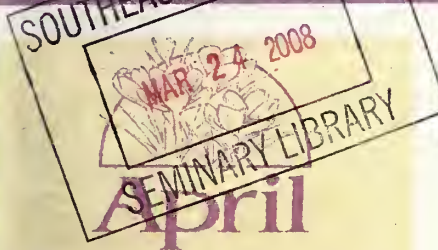
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553

S16 P16

INFORMER

BAPTIST

Volume 34 Southeastern Baptist Seminary Library
 Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. April 2008



GBSC THEME "To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
 President GBSC

Greetings in the marvelous name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. I trust 2008 has brought you the joy, prosperity and peace of God that you desire.

The Lenten season and the celebration of the resurrection of our Christ provided a wonderful opportunity for our GBSC family and Christians around the world to reflect and meditate on the ultimate sacrifice for our liberty. Many fasted by way of self-denial while others filled traditional gleaners. However, many fasted by way of going above and beyond the call of duty performing acts of compassion and kindness. Some made phone calls; others ran errands; some cooked meals; others sent cards; some cleaned homes; others paid visits. The list is endless. The recipients no doubt appreciated whatever you did, whether great or small, and you honored Christ by your efforts.

Congratulations to the Shaw Divinity School for an outstanding Pastor's Conference. The presentations and proclamations were informative, inspirational and stimulating. Each presenter approached their subject matter with a sense of purpose and integrity. The con-

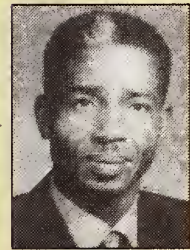
ference strives to inspire, inform and be relevant while addressing issues that challenge our ministries. It is our prayer for the conference to continue its upward spiral and attract more clergy and laity to campus for a week of biblical, spiritual and theological enlightenment.

Your administration and staff are working feverishly to prepare for our upcoming Mid-Year Session in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Due to the North Carolina primary being held on May 6th, the session is rescheduled for May 13-14th. We believe God for an exciting spiritual experience, building upon the previous Mid-Year and Annual sessions. You will not want to miss this opportunity for exposure, fellowship, teaching and training that is second to none. This is your convention and we encourage your participation. Please contact the headquarters staff for pre-registration materials in the coming weeks.

What an exciting election season this has proved to be. Moreover, it appears the North Carolina primary will prove pivotal to the race for the national presidency, notwithstanding crucial gubernatorial and legislative elections. We urge every eligible member of our GBSC family to exercise your right to vote. We also urge you to encourage every person you

know who is not yet registered to do so immediately! One does not need to sit on

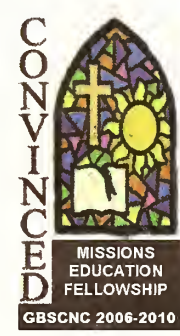
J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly



Opened in 1967 and celebrated its 40th year in 2007. In 1967, Dr. J.J. Johnson, his wife and daughter, deeded to the Woman's

Convention fifty acres of land near the town of Laurinburg. In 1968, the Convention purchased ten acres of land abutting that land given by the Johnsons. That site has been developed and is used for the Youth Camp, retreats and other Christian activities.

Rev. Theodore Breeden
 Acting Superintendent of J.J. Johnson Assembly



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

the sidelines in this or any other election. Also, please note, to vote for judges one must read further through the ballot and specifically mark your choice. If you vote straight ticket only, you will not have cast a vote in the judges' race. Between now and May, please familiarize yourself with the voting procedures in your area.

Since our last publication, the Reverends Fred Griffin, pastor of Galilee Missionary Baptist, Charlotte, and W. W. Williams, pastor of the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Wadesboro went home to be with the Lord. Our condolences and prayers are with the fami-

(PRESIDENT, cont. page 14)

FIRE AT J.J. JOHNSON BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

A fire struck the cafeteria building at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill on Friday, February 29, 2008 at approximately 3:30 p.m. A local resident passing by noticed smoke in the direction of the Baptist Assembly and local emergency personnel responded. The Laurel Hill Fire Department, the Spring Hill Fire Department and the Laurinburg Fire Department all responded to the emergency call. The County Fire Chief was present. Scotland County Sheriff's Department and the State Bureau of Investigation also reported to the fire scene. Scotland County Inspections and Engineering Departments sent representatives to the site.

The Reverend Theodore Breeden (Acting Superintendent) was notified of the fire and informed Executive Secretary-Treasurer Haywood T. Gray of the incident.

When Rev. Breeden arrived at the scene, the fire had been extinguished and the cafeteria destroyed. Rev.

Breeden, on behalf of the EST, authorized the authorities to investigate the cause of the fire. After several hours, the SBI determined that the probably cause was a faulty electrical outlet in the kitchen storage room where a freezer had been plugged.

Rev. Breeden returned to Laurel Hill on Monday, May 3 to represent the GBSC during the site visit by the insurance adjuster. Preliminary estimates of the damage exceed a quarter million dollars. The building is unusable and all the contents were lost to the intense heat and smoke.

The EST has directed that the Baptist Assembly be closed until further notice. The next immediate step will be the demolition of what remains of the building and the hauling away of the debris.

It is presently unknown when the Baptist Assembly will re-open; however, plans are to rebuild and re-open as soon as possible. (Baptist Bulletin)



Dining hall interior before and after the fire:



GBSC Announces Theme Logo

GBSC STAFF

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Rev. Selma Hunter
Finance Consultant

Mrs. Darcell McNeill
Bookkeeping Clerk



Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Baptist Informer Managing Editor



Baptist Headquarters Announces Theme Logo

New Full Color Theme Lapel Pin to Debut at Mid Year Session in May

The Baptist Headquarters has announced the creation of a new theme logo for the General Baptist State Convention. The theme logo is based on the Convention theme: "To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced ... through Missions, Education and Fellowship." This theme was announced last year by GBSC President Gregory K. Moss as a means of giving the Baptist Family in North Carolina a working and focus theme for 2006 to 2010. The new "Convinced" theme logo grows out of that theme.

According to Executive Secretary-Treasurer Haywood T. Gray, the new theme logo is "a striking, colorful and bold design." The design features the word "CONVINCED" cascading along the left side of the image in a deep red color. A colorful stained glass window featuring three images is prominently displayed. In the stained glass are a cross (a symbol for our Christian missions), an open book (a symbol for our Christian education), and a bright sun (a symbol for the warmth of our Christian fellowship.) Below the stained glass window are the words "MISSIONS,"

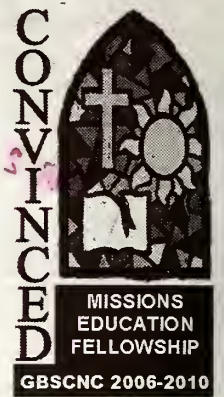
"EDUCATION" and "FELLOWSHIP." At the base of the design are the letters GBSCNC (for General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina) and 2006-2010 (for the term of the current presidential administration).

"The new theme logo is designed to be bold and inviting to emphasize the new excitement of our Baptist family in North Carolina," says Gray. "In a sense, the new theme logo will give witness to persons and Churches and associations who have become 'convinced' that the General Baptist State Convention is moving in the right direction." Significant emphasis has been put on the issue of accountability over the past few years and that emphasis is paying off by increased involvement and interest in the GBSC from all across the state. "The design is a definite conversation starter," says Gray. It is hoped that as people see the theme logo on various promotional items that it will stimulate interest in the work of the Convention as well as give an opportunity for persons who have become 'convinced' to tell why they are convinced and committed."

The new "Convinced" theme logo DOES NOT replace the official insignia of the Convention.

The familiar concentric circle design of the official seal of the Convention remains the official imprimatur of the General Baptist State Convention and will continue to be used as the official seal of the Convention. The new theme logo is designed to emphasize the current theme and will augment Convention promotional and branding items.

The first item carrying the full-color theme logo to be released will be a lapel pin that will become available at the May One Day Session in Roanoke Rapids. The new theme logo lapel pins will sell for \$5.00 each and pre-orders may be sent to the Baptist Headquarters prior to the One Day Session release date.



**When you can't come to us,
our mobile showroom will come to you!**

**Coordinating
Group Outfits
from Head-to-Toe!**
**Suits
Shirt/Tie Sets
Shoes**

**On-Site Group
Fittings!**



**Suit Sizes to 80
Shirt Sizes to 22**

**Call to Schedule
a Showing!**

Suits with Brand
Names such as:
**Tayion
Stacy Adams
Falcone**

ROWE'S
MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

GBSC Annual Mid-Year Laymen's League

• April 11-12, 2008 •
Greenville, NC



Dr. Howard
Parker

Dr. Howard Parker
Vice President At
Large

The Annual Mid Year Session of the State Laymen's League will meet in Greenville at the Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church (1001 Hooker Road). Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr. is pastor of Sycamore Hill and is Vice President at Large of the General Baptist State Convention. The Session is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12.

Host Pastor: Dr. Howard Parker

Host Church: Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church
1001 Hooker Road • Greenville, NC 27834
Phone: 252-756-4869 • Fax: 252-756-4539
Email: shmbaptist@earthlink.net



Theodore David
President Laymen's League Auxiliary



Theodore
David

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16. Thanks be to God that the everlasting life mentioned in that scripture is not just for the Easter Season which we just celebrated during March, but is an everlasting life that lasts from everlasting to everlasting. And that's not just good Laymen's News, but good news for the whole world.

The Laymen's League Auxiliary had a "mountain-top experience" March 8th, 2008 during the NC State Laymen's Quarterly Study Commission Meeting which was held at Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Edenton, NC where Moderator John R. Shannon serves as Pastor. Moderator Shannon hosted the event along with the host church and the Deacon and Laymen's Union of Middle Ground Union. The event was very well attended by State Laymen, the host church, and the Association Deacons, Laymen, and other members.

A heartfelt thanks from the Laymen Auxiliary's Leadership team to Moderator Shannon and all others who hosted, attended, cooperated, showed hospitality, and partnered with the NC State Laymen to help make the event a memorable experience for all in attendance. The following was featured on the program:

- An Enriching Men's workshop conducted by Deacon James Bernard Bulluck from Rocky Mount, NC
- A spirited sermon delivered by Rev. Ricky Banks, Pastor of St. Stephen

Laymen's News

Missionary Baptist Church and 3rd Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention of NC.

- An Inspiring Youth Laymen's workshop conducted by Brother Jerry Ratchford from Stony Point, NC

We are thankful to God and forever grateful for their obvious preparation and great presentations.

Important Date/Location Change: The NC State Laymen, with Baptist Headquarters' concurrence, has changed our 2008 Laymen's Mid-Annual Session date to occur on April 11-12, 2008 at Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Greenville, NC where Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr. serves as Sr. Pastor. www.sycamorehillnc.org. The Laymen's Mid-Annual Banquet will be held on that Friday night, April 11th, and the Laymen's Mid-Annual Session will be held on that Saturday morning, April 12th, 2008. This event promises to provide the same level of biblical education and spiritual enrichment which we just experienced in Edenton, NC. Come and join us, and bring your Youth Laymen as we lift up the name of Jesus and encourage each other to:

- Grow Spiritually ---- Become stronger Christians
- Learn More about Christianity
- Help others and share our knowledge of Christ with them

In the Laymen's Auxiliary, we grow, learn, and help others through reading God's word, hearing God's word taught, observation of and participation in Laymen Sponsored benevolent events/programs, and observing other Christians in action.

In the aftermath of the recent, February fire destruction at the JJ Johnson

Baptist Assembly, Baptist Headquarters has advised the NC Laymen to continue soliciting your support, suggestions, and ideas concerning alternative meeting locations for three of our annual calendar events:

- The Youth Laymen's Mini Skills
- The Laymen's Annual Scouting Camporee
- The Laymen's Men and Boy's Retreat Camp

Contact either myself or Baptist Headquarters if you have helpful information or suggestions.

Each Church or Assoc. Laymen's League is asked to participate in the following during this year:

- Pay State Laymen's Assessment of \$400 per year,
- Participate in the Laymen's Royal Court, and
- Attend the Walter Cade Jr. Regional Laymen's Workshop in Greenville S.C. - September 26-28, 2008.

Workshop registration will cost \$145.00 per person when two persons per room or \$200.00 when only one person per room. Please begin planning for your registrations and transportation arrangements in advance.

Pictures from NC Laymen's attendance at last Year's Regional Workshop can be viewed on the internet at <http://picasaweb.google.com/thadjones1/WalterCadeJrSoutheastWorkshop>

The Laymen's Leadership Team is truly grateful for your support and prayers and we attribute any success progress, which we may have experienced, to God's grace, mercy, and favor. We solicit your prayers, support, and continued collaboration and partnership as we keep on pressing on "The Upward Way".

"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. Jn 9:4 ■

Laymen's League 2008 Calendar of Events

April 18, 2008

Laymen's Banquet
Mid Annual
Mt Zion First Baptist
Rocky Mount, NC

April 19, 2008

Laymen's Mid Annual Session
Mt Zion First Baptist
Rocky Mount, NC

May 6-7, 2008

GBSC Mid-Year Session
Roanoke Rapids, NC

May 17, 2008

Mini-Skills Exhibit
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

June 14, 2008

Study Commission Meeting
Penn Ave Baptist Church
Oxford, NC

July 11-12, 2008

Laymen and Boys Summer
Retreat
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

July 27-31, 2008

All Baptist Assembly
Winston Salem, NC

August 23, 2008

Scouting Camporee
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

September 13, 2008

Laymen's Men's Retreat
J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly
Laurel Hill, NC

September 26-27, 2008

Southeastern Walter
Cade Workshop
Greenville, SC

October 28-29, 2008

GBSC Annual Session

December 13, 2008

Study Commission Meeting
Gethsemane MBC
Salisbury, NC

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

GBSC

Mid Year Session

May 13-14, 2008

**The Center at Halifax
Community College**

100 College Dr. • Weldon, NC



Comfort Suites Roanoke Rapids

74 Premier Blvd
Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870
(252) 535-3300

Directions to Our Hotel:

From I-95 North take Exit 173, Turn Right at Light, 2nd Light, Right on Premier Blvd, Motel on Right. From I-95 South take Exit 173, Turn left at Light, 2nd Light, Right on Premier Blvd, Motel on Right. From US HWY 158 East,

Turn Right on Premier Blvd Motel on Right. From US HWY 158 West, Turn Left on Premier Blvd Motel on Right.

*Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President*

To the beloved saints of the General Baptist family and all who love the Lord, the work, witness, worship, ministry, and mission of the Lord:

"Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Timothy 1:2b, NKJV).

Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus had a knack for glorifying the common things and common people. He defended the defenseless, healed the afflicted, received the outcasts, ate with the sinners, delivered the downtrodden, elevated the oppressed, gave worth to women, loved the lepers---you name it, Jesus did it. He shook up the foundation of political correctness and religious self-piety.

Because of Jesus, many insignificant things took on new significance: light, salt, sparrows, lilies, bread and wine, a crown of thorns, an old rugged cross, and a borrowed tomb. Nothing was too small and nobody was too insignificant to merit the attention of our Lord. This truth is manifested as spring begins to break forth in its entire divinely ordained splendor. New life appears in all of its colorful glory. The handiwork of God once again provides a marvelous array of greenery and pageantry.

In all of this, the common dandelion will make its presence felt. The dandelion is interesting. It will grow where nothing else will. It is not prejudice, picky, nor persnickety about where it will grow. It will grow in the yard of the rich or the

poor. The dandelion is not concerned about the race, religion, culture, creed, or political preference of the yard's owner. It will grow wherever it can take root.

The amazing thing about the dandelion is its ability to persevere --- to rise above its surroundings. No matter how high the grass grows or how dry the ground becomes, it perseveres. The dandelion, much to the dismay of many gardeners, will rise above it all!

Some people are like that. They rise above it all. In the midst of discouragement and troubles, they RISE!

- Distress and criticism? They RISE!
- Limited resources and a succession of failures? They RISE!
- Red seas in front, pharaohs in the back, mountains on the side? They RISE!
- Hungry lions, flaming furnaces, high walls, ungrateful murmurers? They RISE!

They rise above it all because, like the dandelion, they understand that nothing can keep them down when they reach up for God's sunshine. They refuse to be smothered and bound by circumstances. The dandelion not only adds color to the drab places of earth. It eventually scatters seed.

Our convention is similar to the dandelion. It has been able to RISE ABOVE IT ALL. Its fruitful ministry through varied objectives, including State Missions, has often been overlooked and unappreciated. But through it all, the fruit of our convention's labor has provided color in drab places for many who are outcast and undernourished.

Through it all, our convention continues to scatter seeds of Christian Education, Missions, and Benevolence. Through it all, our convention scatters seeds that convince the unconvinced to be convinced. Your prayers and support through the years have made this possible. Like the dandelion, our convention continues to RISE ABOVE IT ALL!



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

Please continue to be good stewards of this ministry. Rise above the tendency to assume that all is well. Refuse to be smothered by daily routines and "busyness" that may not always glorify God and edify others. Abhor the rumors that seek to pronounce the death sentence on a heritage and legacy that has stood the test of time.

Put off the fabric of being a spectator and put on the garment of being a participant. Experience the power of resurrection even when the death sentence has been pronounced. Nothing and nobody will keep us down because we have God to lift us up. And if God be for us ... !

Encourage your church, ministry, association, and community to support our convention, the objectives, and particularly State Missions. I am looking forward to seeing and hearing from you soon. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen" (Philippians 4:23, NKJV). ■

A Place of Worship Deuteronomy 12:5-7

*Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President*

Every religious community needs to have a central place of worship which gives concrete and symbolic expression of their faith in God and serves as a focal point of their religious activities. Before the Jews entered the Promised Land, God gave them specific instructions about worship. He told them to seek a central place of worship. He told them what to bring when they came to worship. He told them the kind of Spirit and attitude they should have when they worshipped. Therefore, it was necessary for them to have a special place in which to worship once they arrived in the new land.

Every Christian should have a central place of worship, a place where he or she

goes on a regular basis to worship the Lord. There is something wrong with the Christian who doesn't appreciate worshipping God at a central place with other Christians. Some people will say: "You don't have to go to Church to worship God. I can worship God at home." There is some truth to this statement. We can worship God at home. We can worship God anywhere because He is everywhere. But this kind of private, personal worship can never take the place of public, corporate worship. There always needs to be a central place of worship which symbolizes the Holy presence of God and represents the enduring, unchanging, sustaining truths of our Faith. When our lives are scarred by sin, our souls are drained by life's disappointments, and our spirits are dampened by the world, we need to have a central, Holy place outside of ourselves which reminds us of the power and presence of a Holy God who is always near. ■



Rev. Ricky Banks

GBSC
All Baptist Assembly
July 27-31, 2008
M.C. Benton Jr. Convention Ctr
301 West Fifth Street • Winston-Salem, NC 27101

<p>Headquarters Hotel</p> <p>Winston Salem Marriott 425 North Cherry St Winston Salem, NC 27101 (336) 725-3500 Fax (336) 728-4025</p> <p>The ID CODE FOR THE MARRIOTT, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ALL.</p> <p>ROOM RATES ARE: SINGLE/DOUBLE: \$92.00, WITH TAX \$103.73 TRIPLE/QUAD: \$96.00, WITH TAX \$108.24</p>	<p>Embassy Suites Hotel 460 North Cherry Street Winston-Salem, NC, 27101 Tel: 1-336-724-2300 Fax: 1-336-728-4020</p> <p>THE ID CODE FOR THE EMBASSY SUITES, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ABS.</p> <p>ROOM RATES ARE: ONE-BEDROOM SUITE (single/double) \$117.00, WITH TAX \$131.92 ONE-BEDROOM SUITE (triple/quad) \$120.00, with TAX \$135.30 TWO-BEDROOM SUITE (single/double) \$179.00, with tax \$201.92 TWO-BEDROOM SUITE (triple quad) \$189.00, with tax \$213.10</p>
--	--

"He Is Not Here!" - Reflection on 2007 Holy Land Tour

Dr. Lorenzo Lynch

2nd Vice President



Dr. Lorenzo Lynch

Greetings to you in the matchless name of Jesus!

On February 11-18, 2008, 13 pilgrims from North Carolina departed JFK Airport in New York for the trip of a lifetime!

Included in this group were, Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch of Charlotte, Rev. Jeffrey Robinson of Greenville, Rev. Shelton Daniels of Enfield, Dr. Brian E. Wright of Chapel Hill, Dr. Lincoln and Rev. Charlene Lee of Charlotte, Rev. Charles and Marieta Lee of Asheville, Dr. Darial & Emma Jackson of Gastonia, Rev.

John Leazer of Concord, and Dr. Clyde and Ruby Owens of Charlotte. We traveled with Dr. William E. Flippin, Sr., pastor of the Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia. This was his sixth tour and my second. After a safe ten-hour trans-atlantic flight we arrived in Tel-Aviv, Israel.

The journey had begun with great anticipation and excitement. Those traveling for the first time were in awe that they would see where a Jesus (never seen in the

flesh) actually walked, talked and lived. Read the excerpt below.

All over the Roman Empire criminals were executed by nailing to a post or cross – it was a public and prolonged way to die.

Yet Christ's death was different...Although Jesus had broken no Roman law, Pontius Pilate succumbed to Jewish demands for the death penalty to punish 'blasphemy'. But most important of all, Jesus Christ went willingly and deliberately to his own death, having told his followers that this would happen and why: to give eternal life to those who believed in him (John 3:15) to give his own life as a ransom for many others (Matthew 20:28); to overcome Satan's power (John 12:31); to allow sins to be forgiven (Luke 24:47). Without Jesus' death, there would be an impassable barrier between God and sinful men and women.

Taken from The Garden Tomb and Resurrection Garden.

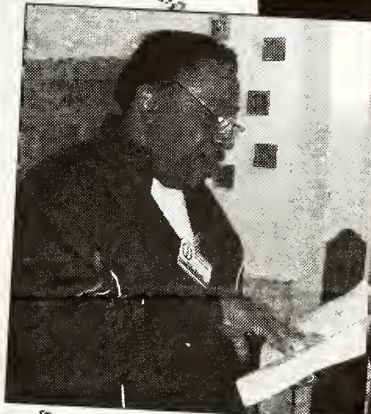
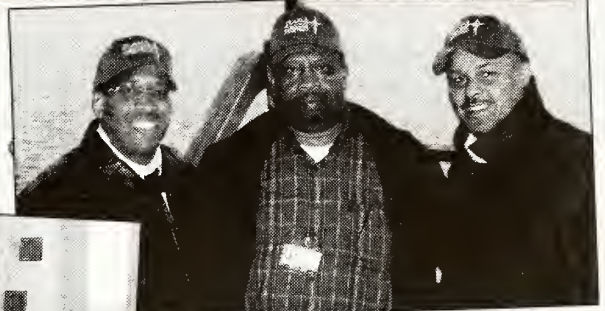
I am overjoyed to bring a personal and timely

report to my GBSC family that indeed the tomb is empty! "He is not here, He is risen as He said!" (Matthew 28:5-6)

Plans are underway for a trip for the GBSC Family in November 2009. Details will be announced soon. Plan now to come and go with us on this marvelous journey. ■



Ptolemais (Achoze)



Central Children's Home of North Carolina, Inc.

"Pioneer Child Care Institution"

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. George Cook, Jr. (Pastor of Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church of Charlotte) serving in the capacity of the President of the Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following:

The retirement of our current Executive Director is extended until further notice. A diligent search for a successor is in progress. The entire Board of Directors is fully committed to a new direction. We realize new approaches are essential in addressing the challenges confronting children and their families in today's society. In this regard, an independent consultant has been retained to determine the effectiveness of our current program services. Likewise, the consultant will recommend the innovative strategies to address new service demands of those needing our help. To provide adequate resources, the Board of Directors is dedicated to improving fund raising efforts to include developing land assets to establish an endowment to support future operations.

Furthermore, we respectfully request that you continue your support of the Central Children's Home as we diligently search for an Executive Director to carry on our tradition of great work.

Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention



Dr. Vincent J. Terry

*Dr. Vincent Terry
Fourth Vice President*

*Dr. C.R. Edwards
Lott Carey Mission
Convention
Former President
Former Interim
Executive Secretary-
Treasurer*

hotels the Hyatt, Clarion and Crown Plaza.

As an important part of our planning we will provide a Workshop for all-mission Education Teachers to plan, share, discuss and utilize resources and materials that will enhance our Mission education efforts for our participants. The Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2008 (9 – 3 PM) at the Rodman Street Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, PA. The Workshop will follow the Spring Board Meeting being held April 24 – 25,



Dr. C.R. Edwards

2008 at the church, Dr. Delano Paige is the Pastor.

You will want to know about some Pre-Convention highlights available to you.

† You can attend a one-day Missions Education course from 9 AM – 4 PM on Saturday, 9 August 2008 if you choose. This will be the same course taught during the week. Register for Saturday's class by contacting Bernard Lott at Blott@lottcarey.org or 202.543.3200 ext 14.

† Our Morning Bible Study will be at 9 AM and Morning Worship at 10 AM on Sunday, 10 August 2008.

† Our Missions Focus Prayer Breakfast will be at 7 AM at the Clarion

Hotel on Monday, 11 August 2008. Order your tickets on the PERSONAL REGISTRATION FORM.

† Our Missions Blitz, where we deploy hundreds of missionaries for service assignments and prayer support, will be 10 AM – 4 PM on Monday, 11 August 2009 throughout Greater Rochester, New York. Reserve your space for service by contacting Ashley McNeil at amcneil@lottcarey.org or 202.543.3200 ext 12.

† Our Community Feast where we host homeless guests to dine with us and the Host Community's welcome musical will be 5 PM and 7:30 PM on Monday, 11 August 2008. Order you tickets on the PERSONAL REGISTRATION FORM ■

We are planning and looking forward to an informing, renewing and inspirational Annual Session being held in Rochester, New York in August. We will be using the Rochester Convention Center for our General Sessions and Mission classes. We are also using three

Personal Registration Form

111th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
August 11-15, 2008
Rochester, NY

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete one (1) registration form for each individual who will attend the convention. The personal registration fee entitles you to: a delegate kit, the convention program, annual minutes, annual report(s), delegate badge, one 1-year subscription to the Lott Carey Herald Magazine, and enrollment in the Mission study course.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

E-mail address (if any): _____

Please check (✓) one:

- Clergy Laymen's League Women's Auxiliary Young Adult (ages 18-35)
 Youth (ages 13-17) Hope Missionary (ages 10-12) Hope Missionary (ages 6-9)

Please circle one: MR. MRS. MS. REV. DR.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____ (day) _____ (evening)

Church Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Pastor: _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE CONTACT:

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

Is this your first time attending the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention? YES NO

Did you attend Mission Study Class in 2007, New Orleans, LA? YES NO

	Cost	Quantity	Total
Adult Registration (through June 30, 2008)	60.00	x _____	= _____
Late Adult Registration (after July 1, 2008)	75.00	x _____	= _____
Youth Registration (ages 6-19 ONLY)	40.00	x _____	= _____
Late Youth Registration (after July 1, 2008)	55.00	x _____	= _____
Prayer Breakfast (Monday, August 11, 2008, 7:00 a.m.)	25.00	x _____	= _____
Community Feast/Banquet (Monday, August 11, 2008, 5:00 p.m.)	40.00	x _____	= _____
Musical (Monday, August 11, 2007, 7:30 p.m.)	10.00	x _____	= _____
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE			= _____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:
LOTT CAREY BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION CONVENTION
111th ANNUAL SESSION
220 I (EYE) STREET, N.E., SUITE 220, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

ADVANCE PERSONAL REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JULY 1, 2008

TODAY'S DATE	RECEIVED BY	REGISTRATION NO.	AMOUNT RECEIVED

Hotel Reservation Form

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
August 11-14, 2008

This form must be returned to:

DePrez Travel Bureau, Inc.

Greater Rochester Visitor's Association Housing Desk

145 Rue de Ville

Rochester NY 14618

Toll free phone: 877-GRVA111 (877-478-2111) Fax: 585-442-8934

or submit this form electronically to pwhiteomb@depreztravel.com

If this form was faxed, please do not mail original

Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served space available basis. Please photocopy this form as needed, using one form for each room you are trying to reserve. Reservation requests will only be accepted on this form, and must be received by July 10, 2008. After that time, your request will be processed on a space availability basis. All changes and cancellations must be in writing to DePrez Travel by July 10, 2008. You will receive a written confirmation of your assigned hotel directly from DePrez Travel Bureau. Please read this document carefully as it will contain information unique to the hotel being confirmed.

Number your hotel choice in order of preference with "1" being your first choice. Circle your room type/price:

Number in order of preference	Hotels	Single (1 person 1 bed)	Double (2 people 1 bed)	Double (2 people 2 beds)	Triple (3 people 2 beds)	Quad (4 people 2 beds)
	Hyatt Regency Rochester	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$110.00
	*Clarion Riverside Hotel	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00
	Crowne Plaza	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00

* Prayer Breakfast (Monday) as well as 5:30am Prayer Services (Tuesday-Friday)

Please Note: Confirmation will only be mailed to the address below:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Night Phone: _____

Day Fax: _____ Email address: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Church Name: _____ Pastor's Name: _____

If multiple occupancy, please list additional people's names. (please note, we will mail confirmation to the first person only):

Person 2: _____

Person 3: _____

Person 4: _____

Special Requests: _____

Your credit card guarantee: _____ Exp date: _____

(Number must be exact or your reservation will be forfeited) (Card must expire after August 2008)

Name (as it appears on card): _____ Signature: _____

If submitted electronically, considered a phone order, no signature needed

If you have used a credit card to hold your room, no charge will be made in advance. If you do not check into your hotel on your scheduled date of arrival, your reservation will be a no-show and you will be billed the first night's room and tax.

If I have not filled in a credit card guarantee, my check for \$110.00 (payable to DePrez Travel) is attached to process my form. I understand that my confirmed hotel will apply these funds to my room.

PLEASE NOTE: DEPREZ TRAVEL CANNOT ACCEPT YOUR TAX EXEMPT FORM or PURCHASE ORDER. YOU MUST PRESENT IT TO YOUR HOTEL AT CHECK-IN.

Mecklenburg County Missionary Union Institute

Instructor, Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.

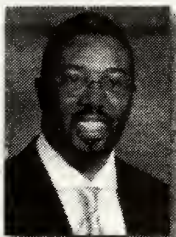
Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor



Portia H. Brandon

Trusted Steward:
Moving Toward Total
Stewardship
by Calvin T Partain

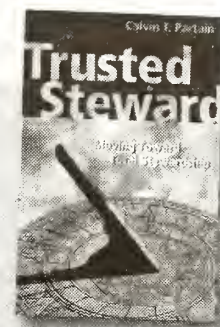
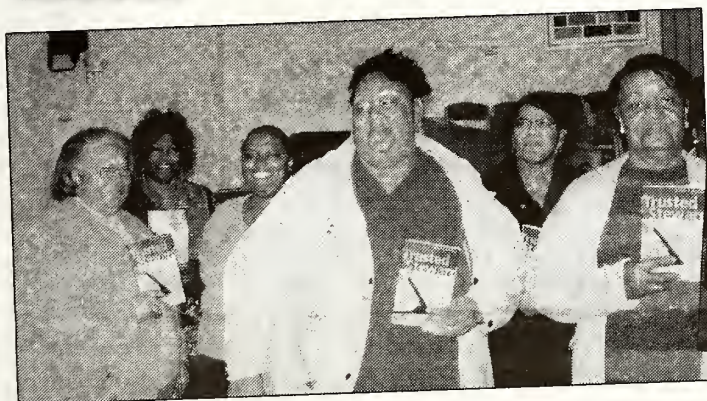
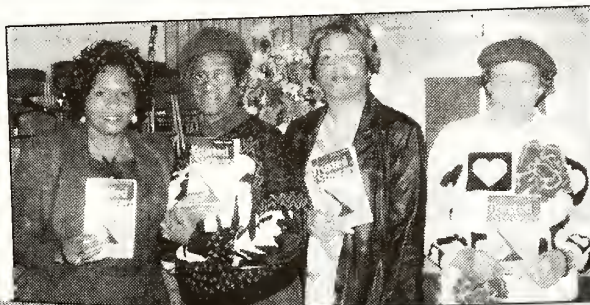
February 18-21, 2008



Host Pastor
Rev. Donnie Garris
Antioch Baptist
Church
232 Skyland Avenue
Charlotte, NC

16 CHURCHES REPRESENTED

1. Antioch
2. Ebenezer, Charlotte
3. First Mt. Zion
4. Friendship
5. Shiloh Institutional
6. Mayfield Memorial
7. Pleasant Hill Baptist
8. Temple Chapel
9. New Hope
10. St Luke
11. St Paul
12. Reede Memorial
13. Greater Galilee
14. Mt Vernon
15. Greater Fellowship
16. New Zion



Officers

- President - Marilyn C. McClain
1st VP - Arvette Pearson
2nd VP - Reperzelle Ware
3rd VP - Hazel Stevens
4th VP - Willhelmina King
Secretary - Dorothy Funderburk
Asst. Secretary - Gloria Tindal
Treasurer - Marjorie Foxx
Fin. Secretary - Ida Dunston
Program Chair - Ruth Jackson
YA Director - Betty Baker
Asst. Director - Je E. Liggett
Youth Super - Geneva Walker
Asst. Youth Sup. -
Annie R. Thompson
Special Worker -
Christine McMoore

HOW TO REACH US

PRESIDENT

DR. GREGORY K. MOSS, SR.
(704) 334-5309
GMOSS1@BELLSOUTH.NET

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE

DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
(252) 355-2966
shmbaptist@earthlink.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

DR. NILOUS AVERY, II
(704) 637-0954
AveryRevKin@aol.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
(704) 598-2219
ldlynch@ebccharlotte.org

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

DR. RICKY BANKS
(252) 335-5035
pastorrickybanks@yahoo.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT

DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
(919) 807-1194
mountpeachbc@aol.com

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

DR. HAYWOOD T. GRAY
(919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR/MANAGING EDITOR

MRS. PORTIA H. BRANDON, M. DIV.
(919) 821-7466 portiabrandon@hotmail.com

WBH & FMC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dr. PRISCILLA BRODIE
pbrodie@wbhfmf.org

WBH & FMC, PRESIDENT

MRS. BRONNIE HARRIS DANIELS,
PRESIDENT (336) 767-6156

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, PRESIDENT

MISS LULA GAINEY
(910) 728-0021
lulagainy@ccs.k12.nc.us

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT

MR. THEODORE DAVID
(919) 508-5468
Theodore.david@pgnmail.com

USHER'S CONVENTION, PRESIDENT

MRS. HELEN THOMPSON
(910) 488-5322



Congress of Christian Education

Congress Of Christian Education

- 2008 Calendar of Events**
April 5, 2008
 VBC Workshop
 Pee Dee Assoc, Laurinburg, NC
- May 13-14, 2008**
 GBSC Mid-Year Session
 Roanoke Rapids, NC
- June 15-21, 2008**
 National Bapt Congress
 Louisville, KY
- June 23-25, 2008**
GBSC Oratorical Contest
- July 17-18, 2008**
 GBSC Single/Marriage Conf
- July 27-31, 2008**
 All Baptist Assembly
 Winston Salem, NC
- October 28-29, 2008**
 GBSC Annual Session(TBA)

GBSC NC Laymen's League

Officers (2006-2010)

- Theodore David, President
 (919) 508-5468
 Richmond Turner,
 1st Vice President
 2nd Vice President
 Gregory Gabriel
 3rd Vice President
 James Jeter
 4th Vice President
 William Pointer
 Publicity Chair - Dallas Foster

Ushers' Convention

Officers (2006-2010)

- Helen M. Thompson, President
 Charles W. Dunn,
 1st Vice President
 2nd Vice President
 Archie T. Lofton, Jr.
 3rd Vice President
 Norman H. Dorsey, Sr.
 4th Vice President
 Valerie Singleton
 Mary Belle, Recording Secretary
 Viola N. Thorton,
 Assist Recording Secretary
 Martin Clowney, Dean
 Charlie Rhodes, Assistant Dean
 Youth Supervisors: Felton Davis
 Charlie Rhodes
 State Coordinator
 Nancy High

Vacation Bible School Clinics



Ms. Lula
Gainey

Vacation Bible School Clinics
 April 5, 2008
 Laurinburg, NC

The GBSC Congress of Christian Education will sponsor the second VBC clinic Saturday, April 5, at the Pee Dee Baptist Association Education Building in Laurinburg. Beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude mid-day. Registration is \$10.00 per person. Registration will open at 8:00 a.m.



2008 Oratorical Contest • June 23-25, 2008

TOPICS • TOPICS • TOPICS

Senior Division

(rising high school seniors
 as of July 1, 2008)

- Being Trustworthy Is Important To Succeeding in Life
- Standing for Jesus when it is not popular
- Extreme makeover
- You cannot fake your faithfulness
- Let the Lord build your house
- Jesus is for Losers
- Equipped!
- Alcohol and Christian teens don't mix
- Why I am loyal to God

Junior Division

(9th, 10th, 11th grade as of July 2008)

- Sometimes feel like life is not fair, but I continue to be fair to others
- What does being a Christian mean to me
- Tell me who I am
- Just keep walking
- Building on a good foundation
- Signed, sealed and delivered!
- How to persuade and influence peers
- What is wrong with teenage smoking
- What Christianity means to me
- IF not me, "Who"?

Preparatory Division

(6th, 7th, 8th grade as of July 1, 2008)

- Being treated unfair makes me feel bad
- Get Real
- Peer Pressure should not affect my actions
- Being honest takes courage
- My friend Jesus
- Jesus is...
- Do you hear what I hear?
- Where would you be without God?
- Heaven or Hell
- A faithful friend

All contestants must be a member in good standing in the local church as well as the Association. This means also that the local church must meet or have met the Congress quota of \$400, and the Association must meet or have met the Congress quota of \$400.00 for the current year!

James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Rules and Procedures • www.BaptistlifeNC.org



Helen
Thompson

Ms. Helen Thompson
 President

N.C. Baptist Ushers Convention One Day Session

February 23, 2008



HOST PASTOR

Reverend Daniel Sanders, Pastor

Springfield Missionary Baptist Church

4309 Auburn-Knightdale Road
 Raleigh, North Carolina

Thank You!

GBSC CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

One Day Session

Sat, February 9, 2008

First Baptist Church

101 South Wilmington St.
 Raleigh, NC



DR. DUMAS ALEXANDER HARSHAW, JR.

Thank You!

2008 Ushers' Calendar of Events

May 13-14, 2008
 GBSC Mid Year Session
 Roanoke Rapids, NC

May 17, 2008
 Usher's Executive Meeting
 10:00 am - Baptist
 Headquarters - Raleigh, NC

August 16, 2008
 Ushers' Executive Board Meeting
 10:00 am - Baptist Headquarter

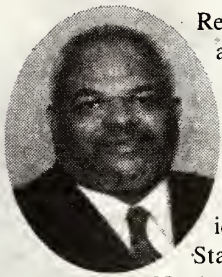
October 18, 2008
 Ushers' Executive Board
 Baptist Headquarters
 Raleigh, NC

October 28-29, 2008
 GBSC Annual Session
 Winston Salem, NC

November 7-8, 2008
 Ushers' Retreat Assembly
 Laurel Hill, NC

GBSC Churches Must Help Turn Out the N.C. Vote for U.S. President

By: Dr. Cureton L. Johnson



Ready, set, vote! But are you ready?

NOW is the time to get ready to mark your ballots as the race for president of the United States speeds toward North Carolina and to your city, town and county.

Yes, the national democratic presidential contest may be decided right here in North Carolina next month, and General Baptist State Convention churches can play key roles in its outcome.

The North Carolina primary election will be held May 6. It will be the largest contest in the remaining nine states scheduled to hold primaries from April to June 2008. Our state has 134 delegates up for grabs and a win for either Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton will help him or her sway very important unpledged "super delegates" before the party's national convention in August.

Expect both candidates to gallop into our state to campaign vigorously, making this a great time for churches to increase local voter registration rolls and to fire up voter turnout in our communities.

A person must be 18 years of age or older to vote in North Carolina. For other registration rules, ask your elections board for copies of its voter guidelines brochure.

Early Voting

Churches should encourage early voting before the May 6 primary and provide transportation days using church vans/buses to take people to early voting sites. Early voting takes place from April 17 to May 3. Contact your elections board for a list of early voting places and hours of operation.

First-time Voters Outreach

Make sure you reach out to register potential and young first-time voters. If there is a local college or community college nearby, offer mobile voter registration vans for those who are residents of your county. Encourage young voters to cast their ballots early and make sure that they have transportation to the polls. Also, show new voters sample ballots and how to mark their ballots according to your county's manual or automated voting process. This will help first-timers feel less intimidated when they go to the polls.

Election Day

On primary Election Day May 6, provide transportation to the polls for seniors, students and others needing rides. Also, you may call your church members,

friends and community residents on Monday to remind them to vote Tuesday.

Because this year's presidential race is hotly contested, voter turnout nationwide has been at record high levels. The primary and general election in November 2008 will be great opportunities to increase African-American registered voters. By working today to swell the voter rolls, we can encourage new voters to impact future local and statewide races in coming years.

The "Word of God" on Voting!

Jesus called upon his disciples to be "salt" and "light" in the world (Matthew 5) and to influence the world for good. Voting is another way to impact the world for Christ by acting as responsible Christian citizens and by selecting the best leaders of integrity, faith and hope! The Apostle Paul reminded Christians to be responsible and supportive of our nation's leaders. That support begins at the ballot box!

"A Great Cloud of Witnesses!"

Our ancestors died for our voting rights and civil rights. Voting is the right and privilege of free U.S. men and women. Our ancestors were mistreated, lynched and burned for our present-day freedoms. Surely, there is a great cloud of ancestral witnesses cheering us in from

the heavens as they observe this historic time in our nation. They hoped for a day that a black man or woman would become president of the United States. Frederick Douglass, a great black anti-slave orator, also fought for the rights of women to vote! We even have a 71-year old senior citizen as the Republican presidential nominee.

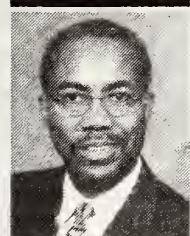
Don't let our ancestors down! Honor our forebears' memories and struggles by voting and by helping scores of other people to do the same.

Any may God truly bless our nation for our responsible Christian citizen stewardship. Make sure you're READY, and Set to VOTE!

[P.S.-In primaries in North Carolina, you may vote only in the primary of the party which you are affiliated. In the primary May 6, democrats will nominate their presidential candidate. The Republican nominee has already been decided. In the November general election, all registered voters will be eligible to vote for the candidate of their choice.

NOTE: Remember to keep your "church" voter registration drives non-partisan and unbiased. This will protect the church from IRS and tax exempt status difficulties. Folks are smart enough to know who they want to vote for in May. Just make sure they get out to VOTE!]

Another Perspective - "Reflecting On the Past"



Dr. James W. Smith

Greeting, my brothers and sisters in Christ:

I am excited to have the opportunity to share with you again. We are experiencing an exciting time as a race and in our churches. We

have a unique opportunity to make a difference.

When you read this article, most of us would have already celebrated Black History month. I don't particularly like stating it this way because I believe we need to celebrate Black History every month. But be it as it may, the past couple of months have caused me to reflect quite a bit on a couple of things. I guess

it is the political environment this year. We must admit, it is interesting and exciting. I have been extremely intrigued at the Democratic race for President - the first woman and the first African American to seek the party's nomination with one actually having the opportunity to become the nominee. Whatever your politics is, one can't help but reflect on the historical moment.

It was either in 1964 or 1965, a group of students, including myself, from North Carolina College, now North Carolina Central University, marched from the campus to a restaurant in Chapel Hill, NC. I never will forget the leader of our group. His name was Quincy. The last name escapes me now but he lead us in singing as we walked the distance to this restaurant located on the right just as we entered Franklin Street. Our purpose was to integrate that restaurant whose history was not to serve Negroes at the time. We entered that restaurant holding hands at the time and we all kneeled to the floor praying and singing. Some of us, including Quincy, even laid on the floor. What I remembered distinctively is the owner of the restaurant's wife coming over to Quincy and urinating in his face. We were a non-violent group so we took whatever came our way. We continued

singing, "We Shall Overcome." We were all so familiar with Dr. Martin Luther King's speech, "I Have A Dream." In this speech, he envisioned a nation where one day Blacks and Whites could be seen as equals and not judged based on the color of their skin. He envisioned a nation where little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little White boys and White girls as sisters and brothers. Here we are some forty-four years later witnessing the fruition of a dream.

Maybe we need more dreamers, more folks who have ideas or conceived matters regarded as impractical. However, if we are not dreamers, we can at least help someone else's dream become a reality by registering and voting. As pastors, ministers and lay people, we can help in the process by encouraging our people to get involved in the process.

Now, regardless of who wins, I don't know about you, but I am just excited to see this day. For once, I feel good reflecting on the past.

Dr. James W. Smith
Church Consultant/Mediator
Pastor, Mt. Calvary
Missionary Baptist Church
Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com
Website: jwsmithconsultant.com

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

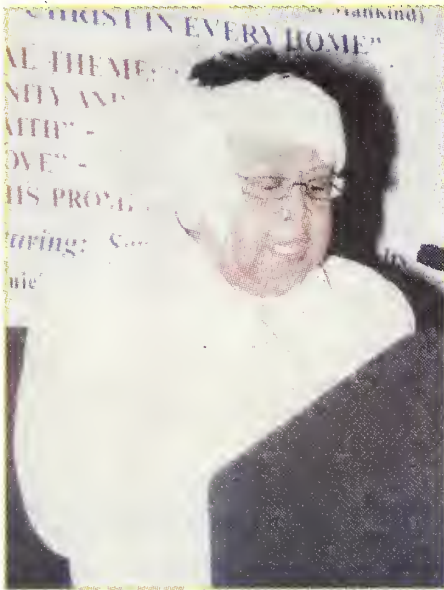
Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

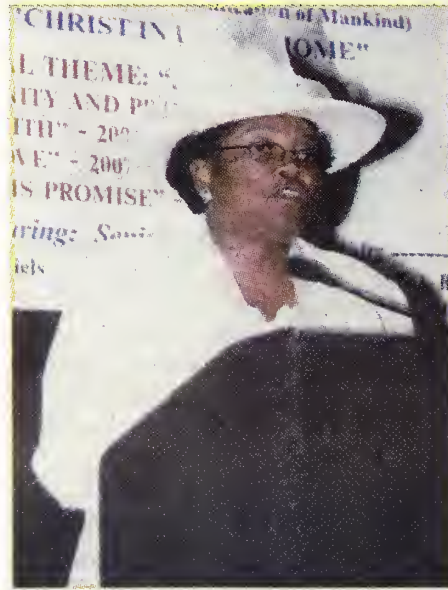
The 55th Annual One Day Session



2nd VP Linda Inman



Honorable Pat Dunn, Mayor Elect



4th VP Ellender LeMay Dr. C.C.



Craig, Jr. Former Exec. Sec.

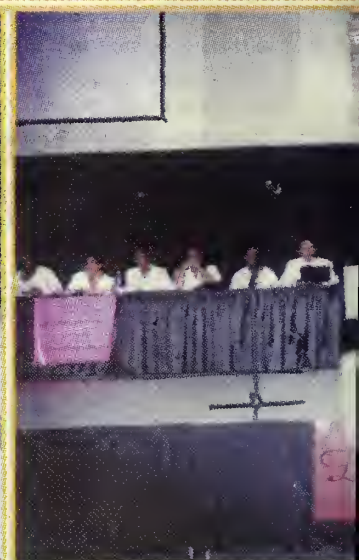
Motto: "Christ



L-R: President Bronnie Daniels, Sec. Sec-Treas Priscilla Brodie, 3rd FP Elizabeth Marrow, 1st VP Audrey Battle



The Young Adult Department



The Youth



A-1 Auxiliaries



Lydia District Conference





Dr. Haywood Gray, Exec. Sec. Treas.



Rev. Terry Henry, Pastor Macedonia



Mrs. Anjanette Chapman YA



Kandae Knight (YA) Tribute Poet

"In Every Home"



Department



Lydia Circles



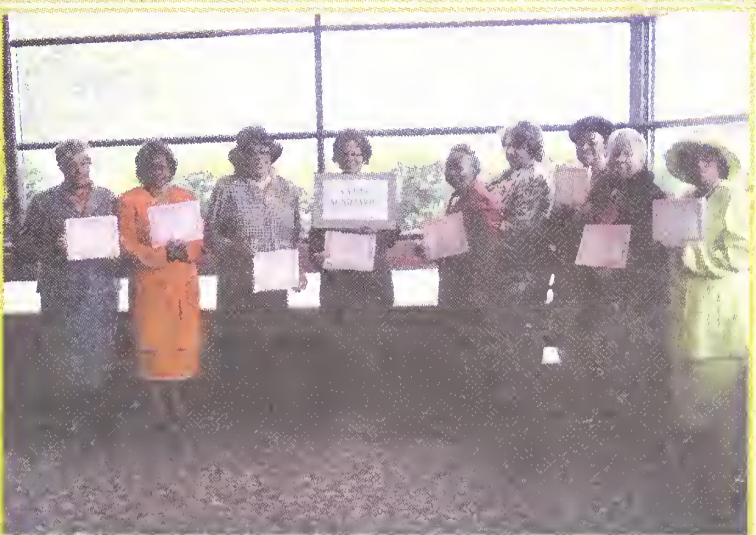
Lydia Unions



ptors



A-1 Unions



Lydia Auxiliaries

Woman's Convention

WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

2008 Calendar

APRIL

Prayer Month for Foreign Mission

5 State Wide Leaders' Workshop - St. Paul Baptist Church, Charlotte

MAY

3 Ministers' Wives and Widows Weekend Retreat
24 United Southern Assembly, 9:30 am

JUNE

7 Young Adult Retreat
9-13 Leadership Training Conference, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
15-19 First Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
21 United Easter Assembly, 9:30 am
22-27 Second Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill
28 Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et. al.)
29 Third Week of Youth Bible Camp, Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY

27-31 Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem

AUGUST

Prayer month for The Family
11-15 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention

SEPTEMBER

8-12 National Baptist Convention
27 Family Missions Conference

OCTOBER

Prayer month for Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School
10 Shaw University Founder's Day convocation
11 WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

1 Youth Evangelism Conference
3 World Day of Prayer (BWA Woman's Dept)
11 WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters
27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 Christmas Day



Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Easter! Yes, Easter. That Easter was in March rather than April as usually was overlooked. However, because of the importance of Easter to the Body of Christ, please accept my apology and receive a belated Easter word.

Bronnie Daniels

As we reflected upon Easter, Jesus' Resurrection, it is hoped we remembered to Rejoice. Did we recall that the women were told to "go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee there you will see Him. Behold I have told you"? Did we remember that "as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, Rejoice! So they came and held Him by the feet and worship Him" (Matthew 28:7,9). Yes! Jesus, the Risen Lord, told them to Rejoice. Should we not Rejoice that no grave could hold our Lord Jesus Christ; that He has given His disciples victory over the grave; that He commanded them, Rejoice? Even so should we not surrender to His Lordship and worship Him? Oh, yes! "He is Lord; He has risen from the grave!" "O, come let us forever adore Him!" REJOICE!

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"
Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing ye heav'ns, and earth reply: Alleluia!
—Charles Wesley

Continue in THE BLESSINGS OF EASTER! REJOICE!

Reminders

1. Institute Senior Books. For the remainder of this fiscal year all institute contact persons are asked to contact the Office before ordering and sending money for books. At this time we have been informed that no other books will be printed. Shown interest for the senior books has exceeded the usual number ordered. Therefore, for the books on hand we shall need to allot a certain number per remaining institute.

2. Ministers Wives/Widows' Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd, 2008. The retreat will be held at First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, located on Moore Street. Please attend and share in the experience. Please secure a registration from the office now and return by April 21, 2008. The theme is "Stand To Give God Glorious Praise."

3. Leadership Training Conference and Youth Bible Camp. (Please see the special note else where in this paper.)

4. Self Denial Envelopes. Please write

Easter: Rejoice

to the Woman's Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602 in order to receive these, or fax your request to 919-833-7599.

5. Housing Reservation Forms will not be used for our 124 Annual Session and All Baptist Assembly in July 2008. Please read and follow the given information.

ADVANCE HOUSING RESERVATION INFORMATION FOR:

THE ALL BAPTIST ASSEMBLY & 124TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

JULY 27TH -31ST, 2008

460 N. Cherry Street,
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Marriott (800) 320-0934
Embassy (800) 696-6107

THE ID CODE FOR THE MARRIOTT, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ALL.

ROOM RATES ARE:
SINGLE/DOUBLE: \$92.00, with tax \$103.73
TRIPLE/QUAD: \$96.00, with tax \$108.24

THE ID CODE FOR THE EMBASSY SUITES, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ABS.

ROOM RATES ARE:
ONE-BEDROOM SUITE (SINGLE/DOUBLE) \$117.00, with tax \$131.92
ONE-BEDROOM SUITE (TRIPLE/QUAD) \$120.00, with tax \$135.30
TWO-BEDROOM SUITE (SINGLE/DOUBLE) \$179.00, with tax \$201.92
TWO-BEDROOM SUITE (TRIPLE/QUAD) \$189.00, WITH TAX \$213.10

In order to make reservations please contact immediately your choice of hotel accommodations at one of the above numbers. There will be no form; therefore, please make your reservation(s) via telephone. The indicated ending date for making reservations is June 27, 2008.



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

Reminder: Please remember to get confirmation numbers once reservations are made and take with you when you attend the All Baptist Assembly and the 124th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

6. Scholarships are given by the Woman's Convention to qualified youth and young adults. Contact the Office for an application. Returned applications are due no later than May 31, 2008.

7. Budget for 2007-2008 is \$803,325.00 which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Please be reminded that of the funds you send for objectives 2/3 should be sent for State Missions. State Missions funds provide all funds for the cost of all ministries and operations for home missions done with and for you in the conventional state-wide ministry. ■

ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!

The WBH&FMC United Southern Assembly
(All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts V & VI)

"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy:
for by faith ye stand." II Corinthians 1:24

Introductory Statement: For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state. Thus under the leadership of President Daniels, the Woman's Convention seeks to implement this initiative.

Purpose(s): To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings across the state (one setting per quarter)

To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through/with the Woman's Convention

Attendees: All above named persons in Districts V & VI

Date: May 24, 2008

Time: 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Place: First Baptist Church, Kenansville

District Chairpersons:

District	Group	Chairperson
5	1	Mrs. Mattie Garmon
5	2	Mrs. C. Trumilla McDowell
6	1	Ms. Joyce A. Hardison
6	2	Mrs. Arvella Marlowe

Clerical Leadership

What They Didn't Teach Me In Seminary:

Developing Leaders in My Congregation

North Carolina IAF
North Carolina United Power

Co-sponsored by:
NC Synod (E.L.C.A.)
Charlotte District Office
(United Methodist Church)
General Baptist State Convention

A practical two-day workshop exploring the challenges and opportunities of leading congregations in North Carolina.

Attendees will be pastors, clergy, and professional religious staff from many different religious denominations and communities throughout North Carolina.

Topics We Will Explore Will Include:

- Concrete Tools and Skills to Analyze and Understand my Congregation
- Concrete Tools and Skills to Analyze and Understand My Community
- Relational Culture....What is It? How is it Built and Maintained?
- How to Identify and Develop Congregational Leaders
- Congregational Development Tools to Make My Congregation Stronger

The session is being sponsored by North Carolina United Power, an interfaith group of religious leaders from our state.

Initial conveners of North Carolina United Power who gathered in Greensboro on May 3, 2007 include Bishops and Religious Executives from the Presbyterian, United Methodist, Catholic, Episcopalian, Jewish, Muslim, General Baptist and Moravian traditions.

The leaders of North Carolina United Power have partnered with the North Carolina IAF, the largest congregation-based organizing network in the state. North Carolina IAF works with religious congregations in Charlotte (HELP), Winston-Salem (CHANGE), Durham (CAN) and the statewide North Carolina Latino Coalition.

Monday, April 7, 2008

9-10 a.m. Registration and Gathering
10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Workshop session

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Workshop session

\$30 Registration Fee
Includes:

double occupancy lodging,
food and conference materials

(see back side for directions)

Please detach the sign-up sheet and return it with registration fee no later than March 28, 2007:

Please write the check to:
Third Reconstruction Institute/ NC United Power
1926 Holloway Street
Durham, NC 27703

Fax: 919-683-1477

For more information,
call 919-530-8515

**CLERICAL LEADERSHIP
TRAINING
SIGN-UP SHEET
April 7 and 8, 2008**

Name: _____

Male Female

Home phone: _____

Work phone: _____

Congregation/Organization: _____

E-mail: _____

Special needs:

Will you need lodging?:

YES NO

Are you vegetarian?

YES NO

Location

Village Inn
6205 Ramada Drive
Clemmons, NC 27012

Directions From Charlotte Area:

1. Head North on I-77 towards Statesville
2. Merge onto I-40 E via exit number 51a towards Winston-Salem
3. Take exit number 184 - toward Lewisville/Clemmons
4. Turn Slight Right onto Lewisville Clemmons Rd
5. Turn immediate Left onto Ramada Drive
6. Turn left into Village Inn parking lot

Directions from Raleigh/Durham Area:

1. Head West on I-40 towards Greensboro/High Point
2. Take the exit number 184 toward Lewisville/Clemmons
3. Turn left onto Lewisville Clemmons Rd
4. Turn immediate Left onto Ramada Drive
5. Turn left into Village Inn parking lot



Presenter and Trainer:

Ken Smith

North Carolina Director, IAF

Ken Smith has almost 30 years of experience working with communities, congregations and clergy leadership development in California and North Carolina. In the course of his work, he has mentored hundreds of professional clergy and has trained and developed thousands of lay leaders who have made a real impact on their congregations and communities. He currently works with the team of North Carolina Bishops and Religious Leaders who make up North Carolina United Power.

Mrs. Lucilla Griswold Paige

The 55th Annual One Day Session of the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina met Saturday, January 12, 2008, at the Greenville Convention Center in Greenville, NC. The convention theme is "To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced through Education, Mission and Fellowship: "Stand In Love."

The General Assembly (joint session) began at 9:00 A.M. with the President, Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, presiding. The opening hymn was "Love Lifted Me" by the Young Adult and Youth mass choir. Praise and devotional moments were by Mrs. Cleo Bowden Chairperson of worship and praise committee; the scripture was John 3:16 by followed by singing "Oh How I Love Jesus."

The Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute consisted of an original poem by Miss Kardae Knight (youth) and a solo, "Precious Lord", by Mrs. Anjanette Chapman (Young Adult).

A singspiration "Stand By Me" and "Faithful Is Our God" was led by Mrs. Audrey L. Battle, First Vice President, WBSC. Greetings were by Honorable Pat Dunn, Mayor-Elect of Greenville, NC, Reverend Ricky Banks, Third Vice President (GBSC) and Dr. Haywood Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, GBSC.

Installation of Officers was by Dr. Howard Parker, Vice President at large, GBSC. The commissioning of Institute Workers was by Reverend Linda Inman, Chairperson, Christian Education. Music "Total Praise" was by the Youth and Young Adult Mass Choir, directed by Ms. JewelIn Dunn.

Minutes of the Executive Board were by Ms. Vanessa Gregory, Secretary.

Bible Study was by Dr. C.C. Craig in the absence of Reverend Dr. Herman Thomas Shaw University. Dr. Craig stated: "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see you good works and glorify your Father in heaven." He said that he had rather see a sermon any day than to hear one. He talked on the Convention theme, and said be an example to convince others. We can't teach others without being grounded in the Word. Whatever you do for the Lord, let it be real.

A musical selection, "Omnipotent, He's Great Our Lord" was by Macedonia Baptist Church Choir, Wilmington, NC.

Recognition of pastors, ministers, visitors, new members, A-1/Lydia Circles, Unions, Auxiliaries and District Conferences was by President Bronnie H. Daniels.

Reports were given by Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Dr. Mary Byers-Hall, and Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow. The scripture reference

Standing In Love For Others

was Acts 1:8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

A plea for stewardship offering- Soul Winning and State Missions- was by Mrs. Ellender LeMay and Ms. Jerrye Griffin.

Musical selection, "Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory To the Lord Our God" and sung were sung by the choir.

Introduction of the pastor was by Mrs. Norma Crummy, a member of Macedonia Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC.

Reverend Terry Henry's sermon title was "Standing In Love." The scripture was Numbers 16:46-48. "So Moses said to Aaron, Take a censer and put fire in it

from the altar, put incense on it, and take quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them, for wrath has gone out from the Lord. The plague has begun. Then Aaron took it as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly; and already the plague had begun among the people. So he put in the incense and made atonement for the people. And he stood between the dead and the living; so the plague was stopped."

What does it take to put a person's life in jeopardy? It takes love. You read in the newspaper and heard on TV and the radio how a man who was waiting with two daughters to catch a train when a man had a seizure and fell on the track. The train was coming and he wanted to save the man. He quickly put his body over the

man and both men were saved within 3 inches. He made a judgment that might cost his life. He stood in the gap for another brother that could not help himself. We talk faith, but don't want to live by faith.

We are surrounded by plagues. How do we get the plague to stop? Love is an action word. Love takes a risk. You will put your life on line when you love people. Love will stop the plague. Aaron acted for those who could not act on their people. He could have lost his life. Aaron stood in for the people. Jesus jumped into stop the plague by dying on the cross for our transgressions, and He was bruised for our iniquities. Jesus stood in for us and He wants us to stand in for others.

After the invitational hymns, altar call and the benediction were given by Reverend Terry Henry. ■



Godfrey M. Laws

I sat down January 13, on Sunday night, as I usually do to watch 60 Minutes. I was outraged to learn that women in the so-called Democratic Republic of Congo are being murdered, raped (by the village), having broken bottles stuck up them, slashed and shot between the legs.

According to 60 Minutes, hundreds of thousands of women have been raped in the past 10 years, most of them gang-raped. In some villages up to 90% of the women have been raped.

Since 2005 some 17,000 UN troops have tried to keep the peace, in a place where factions are fighting power in control some of the world's richest deposits of gold, copper, diamonds and tin.

Even though much of the crime takes place in isolated places like Walungu, in the mountains of the Congo; the government either does not want to, or seems unable to do much about it. Few have been arrested. Anderson Cooper on assignment for 60 Minutes, was taken to a prison to show how many people had been arrested. He found no gates at the prison the inmates were running.

In Walungu, Lucienne M'maroyhi was raped repeatedly by six men. They had her brother hold the flashlight. When they finished, they ordered him to rape her. When he refused, they stabbed him to death.

The topic 60 Minutes used was "The War Against Women". The strategy is to make everything as public as possible to break the minds of the women and shame the village. This is a power play.

..."Assuredly, I say to you, in as much as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40. God has some angels,

Rape In the Congo

like Dr. Denis Mukwege, director of the Panzi Hospital in Eastern Congo, Ms. Aneka Van Woudenberg, senior Congo researcher at "Human Rights Watch", and Ms. Judith Registreis, with an organization called "Women for Women"; a support group for survivors of rape. As far as I know Senator Barack Obama is the only Presidential candidate to speak against this.

I call on every individual, government, church, organization from sororities, fraternities, women's and men's clubs to speak out against this out-rage. We should not only speak out, but to do all we can to stop it.

For more information, please contact: Mr. Godfrey M. Laws (336)599-8178

Special Announcement

Dr. Haywood Gray, GBSC Executive Secretary-Treasurer, has informed us that the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Cafeteria has been damaged extensively by fire. Therefore, he has closed the Assembly for use until further notice.

Because of the fire and shutdown, we will need to change some of the plans (maybe time and place and program). As soon as the details are set forth, we shall inform you. At this time we ask for your prayers for direction, patience and support.

(PRESIDENT, from page 1)

lies. May the love of God continue to envelope you and the peace of God be with you.

Finally my brothers and sisters please remember, as our churches need consistent and regular contributions to meet their obligations, our convention has the same need. Your consistent, regular and steady (monthly) contributions to State Missions provides the necessary fuel to run the engine of GBSC. When we wait to give only at special times, i.e....Mid-Year or Annual sessions, great stress is placed upon our ability to operate effectively and efficiently in ministry. Without question, whenever your gifts are received and in whatever amount, it is greatly appreciated. Congregations that have not given on a

regular basis are challenged to forward a monthly gift of at least \$130.00 for State Missions. A combination of 750 churches giving this minimum monthly gift will provide the necessary funds to fuel our ministry efforts and our ability to serve our churches and associations in ways we've never done before! I, along with our vice-presidents, am traveling the state meeting with pastors and laity about the program of the convention and consistent giving. Please feel free to invite us to your area for refreshing and frank discussions about our great work.

Above all, please remember to pray for our convention and the work God has placed in our hands to accomplish. Thank you for all you do and are going to do. May the favor of God be upon you and yours.

State sets new vaccine requirements

March 5, 2008.

A booster dose of the childhood vaccine for tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis, called Tdap, will be required for most North Carolina students entering the sixth grade and for students going to college for the first time.

The new rules, approved Monday by the state Commission for Public Health, also mandate a second dose of mumps vaccine for all children before enrolling in school, college or university.

The changes put North Carolina immunization rules in line with national recommendations, which were changed in recent years to encourage additional vaccine coverage for mumps and pertussis, otherwise known as whooping cough.

Most children are fully protected against whooping cough before entering kindergarten, but immunity wanes after about 10 years. In recent years, cases of whooping cough have been rising nationally.

The new state immunization requirements are designed to reduce the incidence of whooping cough and mumps in North Carolina, said Beth Rowe-West, head of the state immunization branch. Both shots will be available at no cost to all children through the state's Universal Vaccine Program.

Most children receive two doses of mumps vaccine in standard immunizations. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's pediatrician to determine whether the shot is required. (N&O 3/08) ■

Welcomed to fold, with less water

Two Baptist churches saved water Sunday as they saved souls.

Benjamin Niolet, Staff Writer,
News & Observer

FUQUAY-VARINA - Two Baptist churches saved water Sunday as they saved souls.

The churches held a joint baptism for 10 people. One by one, the white-robed believers stepped into a heated, 400-gallon pool at the front of the sanctuary at St. Augusta Missionary Baptist Church and were dunked backward into the water.

Filling one baptismal pool instead

of two saved hundreds of gallons. It was a step for conservation in the face of the worst drought in state history. In the weeks to come, more churches in Fuquay-Varina and Holly Springs expect



to combine baptisms, a big step that requires overcoming barriers between churches that worship the same God but disagree heartily on the finer points of doctrine.

"We've done a lot of things across denominations and across churches, but I never thought we'd be doing baptism together," said the Rev. Marvin Connelly Jr., pastor of St. Augusta Missionary Baptist Church, which hosted members of Faith Missionary Baptist

Church of Fuquay-Varina for the ceremony Sunday.

When you do the math, the decision to combine ceremonies for multiple baptisms, an outward sign of the decision to become a Christian, about once a month. Together, they probably baptize 10 people. But each church may have only one or two people to baptize, which means each church has to fill its pool, which can hold up to 400 gallons. By combining multiple ceremonies into one, the churches figure they can save

thousands of gallons of tap water.

But the hard part was overcoming the doctrinal differences. Connelly said the churches turned to Scripture and cited a passage from

Ephesians that described "one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

"The Lord is not really interested in our smaller reasons for differences," Connelly said.

The ceremonies will rotate between the churches, and pastors will participate to ensure each church uses its preferred prayer or reading.

The churches are discussing continuing joint ceremonies, perhaps during Easter week, even after the drought ends. (N&O) ■

Christian Faith Baptist Church offers free tests



Dr. David C. Forbes, Sr.
Pastor, Christian Faith Baptist Church

A Raleigh church organized a free public screening for HIV and syphilis Saturday in hopes of stemming the spread of sexually transmitted diseases in the black community.

Christian Faith Baptist Church worked with Wake County Human Services and two outreach groups to offer the tests at Southgate Plaza Shopping Center off Rock Quarry Road. The church's pastor, David C. Forbes Sr., said churches are respected in the black community, making them an effective means of reaching people about AIDS.

"We believe it is an extension of practicing our faith," Forbes said. "The Lord does not want people to perish

from ignorance."

By day's end, outreach workers had spoken to about 150 people and tested 32 of them, most black and Hispanic, said Lynice Williams, who leads the church's AIDS ministry.

Blacks make up less than 22 percent of North Carolina's population, yet accounted for two-thirds of new HIV and AIDS cases in the state in 2006, the most recent year for which numbers are available, according to the state Division of Public Health.

Project STYLE and the Alliance of AIDS Services-Carolina helped with the screening program.

Chermaine Arthur, who works with the alliance, said she wished more churches would follow Christian Faith's example, "because the church is a place people look up to and a place they go for assistance." (N&O, 3/08) ■



Baptist Informer

RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM



Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check)

New Subscription

Renewal

Address Change (include old address label)

Number of Years: (check one)

1 Year 2 Years

3 Years

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention

603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601

(919) 821-7466 • www.gbisc.org

Signature _____

BAPTIST *Inform*er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiaabrandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Breed Community Church, a predominantly African American congregation birthed by God in 2004, is seeking a Bi-vocational Pastor, who loves the Lord and has been called by God to serve as an Under-shepherd. This individual should be born again, led by the Holy Spirit and meeting the qualifications outlined in Titus 2.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and a letter of interest, including a statement of your philosophy of the Pastor's role in church leadership.

Please forward resumes and letters of interest by April 30, 2008 to:

Pastoral Search Team
New Breed Community Church
110 Towerview Ct.
Cary, NC 27513
Or email them to nbcchurch@bellsouth.net.

PASTORAL VACANCY

Mt. Bright Missionary Baptist Church is seeking candidates for the position of senior pastor. The church has approximately 150 members and is located in Hillsborough, NC, a small historical town just west of the Triangle area. More demographic information about Mt. Bright is available upon request. Applicants who would like to be considered for this position should possess the following:

- Have ministerial experience, though not necessarily as a senior pastor
- Have graduated from an accredited college or university and Seminary
- Be licensed and ordained as a Baptist minister
- Ability to administer the sacraments of communion and Baptism
- Possess strong administrative, leadership, and computer skills
- Possess excellent communication skills
- Expected to preach, teach, counsel, perform marriage ceremonies, visit sick, & conduct funerals
- Represent the church at Association, State, and National Conventions
- Be family and community oriented
- Ability to work with all ages in the church
- Cooperate with church officials
- Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct, living by 1 Timothy 3: 1 - 7
- Concerned with the spiritual and intellectual growth of the Church
- Be willing to be evaluated on an annual basis
- Be willing to live in close proximity to the church
- Be willing to submit to a background check

Please submit resumes no later than April 15, 2008 to:

Jo Borden - Chairperson
Pulpit Committee
Mt. Bright Missionary Baptist Church
211 West Union Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278 or mtbrightsearch@aol.com

Ministers & Missionaries Benefits Board Plan (MMBB) • (1-800-986-6222)

How to Pay the Pastor

"Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching; for the scripture says, '... the laborer deserves to be paid'" -

Timothy 5:17-18

Fair compensation for those in ministry is often viewed as a puzzle with disparate pieces. Making decisions about pastoral compensation requires careful review of many facts. The church's financial resources and unique circumstances play a major role in determining cash salary and housing, but there are many pieces that need to be examined before a fair solution can be found.

First the minister should be evaluated regarding:

1. Responsibilities
2. Experience
3. Education
4. Expertise
5. Effectiveness
6. Years of Service

Then the following factors should be researched and documented:

The cost of living and salaries of professionals with similar education, experience and responsibilities.

A review of pastoral compensation for similar size churches based on average Sunday worship attendance, membership and budget can be obtained from your regional office. For more information call (1-800-986-6222).

MARCH BAPTIST INFORMER CORRECTION

Working for Healthy Communities

House Bill 1473 provides in part, \$500,000 in non-recurring funds appropriated to the Department Of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for the Health Disparities initiative in the 2007-2008 fiscal years as grant in aid to honor the memory of the recently deceased members of the NC General Assembly.

Pastoral Vacancy

Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC) Raleigh, North Carolina

Job Description:

The 500+ member congregation of Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC) in Raleigh, North Carolina, a predominantly African American congregation, is seeking a pastor who demonstrates an enthusiastic love for Christ, possesses and applies a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and has a clearly defined vision for the church. The individual shall be a born-again Christian who is thoroughly immersed in the Holy Spirit, meeting the scriptural qualifications outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. The pastor will be responsible for intrinsically inspiring and emphatically motivating others to operate in a spirit of excellence while using their gifts and talents for God in planning, coordinating and evaluating all activities of the church. MSBC's friendly, out-going and approachable pastor will be able to relate to all age groups and minister to every person in the congregation. S/he will provide leadership in evangelism, outreach, missions education and missions projects. The pastor shall be of impeccable professionalism and personal integrity at the highest level. MSBC's pastor shall directly with the Deacon Board and associate ministers of the church, while supervising and evaluating the work of a staff of three (3) employees.

Job Requirements:

(Only candidates with these requirements will be considered)

- Exhibit a well developed vision for the future of the church and of doing God's work and enthusiastically share with the church.
- Increase membership, strengthen yourself and the church through private and public devotion, prayer and as the leader of Bible study, availing yourself of on-going education.
- Minister in the midst of a crisis, for example death, sickness, or other traumatic events in individuals' lives.
- Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology.
- Increase youth membership and foster greater Christian service. Have strong skills in program planning and the implementation of youth activities.
- Plan and conduct well-prepared and meaningful worship services that are relevant to all aspects of the congregation which would facilitate congregational growth.
- Minister to, befriend, nurture, support, reconcile, and affirm church members in their homes, through informal contact, and at church; Pastoral counseling.
- Lead the church staff. Manage the affairs of the congregational organization through planning, decision making, delegating, evaluating and managing conflict and stress.
- Set aside time to assist persons facing problems or decisions.
- Be aware of and concerned with community needs, activities, and affairs and be capable of addressing these concerns from a pastoral perspective.
- Share, personally, the Christian faith, enabling laypersons to witness and support denominational missions.
- Display an understanding of the formal and informal structure of the Baptist Church organizations. Be accountable for the integrity and external perception of the Martin Street Baptist Church and use this understanding to influence support to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Church.

Education/Experience:

- At least 5 or more years of active, continuous experience as an ordained Baptist minister in good standing with affiliated religious organizations.
 - Advanced degree (Masters or higher) in theological training from an accredited School of Divinity or Seminary.
 - 3-5 references required (at least 1 from current employer).
- Job Start date: Negotiable. Job Salary: Negotiable.

How to apply: (applications due by April 30, 2008)

Please forward a letter of interest discussing qualifications. Include resume, official copies of all college/university and Divinity School transcripts and 3-5 letters of reference to:

Deacon Donald Liles, Chair
Pastor Search Committee
Martin Street Baptist Church
1001 East Martin Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

If you have questions, please call the church office at 919.833.9756 between 9am and 5pm.

GBSC and MMBB Offer Essential Benefits

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (GBSC) and The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) partner to make the following essential benefits available to pastors and other employees of GBSC-related organizations:

- The Benefits for Life program builds retirement income while providing pre-retirement disability and life insurance protection
- The Tax-Deferred Annuity gives employers a way to make additional retirement contributions for their employees
- The Annuity Supplement cuts current taxes as employees save on a pre-tax basis
- Medical, dental and long-term care insurance are also available at group rates.

MMBB's has been ministering to churches and their employees since 1911.

For more about the plans or MMBB's financial ministry, please call:

Mr. Dexter Perry, A&B Management Services, Inc. 1400 Crescent Green, Suite G-100, Cary, North Carolina, 27511 Phone 919.858.7817, or Ms. Rose Harper, MMBB, Phone 800.222.3872 ext. 2348.

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

*To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
Dear Christian Leader and Friends,*

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

New Saint John Missionary Baptist Church

Charlotte, NC

We are currently accepting applications for position of Pastor.

Qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Licensed and ordained Baptist minister
- Strong Christian leadership
- Have vision for spiritual and intellectual growth of church
- Candidate must be able to minister to congregation (preach and teach)
- Possess management and business skills
- Theology or seminary degree preferred
- Ability to pass criminal and credit background check

This list is not inclusive, but serves as a snapshot of what is expected of a Pastor of New Saint John Baptist church.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and brief biological sketch to:

**Pastoral Search Committee
New Saint John Baptist Church
P.O. Box 16725**

**Charlotte, North Carolina 28297-6725
Attention: Deacon Bernard Caldwell, Chairman**

PASTORAL VACANCY FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

722 Sikes Avenue • Wadesboro, N.C.

Is accepting letters of interest/resume's for licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Reply only if you are sincerely interested and meet the stated qualifications.

1. Must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach the gospel.
2. Must be family oriented, with a reputation of being a good role model.
3. Must have a strong reputation of honesty and integrity.
4. Must be a graduate of a four-year accredited college or university.
5. Must be an effective communicator with sufficient command of the English language.
6. Must possess strong knowledge of Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
7. Must be an effective leader, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
8. Must have skills necessary to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
9. Must have at least four years of experience as pastor, but will consider years of experience as an assistant pastor.
10. Must have excellent teaching skills (Biblical).

Please reply to:

The First Baptist Church
Pastor's Search Committee
Deacon Jay J. Clark
P.O. Box 157
Hoffman, N.C. 28347
(910) 2814819

Please include the following information in your reply: name, age, marital status, phone numbers, and an e-mail address. Application form will be mailed to you.

LIBERTY HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
WAXHAW, NORTH CAROLINA

Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Waxhaw, North Carolina is currently Seeking a Pastor who is ordained, licensed, spiritual leader counselor and teacher.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2008.

Candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Full of the Holy Ghost, wisdom and knowledge. Be of good reputation.
- Must be married and have strong family values
- Must be willing to work with all ages groups, especially the your of the church.
- Male or female with at least 3 years or more of pastoral experience.
- Must have knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies, and procedures and be willing to follow them
- Must exhibit leadership skills that are not dictatorial.

All applicants should provide the following information:

- Copy of high school diploma, college degree(s), certificates of license and ordination
- Name, address and telephone number of four recent character references
 - 2 personal
 - 2 coming from other ministers

All material should be forward to: Chairman Edward Bradley
c/o Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church
520 Billy Howey Road
Waxhaw, North Carolina 28173

PASTORAL VACANCY

St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church
Rockingham, NC

Is currently accepting resumes for a Pastor
Resumes will be accepted until March 31, 2008

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be between the ages of 30-55 years.
- Must be a graduate of an Accredited College and Seminary.
- Must have at least (3) years of Pastoral Experience.
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister.
- Must reside within a (75) mile radius from the church.
- Must have the ability and skill to teach, counsel, perform various types of ceremonies.
- Must represent the church Association, State and National Conventions.
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check.
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the church.

Submit resume to: **St Stephen Missionary Baptist Church**
Attn: Pulpit Committee
P O Box 772
Rockingham, NC 28380

Pastoral Vacancy

BROWN NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Brown New Calvary Baptist Church of Thomasville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must have the Biblical qualities of a Pastor as defined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- Must possess a Passion for God, His Word, and His People
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups within the church
- Must live or be willing to live within 60 mile radius of the church
- Must be at least 34 years old and pastoral experience preferred
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual growth of the church
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability

All applicants should mail the following to the address below:

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include their home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to: Brown New Calvary Baptist Church
Attn: Pulpit Committee
200 Doak Street
Thomasville, North Carolina 27360



Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church

102 Mt. Olive Road • Windsor, North Carolina 27983

REOPENED 11-01-07
PASTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE

with an approximate membership of over 400 African-American congregants located in rural eastern North Carolina

Qualifications: The successful applicant must possess at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college, university or seminary and proven ability to prepare and deliver stimulating and inspirational sermons. A Master in Theology or some other religious area or pursuing the same is preferred. Additionally, this candidate will have the following traits: a firm grasp of Baptist policy, thorough belief in and knowledge of the principles of our faith, demonstrated aptitude to teach, broad education preparation and good health.

The candidate shall be a person serious in purpose, careful in speech, sound in Baptist doctrine, and above reproach in life and conduct. The candidate shall have an appreciation for a diversity of religious music and a zeal for Christian education. Further, the candidate must:

- Be a spiritual leader able to cast a vision for growth and expansion
- Possess at least 3 years of pastoral experience (Senior, Associate, Assistant)
- Possess high interpersonal relationship skills
- Demonstrate a compassionate approach to visiting members (including sick, shut-in, and the needy)
- Possess good leadership development ability
- Possess sound budget/financial management skills
- Possess a record of impeccable administrative and organizational abilities
- Possess strength in evangelism
- Possess praiseworthy counseling ability
- Be a person dedicated to fulfilling the mission of the church in harmony with God's Holy Word

Salary and benefits are open for negotiation, commensurate with qualifications and experience. The deadline to submit applications is until the position is filled.

All interested parties should submit a letter of interest, which requests an application to:

Pulpit Search Committee
Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 214
Lewiston, North Carolina 27849

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

Upcoming
Events...

BAPTIST Informer

at J.J. Johnson Assembly



FEBRUARY 29, 2008

Above: Photo on left shows kitchen area before the fire. Right shows kitchen area after the fire.

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



Election Calendar for May Primary May 6, 2008 Primary Election

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Last day to register to vote in May 6th Primary ElectionFriday, April 11, 2008

ABSENTEE VOTING

First day to request Absentee Ballots by mail Monday, March 17, 2008

Last day to request Absentee Ballots by mail Tuesday, April 29, 2008

ONE-STOP ABSENTEE VOTING

At the Elections Office on King Street - begins Thursday, April 17, 2008

One-Stop absentee voting ends 1:00 pm on Saturday, May 3, 2008

ELECTION DAY

Primary Election Day 6:30 am until 7:30 pm Tuesday, May 6, 2008

11/29/2008
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553

S16 P18

131:5
NC



Informel BAPTIST



Volume 131, No. 5

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

May 2008

Roanoke Rapids Hotels

Headquarter Hotel

Comfort Suites Roanoke Rapids

74 Premier Blvd
Roanoke Rapids,
NC 27870
(252) 535-3300
GBSC rate
\$99.00



I-95 & Us 158
Only 0.7 Miles From Halifax
Community College



Sleep Inn
Roanoke Rapids
101 Sleep Inn Dr.
Roanoke Rapids,
NC
(252) 537-3141

Only 0.6 Miles From Halifax
Community College

Jameson Inn Roanoke Rapids

101 Old Farm
Rd, Roanoke
Rapids, NC
(252) 533-0022



Only 1.0 Miles From Halifax
Community College



**Holiday Inn
Express**
136 Sheraton Dr
Roanoke Rapids,
NC
(800) 465-43299

Only 2.4 Miles
From Halifax Community College

**Dr. Clarence G.
Newsome**
President, Shaw
University



May 9, 2008
Shaw University
Baccalaureate

May 10, 2008
Shaw University
Commencement



GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC

Greetings to you in the marvelous name of Jesus, our Christ.

The month of May will be an exciting and perhaps historic month in the life of our General Baptist family. Our mid-year session is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated in recent history. All roads lead to Ronoake-Rapids/Weldon for the session. As you may recall, our administration is committed to ensuring delegates will receive information that will enhance your ministry in the local church. We anticipate workshops for pastors and church employees with emphasis on personal financial stability i.e....retirement, disability, etc. Also included is a seminar on leadership for pastors and a seminar designed for women only by our own North Carolina Supreme Court Justice, Patricia Goodson. And of course, great worship with outstanding preaching from the area and beyond.

Due to the primary elections, our session was moved to May 13th. As a result of the new date, Moderators Robert Sessoms and James Burston have cooperated with us and combined associational schedules with that of our Mid-Year. We are grateful for their spirit of cooperation. In the spirit of giving, I am asking each church for a liberal financial gift for State

Missions. For those who can and will please bring or send a \$1000.00 gift. Remember, to whom much is given, much is required. God has given us a great work, and provided (through us) the resources to support it. Looking forward to seeing you at the session.

A word about the elections. It is quite interesting that the attention of the nation is focused on a preacher! The nation is up in arms about comments made in a sermon by Reverend Doctor Jeremiah Wright. The majority culture, and some minorities, was offended and shocked by a "sound bite" from a particular sermon. Words such as racism, hatred and rage were assigned to his comments. It is quite interesting many did not listen to the entire sermon to place the "sound bite" in proper context. Few have discussed the biblical and prophetic truth of the word. Perhaps if the majority culture and others took time to understand the culture of others they would not be so quick to condemn that which they choose not to comprehend. The outcry against Dr. Wright's comment is mainly an assault on the Black church and its historic prophetic role in this country and around the globe. Does not the word say "by the foolishness of preaching..."? Please be energized to vote and lead others to do the same. It is not just a privilege, it is a responsibility. VOTE!

Finally, Jackie and I were honored to

travel on behalf of Lott Carey to Rome, Italy in April. Lott Carey co-sponsored a



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

citywide celebration of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. on April 4 and 5th with our partners, the Baptist Union of Italy. The celebration lasted two-days and included worships, luncheons, concerts and gatherings in conjunction with the mayor's office of Rome. We learned about discrimination our partners face in Italy, and gained a better understanding of their deep respect for civil rights movement in America and King's contribution and ultimate sacrifice. Discrimination and injustice is demonic and must be dealt with no matter by whom, when and where it is practiced. Please lift the Baptist Union in your prayers, as they are truly a minority in Italy.

May God bless you and continue to bless our convention.

2008 Mid Year Session

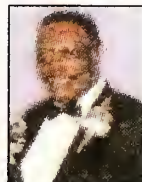
of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.



Rev. Robert Sessoms, Moderator
Northampton Missionary Baptist Association

JOINT HOSTS

Reverend W.R. Burston, Moderator
Neuse River Missionary Baptist Association



The Centre at Halifax Community College is the selected venue for the 2008 Mid Year Session of the General Baptist State Convention. The Centre (located at 200 College Drive in Weldon, NC) is a multi-use facility on the HCC campus that will provide space for the worship, instruction, business and registration for the upcoming Mid-Year Session.

The Centre will provide the opportunity to house all of the Mid Year Session events under one roof. The facility will provide space for the main sessions, breakout classrooms for workshops, a large area for meals, and an open area for registration and for fellowship.

2008 Mid Year Session

2008 Mid Year Session Representation

May 13 - 14, 2008

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 30, 2008

On-site registration begins May 13 at 11:00 a.m.

1. You may register on-site for this session. Registration will begin at 11:00 a.m. on May 13 in the Lobby of "The Centre" at Halifax Community College (200 College Drive, Weldon, NC). Checks should be made payable to GBSC.
2. If you wish to pre-register, you may do so. Your pre-registration form must be received at the Baptist Headquarters (603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601) by noon on April 30. Any forms received after this date will be processed on-site.
3. If your Church will not attend or represent at this session, you may send your representation fee and your contribution for State Missions to the Baptist Headquarters (603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601).
4. The following chart outlines the Constitutional requirements for representation. Please use this chart to determine the amount you must pay to represent and the number of messengers that your Church is entitled to send to this session.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP	AMOUNT TO REPRESENT	NUMBER OF MESSENGERS
1 - 50 Members	\$20.00	2 Messengers
51 - 100 Members	\$35.00	3 Messengers
101 - 250 Members	\$50.00	4 Messengers
251 - 500 Members	\$75.00	5 Messengers
501 - 750 Members	\$100.00	6 Messengers
751 - 1000 Members	\$125.00	7 Messengers
1001 and above	\$150.00	8 Messengers

5. You are entitled to send the number of persons indicated above based on the size of your Church and your representation fee. **Each person listed on your registration form as a messenger is entitled to 1 badge and 1 registration kit.** Additional persons may register for a fee of \$10.00 per person. **In addition to the representation fees above, your Church is required to send a contribution for State Missions. The amount to be sent for State Missions is left up to your Church.**
6. This form must be signed.
7. You may name up to three alternate messengers in the event that someone you have selected is not able to attend.
8. Registration forms must be accompanied by the appropriate fee.
9. No lost registration badges will be re-issued.



GBSC REPRESENTATION FORM

2008 MID YEAR SESSION

May 13 - 14, 2008

Halifax Community College, 200 College Drive, Weldon, NC

Date: _____ Church Membership: _____
PLACE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON ROLL IN BOX ABOVE

Name of Church: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Pastor's Name: _____

SECTION A: FEES

Representation (Based on size of congregation; see chart on back) _____
 State Missions (A contribution of your choice is REQUIRED) _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

SECTION B: MESSENGERS

NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____
6 _____	_____
7 _____	_____
8 _____	_____

SECTION C: ALTERNATE MESSENGERS

NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____

Pastor's Signature: _____ Phone: _____
 Clerk's Signature: _____ Phone: _____

In Loving Memory of Our Known Fallen Clergy



Dr. Howard Parker

Dr. Howard Parker
Vice President At
Large

The Rev. Dr. Wilkin W. Williams, 74, died March 5, 2008. He was born on Oct. 7, 1933, in Florence County, S.C. to the late Wilkin Williams Sr. and Ruth Woods Williams. Funeral services were held on March 8 at 11 a.m. at Pee Dee Union Baptist Church in Cheraw, S.C.

He graduated from Wilson High School in Florence and obtained degrees from South Carolina State College, Clemson University, Shaw University and Cocker College. He was also a Doctoral Fellow at the University of South Carolina.

Williams served as the pastor of Union Hill Baptist Church in Pageland,

S.C., Pleasant Plains Baptist Church in Lancaster, S.C. and Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church in Wadesboro, where he served for nearly thirty years.

He was also a moderator and member of the Executive Board of the Zion Missionary Baptist Association.

He was active with the Cheraw Federal Housing Commission, the United Way, the NAACP, Cheraw Rotary Club, Cheraw Ministerial Association, S.C. Law Enforcement and Improvement Commission and St. David Lodge #467 of Free and Accepted Masons.

He was preceded in death by his son, Wilkin Williams III; two sisters, Betty and Drewie; and his brother Maxie.

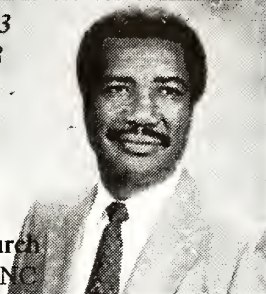
He is survived by his wife, Rosalie; his three children, Rev. Rodney (Renee) Williams of Hillsborough, N.J.; Dr. Carmen Williams of Arlington, Va. and

Attorney Jennifer (Chris) Hill of Charlotte; a grandchild; six sisters, Clara Addison, Pecolia Baker, Bernice

Reverend Dr. W. W. Williams
Sunrise 1933
Sunset 2008



Ebenezer
Missionary
Baptist Church
Wadesboro, NC



Sellers, Winnie Gadson, Arteal Pygatt and Nina Frierson; five sisters-in-law, Edith Wiggins, Dorothy Smalls, Queen Spann, Ruth (James) King and Irene Miller-Graves; three brothers-in-law, James (Mel) Williams, Roosevelt (Bernetha) Williams and Thomas (Annette) Williams; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. ■

The Life of Reverend Fred A. Griffin, Sr.

Reverend Fred Andrew Griffin, Sr., son of the late Thomas and Julia Watts Griffin was born February 21, 1926, in Cross Hill, South Carolina. Rev. Griffin was the fourth child born to this union which included eleven other children.

Rev. Griffin was educated in schools of Cross Hill Township, Laurens County, South Carolina. Continuing his education and answering the call of the One Divine God, Rev. Griffin received his Bachelors of Arts Degree in Religion

from Teamers School.

He started his employment in 1950 with Johnson Motor Lines, Charlotte, NC. While employed with Johnson Motor Lines. Rev. Griffin became the first African American freight checker and the second African-American to drive a tractor trailer. After thirty years of service Rev. Griffin retired in 1981.

Always caring about his community. Rev. Griffin became an active member of the Lincoln Heights Action Committee. Also having a foundation of faith within his community involvement, he became a member of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons. Myersville Lodge #687. Still seeking light from the Creator he joined the Charlotte Consistory #35. Rev. Griffin was also a member of the Shrine Temple 1051, serving ten years as High Priest and Prophet and time years as a drill team member.

In the early morning of January 26, 2008. God gently and triumphantly took Rev. Fred Griffin home. He leaves to cherish his memories and to serve as a beacon of inspiration; three sons, Melvin (Vacie), Wyman (Maria). And Timothy Griffin all of Charlotte, NC; two brothers, Rev. Peron Griffin, Sr. of Charlotte and Rev. Thomas C. Griffin (Helen) of Willow Grove, PA; five sisters, Otis Hill of Spartanburg, SC, Lillian Stephens, Mary Todd-White and Julia Cunningham (Johnnie) of Charlotte, NC and Annette Ruffin, (Roy) of Suffolk, VA; 18 Grandchildren, 8 Great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews, cousins and friends. ■

HOW TO REACH US

PRESIDENT

DR. GREGORY K. MOSS, SR.
(704) 334-5309
GMOSS1@BELLSOUTH.NET

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE

DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
(252) 355-2966
shmbaptist@earthlink.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

DR. NILOUS AVERY, II
(704) 637-0954
AveryRevKin@aol.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
(704) 598-2219
ldlynch@ebccharlotte.org

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

DR. RICKY BANKS
(252) 335-5035
pastorrickybanks@yahoo.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT

DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
(919) 807-1194
mountpeachbc@aol.com

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

DR. HAYWOOD T. GRAY
(919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR/MANGING EDITOR

MRS. PORTIA H. BRANDON, M. DIV.
(919) 821-7466 portiabrandon@hotmail.com

WBH & FMC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dr. PRISCILLA BRODIE
pbrodie@wbhfm.org

WBH & FMC, PRESIDENT

MRS. BRONNIE HARRIS DANIELS,
PRESIDENT (336) 767-6156

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, PRESIDENT

MISS LULA GAINEY
(910) 728-0021
lulagainey@ccs.k12.nc.us

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT

MR. THEODORE DAVID
(919) 508-5468
Theodore.david@pgnmail.com

USHER'S CONVENTION, PRESIDENT

MRS. HELEN THOMPSON
(910) 488-5322



Pastor, Preacher, Teacher

Pastor stands before the congregation
And proclaims, "Thus saith the Lord!"
Utters prayers, baptizes folk,
Marries and buries with the best;
Shouts and sings with a loud voice
At morning and evening time;
Called by God to bring the Word
Blessed be, blessed be.

We treasure our pastor for kind words,
great sermons,
Marvelous information, insight
and compassion,
Knowledge and patience,
For being the person God created,
To bring us beyond Calvary,
To the Resurrection and the New Jerusalem.

O pastor, preacher, teacher,
We depend on you to bring the Word
from on high
To lift God's praises up to the sky
and back to us,
In God we do trust.

We seek God through you.
You're not God.
You're more than the various roles
you perform,
You and God's chosen;
We commend your work
May you be blessed.
Be true to yourself and your call.

Let's honor each other;
Giving honor to God,
Love to our neighbor, and to ourselves;
Pastor, preacher, teacher,
You, too, are God's creature,
We love you,
God bless you;
Well done!

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President



Dr. Nilous
Avery, II

"To all in [the General Baptist family] who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world" (Romans 1:7-8, NIV).

The story is told about a man who was walking down the street and pulling a chain behind him. Several individuals asked him why he was pulling the chain. He replied which an interesting question of his own: "Did you ever try to push one?" The idea of pushers and pullers has existed through the ages.

In Jesus' day, the Caesars, the centu-

rions, and the religious leaders symbolized pushers who sought to destroy Jesus and push people against their will. When pushers spoke, people were expected to jump in submissive and oppressive obedience.

Jesus provided an insightful directive to the twelve original disciples in Matthew 20:25-26 (NIV): "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant."

Walter Rauschenbusch (The Social Principles of Jesus) suggests that Jesus chose the kind of people he did to follow Him because Jesus wanted to influence the world with a new kind of leadership -- one that would serve and not exploit.

"To the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen."

(Romans 16: 27, NIV)

Jesus sought people who would not be spoiled by success and poisoned by the possession of power. The search continues today!

According to Clarence Cranford (Taught by the Master), Jesus' idea of leadership clashed with the popular thought of that day. Many thought of leadership as climbing on top of people to gain position and power. Jesus' idea of leadership emphasized getting underneath people and their problems, and trying to lift them to a new life, a new hope, a new purpose, and a new fulfillment.

Jesus is our exemplary model: "...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve" (Matthew 20:28, NIV). Therefore, we must be servants of Christ in our homes, churches, to our

communities, and the world. We have been saved in order to serve! We must serve with compassion, not confusion. We are equipped, enlightened, empowered, and endowed by the Holy Spirit to be:

- Pullers, not pushers,
- Lifters, not oppressors,
- Persuaders, not dictators,
- Missionaries, not "messy-naries!"

We can live out our call to be pullers and not pushers through our prayerful and financial support of our General Baptist State Convention objectives, particularly State Missions. Numerous initiatives are possible when we support this arm of our great convention. These initiatives provide opportunities for individuals, local churches, associations, unions, and others to invest in our General Baptist Convention's aim and desire "to convince the unconvinced to be convinced through education, missions, and fellowship."

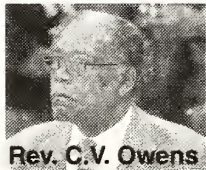
The Progressive National Baptist Convention Inc.

Dr. T. DeWitt Smith, Jr.

2008 Annual Session - August 3 - 8, 2008

Atlanta, Georgia

PNBC 47th Annual Session Housing
8630 Fenton Street, Suite 126
Silver Spring, MD 20910



Rev. C.V. Owens

Headquarters Hotel	\$99.00	\$119.00	\$139.00	\$149.00	Please contact PNBC Housing (301) 588-0000
Atlanta Marriott Marquis 265 Peachtree Center Avenue Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone: (404) 521-0000					
Hyatt Regency Atlanta 265 Peachtree Street, NE Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone: (404) 577-1234	\$105.00	\$125.00	\$135.00	\$145.00	Please contact PNBC Housing (301) 588-0000
Hilton Atlanta 255 Courtland Street, NE Atlanta, GA 30303 Phone: (404) 659-2000	\$119.00	\$129.00	\$139.00	\$149.00	Please contact PNBC Housing (301) 588-0000

What the child says, he has heard at home.

- African Proverb

HAPPY
Mother's
DAY

Central Children's Home of North Carolina, Inc.

"Pioneer Child Care Institution"

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. George Cook, Jr. (Pastor of Greater Mount Sinai Baptist Church of Charlotte) serving in the capacity of the President of the Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following:

The retirement of our current Executive Director is extended until further notice. A diligent search for a successor is in progress. The entire Board of Directors is fully committed to a new direction. We realize new approaches are essential in addressing the challenges confronting children and their families in today's society. In this regard, an independent consultant has been retained to determine the effectiveness of our current program services. Likewise, the consultant will recommend the innovative strategies to address new service demands of those needing our help. To provide adequate resources, the Board of Directors is dedicated to improving fund raising efforts to include developing land assets to establish an endowment to support future operations.

Furthermore, we respectfully request that you continue your support of the Central Children's Home as we diligently search for an Executive Director to carry on our tradition of great work.

Mother's Love

A father may turn his back on his child, brothers and sisters may become inveterate enemies, husbands may desert their wives, wives their husbands. But a mother's love endures through all; in good repute, in bad repute, in the face of the world's condemnation, a mother still loves on, and still hopes that her child may turn from his evil ways, and repent; still she remembers the infant smiles that once filled her bosom with rapture, the merry laugh, the joyful shout of his childhood, the opening promise of his youth; and she can never be brought to think him all unworthy.

103rd Session of the NBC of Christian Education

Dr. R.B. Holmes, President • June 16 - 20, 2008 • Louisville, KY

National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Housing Office • C/O Mt. Ollie Baptist Church
 P.O. Box 330511 • 1698 St. Marks Ave. • Brooklyn, NY 11233 • 718.346.9290
 Toll Free 866.531.3003 • Fax 718.385.0140

Housing/Hotel Information 2008 Congress of Christian Education Annual Session Louisville, KY		HOTEL NAME	BLOCKS & SINGLE/DOUBLE/TRIP/QUAD MILES TO	SUITE RATE
Please note: Sales Tax is 15.01% Subject to change w/o notice. Not included in the room rates.		Best Western Airport East EXPO 1921 Bishop Lane Louisville, Kentucky, 40218-1901 Phone: (502) 456-4411 Fax: (502) 456-2592	7 Miles Kentucky Convention Center	(P+1= Parlor + 1 Bedroom) N/A
The Brown Hotel 335 West Broadway Louisville, KY Phone: (502) 583-1234 Reserv.: (888) 888-5252		5 Blocks	\$150/150/165/165	1 Bedroom Suites \$350
Courtyard Downtown Louisville 100 South Second Street Louisville, Kentucky 40202 USA Phone: 1-502-562-0200 Fax: 1-502-562-0211		1/2 Mile	\$149/149/149/149	N/A
Courtyard Marriott Louisville Airport 819 Phillips Lane Louisville, Kentucky 40209 USA Phone: 1-502-368-5678 Fax: 1-502-368-5685		7 Miles	\$139/139/139/139	N/A
Days Inn Central Univ/Expo 1620 Arthur St. Arthur St & I-65 Louisville, KY 40208 US Tel: (800) 937-3297 Fax: (502) 634-9544		7 Miles	\$70/70/70/70	N/A

Housing/Hotel Information 2008 Congress of Christian Education Annual Session Louisville, KY		HOTEL NAME	BLOCKS & SINGLE/DOUBLE/TRIP/QUAD MILES TO	SUITE RATE
Executive Inn 98 Phillips Lane Louisville, KY 40209 Phone: (502) 367-6161		6.5 Miles	\$124/124/124/124	\$250
Executive West 830 Phillips Ln Louisville, KY 40209 Tel: (502) 367-2251		6.5 Miles	\$128/128/128/128	1 Bedroom \$230 2 Bedrooms \$326
Hampton Inn 101 East Jefferson Tel: (502) 585-2200		2 Blocks	\$128/128/128/128	\$189
Hilton Garden - Louisville Airport 2735 Crittenden Drive Louisville, Kentucky 40209 Tel: (502) 637-2424 Fax: (502) 637-2429		6.5 Miles	\$126/126/126/126	N/A
Holiday Inn Airport East 4004 Gardiner Point Dr Louisville, KY 40213 Tel: (502) 452-6361 Fax: (502) 451-1541		7 Miles	\$99/99/99/99	N/A
Holiday Inn Airport South 2715 Fern Valley Road Louisville, KY 40213 Tel: (502) 964-3311 Fax: (502) 966-4874		7 Miles	\$94/94/94/94	\$185
Ramada Downtown North 1041 Zorn Avenue 1-71 Exit #2 & Zorn Avenue Louisville, KY 40207 US Tel: (502) 897-5101 Fax: 502-897-3260		5 Miles	\$69/69/69/69	N/A
Seelbach Hilton Hotel 500 Fourth Street Louisville, KY 40202-2518 Tel: (502) 585-3200 Fax: (502) 585-9239		2 Blocks	\$150/150/150/150	N/A



Dr. Lorenzo Lynch
2nd Vice President



Dr. Leonzo Lynch

Listen to your Father who begot you, And do not despise your Mother when she is old.

Proverbs 23:22

Dr. C. C. Craig
National Baptist Congress Supervisor



GBSC participants in National Baptist Congress

- Dr. Charles T. Bullock-Instructor
- Ms. Lula Gainey, Congress
- Dr. Leonzo Lynch, Instructor
- Mrs. Trumilla McDowell, Congress
- Dr. Hazel McClain, Instructor
- Dr. C. C. Craig-Supervisor
- Dr. Paul Lowe, Jr. Lecturer
- Rev. Herbert E. Edwards, Coordinator
- Rev. John Walker, Instructor
- Rev. George Byrd-Coordinator
- Dr. Charles Pratt-Group Leader
- Rev. John Walker, Instructor
- Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Instructor
- Rev. Benjamin Hinton-Instructor
- Rev. Michael Glenn, Instructor
- Mr. Curtis Hunter, Group Leader
- Mrs. Gloria Sloan, Group Leader

From the Third Vice President



Rev. Ricky Banks

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President

We want to remain true in all things. The Church in Pergamum was a Church true to the name of Jesus. Their faith was without question. However, they allowed sin to remain in their midst. Living in a pluralistic society, we fall into the same problem of seeing the sin around us but neglecting to call people to repentance.

"Live and let live" cannot be the life philosophy of a disciple of Jesus. Christianity is a heartfelt religion. We may be right in our understanding of Biblical truths and not be moved in love to bring the good news to others. God so loved that He gave. Our God like love

causes us to share. We so love that we share. Now that we know the story of Jesus, will we go and help, calling the world to repentance?

NEWS FROM SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL

Shaw University is the first historically Black College in the south (1865), home of the nation's first four-year medical school. The Leonard Medical School (1882-1918), and the first private HBCU invited to participate in the North Carolina Model Teacher Education Consortium. Since 2003, Shaw

University has been under the leadership of Dr. Clarence G. Newsome whose administrative motto is "Strides to Excellence: Only the Best!"

GO SHAW BEARS

"Jesus Calls Us To Repentance"

Revelation 2:12-17

The 94th Annual Hampton University Ministers' Conference

June 1-6, 2008 • The 94th Annual Hampton University Ministers' Conference and 74th Annual Choir Directors' Organists' and Guild Workshop will be held June 1-6, 2008, on the beautiful campus of Hampton University. Once again, HU will host a variety of exceptional ministers.

Keynote Conference Preacher, Charles E. Blake, Senior Pastor of West Angeles C.O.G.I.C., Los Angeles, CA.

Dr. Robert Franklin, President of Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA.

The Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., Senior Minister Emeritus of The Riverside Church.

This year's keynote Conference Preacher will be Bishop Charles Blake, senior pastor of West Angeles C.O.G.I.C., Los Angeles, CA. Other nationally acclaimed speakers for the conference include: Rev. Gina Stewart, pastor of Christ Missionary Baptist

Church, Memphis, TN; Rev. Joel Gregory, Professor of Preaching at Truett Seminary and founder/president of Gregory Ministries; Dr. Katie Cannon, Professor of Theology at Union Theological Seminary and



Charles E. Blake

Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Richmond, VA; Dr. Robert Franklin, president of Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA; and Rev. Jason Barr, senior pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, PA.

Ministers' Conference President, Dr. William H. Curtis, serving his second year of a four year term as president of the Conference, announced the theme for this year's conference as, "A Discussion of Hermeneutics." The conference will focus on the various and

diverse ways in which pastors and ministers approach the awesome task of gospel proclamation. Providing peerless insight on this theme will be Dr. James Forbes, headlining the Dr. A.C.D. Vaughn Sr. Statesman's Hour.



Dr. William H. Curtis
President Hampton University Ministers' Conference

Life and Leadership Training Institute



Dr. Vincent J. Terry

Dr. Vincent Terry
Fourth Vice
President

The 41st Annual
Life and Leadership
Training Institute
Of The Johnston
District Missionary
Baptist Association,
Inc.

Mount Peace

Missionary Baptist Church

1601 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Raleigh NC • April 7-11, 2008

General Theme:

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced, through Education, Missions and Fellowship." Matthew 28:19-20

Dr. Joseph R. Rogers, Sr., Moderator
1st Vice Moderator Sarah L. Smith,
Institute Director

Monday — Friday Class 7:00PM —
Worship Service: 8:00PM

WORSHIP SERVICE

Monday, April 7, 2008 (Music Concert Choir)

Presiding.....Rev. W.H. Lucas, Johnston Piney Grove Baptist Church
Speaker.....Moderator Joseph R. Rogers, R., Pastor GPMBC, Inc.

Tuesday, April 8, 2008 (Music Strickland Grove Choir)

Presiding.....Dr. Oliver Johnson, Pastor Sanders Grover Baptist Church
Speaker.....Rev. Letez, Pastor Strickland Grove Baptist Church

Wednesday, April 9, 2008 (Ebenezer, Lee's Cross Rd. New Hill)

Presiding.....Reverend Shelia Sanders, Pastor Sylvia Chapel Baptist Church
Speaker.....Reverend Dorothy O'Neal, Pastor Feed His Sheep Baptist Church

Thursday, April 10, 2008 (Youth Axiliary Choir)

Presiding.....Reverend Rickie Johnson
Speaker.....Rev. Reginald High, Pastor Beaver Chapel Baptist Church

Friday, April 11, 2008 (Institute Choir)

Presiding.....Rev. Russell Sanders, Pastor Union Baptist Church
Speaker.....Dr. J. Vincent Terry, Pastor Mt. Peace Baptist Church

• Classes and Instructors •

Pastors/Ministers - Monday only - Rev. Garland Taylor

Tuesday - Friday Dr. Rudolph Tripp

Deacons. George Debnam
Christian Education . .Portia Brandon
Missionary. Ellender Lemay
Ushers. Brother Charles Dunn
Laymen Deacon Dallas Foster

Music. . .Minister MarQuinton Wilkins
Youth...
Deacon Bonita Brewington - Ages 1-7
Colette Parker - Ages 8-12
Rev. James Barnes - Age 13-18

Minimum Contributions for the Institute from Churches/Auxiliaries:

Auxiliaries are asked to contribute	\$200.00
Churches with a membership of 1-100	\$100.00
101-200	\$200.00
201 & above	\$300.00

Churches and Pastors of the Johnston District Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.

1. Bible Believing Baptist Church	Reverend Peter Johnson
2. Ebenezer	Reverend Larry D. Richardson, Sr.
3. Feed His Sheep	Reverend Dorothy O'Neal
4. First Baptist Benson	Reverend James Cannan
5. First Baptist Clayton	Dr. Lucy E. Simpson, Jr
6. First Baptist Selma	Reverend Sebra Manfred Isom
7. First Baptist Smithfield	Vacant
8. First Baptist Wilson's Mills	Reverend Larry Honeyblue
9. Galilee	Reverend Anthony C. Coleman
10. Good Samaritan	Reverend J.K. Herder
11. Greater Philadelphia	Dr. Joseph R. Rogers, Sr.
12. Green Chapel	Reverend De Ashley Curtis, Jr.
13. Green Hill	Reverend Isaiah Croom, Jr.
14. Johnston Piney Grove	Reverend Theodore Breedon
15. Lee's Crossroad	Vacant
16. Mitchener Memorial	Reverend David Goodine
17. Mount Peace	Reverend J. Vincent Terry, Sr
18. New Bethel	Reverend Marvin Mervin
19. New Hill	Vacant
20. New Hope	Vacant
21. Oakley Grove	Reverend Ellis t. Cozart, Jr.
22. Saint Amanda	Reverend A. Matthews
23. Sanders Grove	Dr. Oliver Johnson, Jr.
24. Southern Grove	Reverend H. Barnes
25. Spring Hill	Vacant
26. Strickland Grove	Reverend Letez Stanley Jones
27. Sylvia Chapel	Reverend Shelia S. Sanders
28. Union Baptist	Reverend Russell Sanders
29. Walking By Faith	Reverend Elma Harris
30. Watts Chapel	Dr. Harry White, Jr.
31. White Oak Hill	Reverend Joseph Staton

The All Baptist Assembly • July 27-31, 2008

THE ALL BAPTIST ASSEMBLY
460 N. Cherry Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

JULY 27 -31, 2008

Headquarters Hotels:

Marriott (800) 320-0934

THE ID CODE FOR THE MARRIOTT, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ALL.

ROOM RATES ARE:

Single/Double: \$92.00, with tax \$103.73
Triple/Quad: \$96.00, with tax \$108.24

Embassy (800) 696-6107

THE ID CODE FOR THE EMBASSY SUITES, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ABS.

ROOM RATES ARE:

One-Bedroom Suite (single/double) \$117.00, with tax \$131.92
One-Bedroom Suite (triple/quad) \$120.00, with tax \$135.30
Two-Bedroom Suite (single/double) \$179.00, with tax \$201.92
Two-Bedroom Suite (triple/quad) \$189.00, with tax \$213.10

In order to make reservations please contact immediately your choice of hotel accommodations at one of the above numbers. There will be no form; therefore, please make your reservation(s) via tele-

phone. The indicated ending date for making reservations is June 27, 2008.

Reminder: Please remember to get

confirmation numbers once reservations are made and take with you when you attend the All Baptist Assembly.

All Baptist Assembly Vendors and Private Business Policy

- All persons seeking to reserve and/or rent exhibit space for the purpose of selling, show-casing, or informational purposes, should submit an application along with full rental payment to the General Baptist State Convention, June 20, 2008.
- All checks/money orders should be made payable to the General Baptist State Convention.
- Certified checks, cashier checks, and money orders may be submitted on-site the day of the event providing pre-arrangements have been approved.
- Vendors will be notified upon receipt of application and payment.
- The General Baptist State Convention will not be liable for any damages to personal property sustained on-site of the event.
- The General Baptist State Convention will make arrangements for each vendor to have one table and one chair for each rental space.
- The General Baptist State Convention will not be responsible/liable for securing any additional fixtures (i.e. extension cords, outlets, telephone connections, etc.) for your rental/exhibit space.
- The General Baptist State Convention does not make any representations regarding your potential profit or loss. Accordingly, there will be no refunds given due to poor attendance at any event or poor sales by any of the vendors.
- If, after pre-registering, any vendor is unable to attend an event, he/she must give the General Baptist State Convention at least 48 hours notice in order to receive a full refund. Please call (919) 821-7466, if you have any question.

GBSC STAFF

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive
Secretary-
Treasurer



Rev. Selma Hunter
Finance
Consultant

Mrs. Darcell McNeill
Bookkeeping
Clerk



Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian
Education
Coordinator/
Baptist Informer
Managing Editor

If, after pre-registering, any vendor is unable to attend an event, he/she must give the General Baptist State Convention at least 48 hours notice in order to receive a full refund. Please call (919) 821-7466, if you have any questions.

General Baptist State Convention

**ALL
BAPTIST ASSEMBLY**
July 27-31, 2008
The M.C. Benton Jr. Convention Center
301 West 5th Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

EXHIBIT FEE - \$100.00

PLEASE RESERVE EXHIBIT SPACE AS INDICATED BELOW FOR:

Name Of Exhibitor _____

Describe Product(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Daytime Telephone Number () _____

Electrical Outlet Needed? YES NO

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM & PAYMENT BY

June 20, 2008
General Baptist State Convention
c/o Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
603 South Wilmington St
Raleigh, NC 27601

- (1) Fee for Exhibitor Space is \$100.00 (Make Checks/Money Orders payable to General Baptist State Convention).
Each Vendor Will Be Provided One Table And One Chair. Electric Outlets Will be Provided.
- (2) Fee For Exhibit Space Shall Be Paid Before Setup. See Policy for More Details.
- (3) Each Exhibitor shall be Responsible for Displaying and Protecting their Booth.
- (4) Exhibit Setup Begins on: Monday morning, July 28, 2008
- (5) Must Be Removed by Thursday morning, July 31, 2008 - after service

128th Annual Session

128th Annual Session National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.



Dr. J. C. Harris
Board Member,
National Baptist
Convention, USA, Inc.

Dr. William J. Shaw, President
SEPT. 8, 2008 - SEPT. 12, 2008
Duke Energy Center
Cincinnati, Ohio

50 Years Continuous Pastoral Ministry Recognition

The Convention honors those who have served in pastoral ministry for 50 years or more during each Annual Session.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NAMES FOR THE 2008 ANNUAL SESSION IS AUGUST 17, 2008!

Fax your completed forms to: (318) 424-4525

Housing/Reservation Contact
NBC Housing Bureau
525 Vine Street, Suite 1500,
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: 513.632.5387 Fax:
513.621.2156

CINCINNATI HOTEL Please note: Sales Tax is 17% (subject to change). Not included in the room rates	DISTANCE TO Convention Center	SINGLE/DOUBLE/TRIP/ QUAD 1,2,3 or 4 Persons	SUITE RATE (P+1= Parlor + 1 Bedroom)
Cincinnati Hotel	1 - 1/2 Blocks	\$127 Queens, \$147 Kings	N/A
Garfield Suites	5 Blocks	\$139	N/A
Vernon Manor	1 Mile	\$95	N/A
Ramada Plaza Downtown	8 Blocks	\$89	N/A
KENTUCKY HOTEL Please note: Sales Tax is 11.3% (subject to change). Not included in the room rates	DISTANCE TO Convention Center	SINGLE/DOUBLE/TRIP/ QUAD 1,2,3 or 4 Persons	SUITE RATE (P+1= Parlor + 1 Bedroom)
Marriott Courtyard Covington	2 Miles	\$99	N/A
Hampton Inn - Cincinnati Riverfront	2 Miles	\$99	N/A
Holiday Inn Riverfront	2 Miles	\$94	N/A
Drawbridge Inn	5 Miles	\$80	N/A
Embassy Suites - River center	1 Miles	\$142	N/A
Hilton Airport	9 Miles	\$129	N/A
Holiday Inn - Cincinnati Airport	9 Miles	\$109	N/A
Marriott @ River center	1 Mile	\$142	N/A
Marriott - Cincinnati Airport	10 Miles	\$104	N/A
Radisson Cincinnati Riverfront	1 Miles	\$89	N/A

*When you can't come to us,
our mobile showroom will come to you!*

**Coordinating
Group Outfits
from Head-to-Toe!**
**Suits
Shirt/Tie Sets
Shoes**

**On-Site Group
Fittings!**



**Suit Sizes to 80
Shirt Sizes to 22**

**Call to Schedule
a Showing!**

Suits with Brand
Names such as:
**Tayion
Stacy Adams
Falcone**

Since 1952
ROWE'S
MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

Mothers Standing In Love

Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Bronnie Daniels

standing in love.

Through Proverbs 31 we are reminded of her love for:

God -She is "a woman who fears the Lord."

Self -"She girds herself with strength, and strengthens her arms."

Husband -" She does him good and not evil all the days of her life."

Family - "She watches over the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness."

Others - "She extends her hand to the poor. Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy."

In Appreciation for her love let us "give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates." Let us thank God through Jesus Christ for His gift of mothers, standing in love.

Happy Mother's Day

Reminders

- Scholarship Program-Young Adults or Youth applying for scholarships, should apply on or before May 31, 2008. Contact the office: (919) 833-4823 for applications and brochures.
- The Leadership Training Conference is to be held on the campus of Shaw University, Raleigh, NC, during June 16-19, 2008. The fee(s) remain the same. Please contact the office for application now.
- The Youth Bible Camp is to be held on the campus of Shaw University, Raleigh, NC, during June 15-19, 2008. The fee remains the same. First come, first serve will remain in operation. Contact the office now for applications.
- Mission Prayer Day is June 28th, 2008. Please send to the office for the free material for the missionary county unions, and churches not associated with a union. Use the form given in the SWLW Booklet or contact the office for a form.
- The Young Adult Retreat will be held June 7th, 2008 at Beauty Spot Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC. Pre-Registration \$20.00 Single; \$35.00 couples (Husband & Wife). On-Site \$21.00 Single; \$36.00 Couples (Husband & Wife). Please pre-register by May 16, 2008. (See Form)

- Self Denial Envelopes can be secured from the office.
- District Conference color code for Annual Session is yellow for Tuesday.
- Housing Reservation can be obtained by calling Embassy Suite at 1-800-696-6107 and using the reservation code ABS or Marriott at 1-800-320-0934 and using reservation code ALL. No housing form will be used.
- When books are mailed, there will need to be an additional cost for postage; the invoice will reflect the book cost and the additional cost of postage.
- Budget for 2007-2008 is \$803,325.00, which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC

- Please be reminded that of the funds you send for objectives 2/3 should be sent for State Missions. State Missions funds provide all funds for the cost of all ministries and operations for home missions done with and for you in the conventional statewide ministry.
- The WBH&FMC United Southern Assembly for District 5 & 6 will be held Saturday, May 24th, 2008 at First Baptist Church, Kenansville, beginning at 9:30A.M. All pastors and churches, city/county union, and auxiliaries in these districts are invited to attend. Please come and share your input.



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of NC

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

JUNE 7, 2008

LOCATION: Beauty Spot Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER BEFORE THE DEADLINE: MAY 16th, 2008

Advance Donation: ___\$20.00 Per Person ___\$35.00 Per Couple (Husband and Wife)
On-Site Donation: ___\$21.00 Per Person ___\$36.00 Per Couple (Husband and Wife)
AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$_____

Name: _____ Date _____

Complete Mailing Address: _____

Church: _____

Telephone Number() _____ E-Mail Address _____

Young Adult _____ Young Adult Director/Associate _____ Senior _____

My Child(ren) will attend the Youth Class () Yes () No

Name of Child(ren) _____

Age(s) _____

I shall not hold the Woman's Convention or GBSC liable for any injury, which occurs to my child(ren) during the Young Adult Retreat.

Signed _____

Please mail form and money by May 16TH, 2008 to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention
P.O. Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602

- PRESIDENT: Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels
VICE PRESIDENTS
Mrs. Audrey Battle
Reverend Linda Inman
Mrs. Elizabeth Marrow
Mrs. Ellender LeMay
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER
Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie
EXECUTIVE BOARD
CHAIRPERSON: Mrs. Eva Geer
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE BOARD
CHAIRPERSON:
Mrs. Madgaline Whitley
SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE BOARD
Ms. Vanessa Gregory
ASSISTANT SECRETARY EXECUTIVE BOARD: Mrs. Ida Dunston
RECORDER: Ms. Darlene Esters
ASSISTANT RECORDER
Ms. Vanessa Gregory
HISTORIAN: Mrs. Doris Burke
ORGANIST: Ms. Barbara Kelly
PIANIST: Mrs. Alice Green
DIRECTOR: Mr. Waverly Camp
EDITOR, HELPER:
Mrs. Patsy R. Camp
YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR: Ms. Helen Judd
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Mrs. Judie Crowder
PRESIDENT
Mrs. Anjanette W. Chapman
YOUTH DEPARTMENT
SUPERVISOR: Ms. Louise Lassiter
ASSOCIATE YOUTH SUPERVISOR
Ms. Jewyl Dunn
YOUTH PRESIDENT
Minister Malcolm Eatmon

2008 Calendar

- MAY
3 Ministers' Wives and Widows Weekend Retreat
24 United Southern Assembly, 9:30 am
- JUNE
7 Young Adult Retreat
21 United Easter Assembly, 9:30 am
28 Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et. al.)
- JULY
27-31 Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem
- AUGUST
Prayer month for The Family
11-15 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
- SEPTEMBER
8-12 National Baptist Convention
27 Family Missions Conference
- OCTOBER
Prayer month for Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School
10 Shaw University Founder's Day convocation
11 WBSI Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters



Stewardship Report to the Office of the Executive Secretary - Treasurer of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated
 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601
 (919) 821-7466 • www.baptiststenc.org

This form can be used with your contribution to allocate funds) Date: _____

I am enclosing: Cash / Check (include check #: _____) Amount: \$ _____

From _____ (Church / Individual / Organization)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

(Include area codes)

Pastor's Name _____ (if vacant, indicate date vacancy occurred)

Our Church is a Member of the _____ Association

This contribution was sent by _____

Include an address where contribution receipts can be mailed (if different from above):

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Attention _____

I would like my contribution distributed as follows:

Please make checks payable to: GBSC

1. State Missions	1. \$ _____
2. Shaw University	2. \$ _____
3. Shaw Divinity School	3. \$ _____
4. Central Children's Home at Oxford, North Carolina	4. \$ _____
5. Building Fund	5. \$ _____
6. Foreign Missions (Lott Carey)	6. \$ _____
7. Unified Program	7. \$ _____
8. State Congress of Christian Education (Sunday School and B.T.U.)	8. \$ _____
9. State Usher's	9. \$ _____
10. State Laymen's League	10. \$ _____
11. Baptist Informer (Ad / Subscription)	11. \$ _____
12. J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly	12. \$ _____
13. General Baptist Student Fellowship Retreat (BSU)	13. \$ _____
14. Minister's Council	14. \$ _____
15. Other (please indicate): _____	15. \$ _____
16. Other (please indicate): _____	16. \$ _____
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ _____

Signature _____



Baptist Informer RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM



Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check) _____ Number of Years: (check one)

New Subscription

1 Year 2 Years

Renewal

3 Years

Address Change (include old address label)

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention
 603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
 (919) 821-7466 • www.gbsc.org

Signature _____

IRS Announces Rebate Schedule

The IRS says if you're eager to get your \$600 economic stimulus rebate you should've signed up for direct deposit. The agency says among those receiving rebate checks, people with Social Security numbers whose last two digits are low, will get their checks first. Taxpayers who receive their refunds, or make payments, through direct deposit will begin receiving payments by

May 2, with all such deposits expected to be made within two weeks. Then, starting by May 16, the rest of the 130 million stimulus payments will start going out as checks sent through the mail. The IRS said the last of the rebate checks should be mailed by July 11.

Most individuals would get \$600; couples filing jointly would get \$1,200. A \$300 per-child credit would be added on.

Below are the schedules for economic stimulus payments related to tax returns processed by April 15, 2008.

Direct Deposit Payments

If the last two digits of your Social Security number are:	Your economic stimulus payment deposit should be sent to your bank account by:
00 - 20	May 2
21 - 75	May 9
76 - 99	May 16

Paper Check

If the last two digits of your Social Security number are:	Your check should be in the mail by:
00 - 09	May 16
10 - 18	May 23
19 - 25	May 30
26 - 38	June 6
39 - 51	June 13
52 - 63	June 20
64 - 75	June 27
76 - 87	July 4
88 - 99	July 11

He Brought You...

"God's Gifts: Mothers"



NOW Read His Latest Book...

"Good Clean Humor"

by Dr. George Debnam

Mother's Day is just around the corner - May 11, 2008

Give a mother a copy of her own book... *God's Gifts: Mothers*

But this year, also give her a copy of a new book - *"Good Clean Humor"* with which, at the end of her hard day's work, she can rest, read, reflect, relax and enjoy - by the same author George C. Debnam, M.D. This book can be enjoyed by every one in the house!

Order each book today from:

Debnam Publishing Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 25997
Raleigh, NC 27611- 5997

Enclose \$10.00 for *"God's Gifts: Mothers,"* and \$14.00 for *"Good Clean Humor."* These books may be ordered on line as well from: <http://www.debnampublishing.com> or fax order to: 919-834-4028.

Both books are also available through local bookstores and their websites; Barnes & Noble (barnesandnoble.com); Borders (bordersstores.com); Books-a-Million (booksamillion.com) and Amazon (amazon.com).

George C. Debnam, M.D., Publisher and Owner

In Loving Memory

Loss of Mother

Now that I am gone,
remember me with smiles and
laughter.

And if you need to cry,
cry with your brother or sister
who walks in grief beside you.
And when you need me,
put your arms around anyone
and give to them what you
need to give to me.

There are so many who need
so much.

I want to leave you something -
something much better than
words or sounds.

Look for me in the people I've
known

or helped in some special way.

Let me live in your heart
as well as in your mind.

You can love me most
by letting your love reach out
to our loved ones,

by embracing them and living
in their love.

Love does not die, people do.
So, when all that's left of me is
love,

give me away as best you can.

~ Author unknown

Mrs. Barbara Wood

Former, President
Deep River Woman's Auxiliary

Again, with
unexpected
sudden
ness, death
has come
among us.

Sister Leola
T. Harris
and Sister
Ethel Smith
has silently
closed the door of life and
departed from us.

We pause to pay our tribute
of love and affection and
respect to their memory.
Cares all past, home at last,
ever to rejoice.



MRS. MARY HAMMOND

Our prayers, sympathies and
support go out to the family of
Sister Mary Hammond who went
home to be with the Lord on
Sunday, April 6, 2008. She was
the late mother of Pastor
Kenneth R. Hammond.

Remembering The Life Of Mrs. Leola T. Harris

Mrs. Leola Thompson Harris, the youngest child of the late Garfield and Mary Waddell Thompson, was born on May 29, 1933, in Lumberton, North Carolina. She received her public schooling in Lumberton, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics from Shaw University, a Master's Degree in Mathematics from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She has also studied at North Carolina Central University and Appalachian State University.

Mrs. Harris was a member of First Baptist Church, Garfield Street, where she served as an organist, choir director, general secretary and teacher for the Sunday School Department, Vacation Bible School Teacher, member of the Finance Committee, Homecoming Committee, Missionary Department, Missionary Circle President and served in various other capacities. She was the director of the Young Adults Iredell County Missionary Union, Executive Secretary of the Rowan Baptist Sunday School Convention, assistant secretary of the Woman's auxiliary, board member of the WBH & FMC of North Carolina and a member of the Board of Directors and Former treasurer of Ruthie Day Care Center.

Her desire to be an educator was fueled by teachers in her elementary and secondary school years back in Lumberton. Her academic accomplishments as a college student earned her grants for four summers from the National Science Foundation. She began her teaching career at Dillard High

School in Goldsboro, and later she was awarded a one year scholarship by the National Science Foundation to pursue work towards her Master's Degree in Mathematics. Her special love for education pushed her to pursue and teach for over forty-one years, and she later retired from North Iredell High School where she was a teacher. She received many honors as was named as the 1984 Iredell County Teacher of the Year. Her other affiliations and activities included at one time, Chairperson of the mathematics department, member and past president of the Association Classroom Teachers (Local and District 5), member and former first vice president, and past president of the North Carolina Association of Educators (local and District 5), and member of the National Education Association. At one time she was a tutor and helped those attending county and city schools in Mitchell Community College. She was a member of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and the National Council of Mathematics Teachers.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Monnie Williams and a brother Johnny W. Thompson. She was married to Reverend Dr. Jordan Clifton Harris, who survives.

In addition to her husband, Dr. J.C. Harris; she leaves to cherish the memory of her life, her daughter, Rhonda Leola Harris of Statesville; three grandsons, ChaRon D. Harris, Chatney Ortez Harris

and Keyan Harris, all of the home; a niece, Sharon Williams of Winston-Salem; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; Theodric (Shirley) Harris of Wake Forest, Sylvester (Vernice) Harris, Ruby (Herman) Wilkins, James Otis Harris, Elizabeth (Walter) Brown, Douglas Harris, all of Louisburg, Bessie (Sam) Aimunddim of Atlanta, Georgia; Sarah McDonald of New York; her caregivers, ChaRon Harris, Cynthia Carson, Gaynell Murdock, Clorine Lindsay, Trina Dillard, Mary numday, Reverend Ruby Clark, Gordon Hospice Home; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, the First Baptist Church Family and friends.

On Monday, March 31, 2008, Leola passed away at the Gordon Hospice House in Statesville, following an extended illness.

The Reverend F.O. Bass, Jr. officiated. The Reverend Dr. E.B. Turner was the eulogist.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Family of the late of Mrs. Leola Thompson Harris acknowledges with deep appreciation your comforting expressions of sympathy extended during the illness and passing of our loved one. May every kindness you have shown our family be returned to you.

Dr. J. C. Harris and Family



Mrs. Leola Thompson Harris
1933 - 2008

A Journey of Remembrance • Ethel Hicks Smith

Ethel Vivian Hicks Clements Rhodes Smith was born December 3, 1911, in Vance County, North Carolina. She entered peacefully into eternal rest April 1, 2008. Her parents, the Rev. Thomas Hicks and Hattie Somerville Hicks, provided a Christian home and taught her the importance of service, generosity, and above all, education.

She was the granddaughter of Nelson and Channy Hicks of Vance County and the Rev. Moses T. and Betty Thornton Somerville of Warren County, NC. Her early childhood was spent in the Mt. Pleasant. She began third grade in Newark, NJ. She attended high school in Media, Pennsylvania. In 1933 she graduated from The Henderson Institute. She attended Fayetteville State Teacher's College, and went on to

receive a Bachelor of Science Degree from Shaw University. Her first job was principal and teacher at Long Branch Elementary School in Cumberland County, NC. After two years there she returned to Vance County where her career as a public school teacher spanned more than forty years. She taught at Williamsboro and New Hope Elementary Schools. At the time of her retirement she was Reading Specialist at Henderson Junior High School. For ten years she taught adult education classes at Vance-Granville Community College.

Mrs. Smith was a member of Shiloh Baptist Church for seventy-three years. She served in many positions including trustee, choir member. Sunday School, Baptist Training Union teacher, presi-

dent of the Missionary Circle, and principal of Vacation Bible School. In 1997 she was inducted into the Shiloh Golden Hall of Fame and was recently recognized as the oldest member. She truly loved her church, she purchased the first copying machine for the church. Under her guidance, Shiloh initiated a Youth Enrichment Program. She was also a member of the Pastor's Aid, Director of Christian Education, and President of the T. S. Eaton Club. She was the church delegate to the Lott Carey Convention, the Progressive Baptist National Convention and the General Baptist State Convention. She was known across the state and nation for her stewardship and Christian Leadership.

She was united in marriage to Claud Clements. They reared his niece, Myna Ethel Clements and adopted son Thomas James Clements.

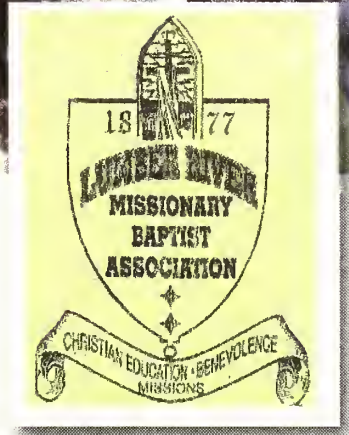


Dec. 3, 1911
April 1, 2008

Lumber River Baptist Association



Lumber River Baptist Association Endows Scholarship at Shaw University



On Sunday, March 16, Lumber River Baptist Association held its annual Shaw Day Celebration. This yearly event sponsored by LRBA seeks to raise funds for deserving students at Shaw University. This year's event marked a special announcement by Moderator Gregory Taylor. Lumber River Baptist Association will endow a \$35,000.00 scholarship in the name of the Lumber River Baptist Association. The purpose of the scholarship will be to provide financial assistance to students who attend Shaw University from Bladen, Columbus and Robeson Counties. Moderator Taylor said that the scholarship would be fully endowed by December 2012.



President Newsome was the guest speaker for the celebration along with the Shaw University Choir. President Newsome praised LRBA for the generous and thoughtful financial contribution. He said that the "endowed scholarship would benefit deserving students who attend the University." Wilson Lacy, chairman of the Shaw Day Celebration spearheaded the endowment effort. As a graduate of Shaw, Lacy said that he knows that "God is pleased by the Association's efforts and that future students will also be blessed."



Moderator Taylor presented a check for over \$5,000.00 to President Newsome as the first payment toward the endowment. "This is a historical occasion for our Association," said Moderator Taylor. "We are thankful to all of our churches for supporting this effort and look forward to our continued relationship with Shaw University." If you want to find out more information about how to establish an endowed scholarship for your Association, please contact the Lumber River Baptist Association at 910-739-7827.



The Meanest Mother



Mother to Son

Well, son, I'll tell you:
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor—
Bare.
But all the time
I've been a-climbin' on,
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,
And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light.
So, boy, don't you turn back.
Don't you set down on the steps.
'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.
Don't you fall now—
For I've still goin', honey,
I've still climbin',
And life for me
ain't been no crystal stair.

(Langston Hughes)



Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor



Portia H. Brandon

I had the meanest mother in the whole world. While other kids ate candy for breakfast, I had to have cereal, eggs or toast. When others had cokes and candy for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich. As you can guess, my supper was different than the other kids' also.

But at least, I wasn't alone in my sufferings. My sister and two brothers had the same mean mother as I did.

My mother insisted upon knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were on a chain gang. She had to know who our friends were and where we were going. She insisted if we said we'd be gone an hour, that we be gone one hour or less—not one hour and one minute. I am nearly ashamed to admit it, but she actually struck us. Not once, but each time we had a mind of our own and did as we pleased. That poor belt was used more on our seats than it was to hold up Daddy's pants. Can you imagine someone actually hitting a child just because he disobeyed? Now you can begin to see how mean she really was.

We had to wear clean clothes and take a bath. The other kids always wore their clothes for days. We reached the height of insults because she made our clothes herself, just to save money. Why, oh why, did we have to have a mother who made us feel different from our friends?

The worst is yet to come. We had to be in bed by nine each night and up at eight the next morning. We couldn't sleep till noon like our friends. So while

they slept—my mother actually had the nerve to break the child-labor law. She made us work. We had to wash dishes, make beds, learn to cook and all sorts of cruel things. I believe she laid awake at night thinking up mean things to do to us.

She always insisted upon us telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, even if it killed us—and it nearly did.

By the time we were teen-agers, she was much wiser, and our life became even more unbearable. None of this tooting the horn of a car for us to come running. She embarrassed us to no end by making our dates and friends come to the door to get us. If I spent the night with a girlfriend, can you imagine she checked on me to see if I were really there. I never had the chance to elope to Mexico. That is if I'd had a boyfriend to elope with. I forgot to mention, while my friends were dating at the mature age of 12 and 13, my old fashioned mother refused to let me date until the age of 15 and 16. Fifteen, that is, if you dated only to go to a school function. And that was maybe twice a year.

Through the years, things didn't improve a bit. We could not lie in bed, "sick" like our friends did, and miss school. If our friends had a toe ache, a hang nail or serious ailment, they could stay home from school. Our marks in school had to be up to par. Our friends'

report cards had beautiful colors on them, black for passing, red for failing. My mother being as different as she was, would settle for nothing less than ugly black marks.

As the years rolled by, first one and then the other of us was put to shame. We were graduated from high school. With our mother behind us, talking, hitting and demanding respect, none of us was allowed the pleasure of being a drop-out.

My mother was a complete failure as a mother. Out of four children, a couple of us attained some higher education. None of us have ever been arrested, divorced or beaten his mate. Each of my brothers served his time in the service of this country. And whom do we have to blame for the terrible way we turned out? You're right, our mean mother. Look at the things we missed. We never got to march in a protest parade, nor to take part in a riot, burn draft cards, and a million and one other things that our friends did.

She forced us to grow up into God-fearing, educated, honest adults.

Using this as a background, I am trying to raise my three children. I stand a little taller and I am filled with pride when my children call me mean.

Because, you see, I thank God, He gave me the meanest mother in the whole world.

Written by Bobbie Pingaro (1967) ■

ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!

The WBH&FMC United Southern Assembly
(All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts V & VI)

"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy:
for by faith ye stand." II Corinthians 1:24

Introductory Statement: For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state. Thus under the leadership of President Daniels, the Woman's Convention seeks to implement this initiative.

Purpose(s): To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings across the state (one setting per quarter)

To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through/with the Woman's Convention

Attendees: All above named persons in Districts V & VI

Date: May 24, 2008

Time: 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Place: First Baptist Church, Kenansville

District Chairpersons:

District	Group	Chairperson
5	1	Mrs. Mattie Garmon
5	2	Mrs. C. Trumilla McDowell
6	1	Ms. Joyce A. Hardison
6	2	Mrs. Arvella Marlowe

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

Congress of Christian Education

State Oratorical Conference • June 23-25, 2008

Fayetteville State University • 1200 Murchison Road • Fayetteville, NC

Registration/Boarding Fees

	Oratorical Contestants	Youth	Adults
Registration		\$5.00	\$10.00
Boarding Fee	(2) @ \$20.00	(2) @ \$20.00	(2) @ \$20.00
Meal Ticket	\$25.00 (5—Meals)	\$25.00 (5—Meals)	\$25.00 (5—Meals)
Total	\$65.00	\$70.00	\$75.00

You will be responsible for all of your bed linens, towels and accessories.

Cell phones, Electronic Devices, Bomb Boom Boxes, CD Players, Televisions, ect. are allowed at the "owners" risk. Lost Keys \$100.00

*ALL PARTICIPATING CHURCHES & ASSOCIATIONS ARE ASKED TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL CONGRESS QUOTA OF \$100.00

TOPICS • TOPICS • TOPICS

Senior Division

(rising high school seniors as of July 1, 2008)

- Being Trustworthy Is Important To Succeeding in Life
- Standing for Jesus when it is not popular
- Extreme makeover
- You cannot fake your faithfulness
- Let the Lord build your house
- Jesus is for Losers
- Equipped!
- Alcohol and Christian teens don't mix
- Why I am loyal to God

Junior Division

(9th, 10th, 11th grade as of July 2008)

- Sometimes feel like life is not fair, but I continue to be fair to others
- What does being a Christian mean to me
- Tell me who I am
- Just keep walking
- Building on a good foundation
- Signed, sealed and delivered!
- How to persuade and influence peers
- What is wrong with teenage smoking
- What Christianity means to me
- IF not me, "Who"?

Preparatory Division

(6th, 7th, 8th grade as of July 1, 2008)

- Being treated unfair makes me feel bad
- Get Real
- Peer Pressure should not affect my actions
- Being honest takes courage
- My friend Jesus
- Jesus is...
- Do you hear what I hear?
- Where would you be without God?
- Heaven or Hell
- A faithful friend

All contestants must be a member in good standing in the local church as well as the Association. This means also that the local church must meet or have met the Congress quota of \$400, and the Association must meet or have met the Congress quota of \$400.00 for the current year!

James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Rules and Procedures • www.BaptistlifeNC.org

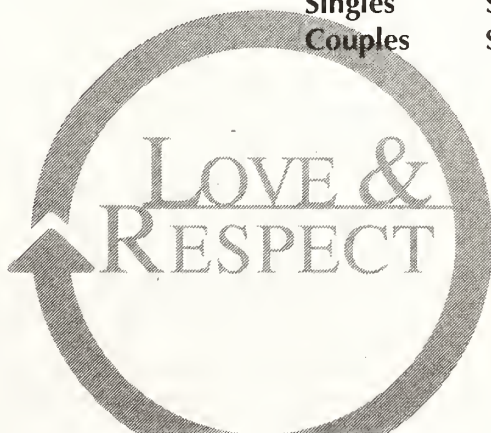
July 18 and 19, 2008

MARRIED/SINGLES CONFERENCE

Gethsemane Baptist Church
719 South Caldwell Street
Salisbury, North Carolina
Dr. Clary L. Phelps, Host Pastor

Registration:

Singles \$30.00
Couples \$40.00



Lula Gainey
President



Greetings to each of you in this "Special" season of the year, when we watch the beauty of Nature come alive. Ms. Lula Gainey Thanks to all of you for your continual support of our many training sessions across the State.

We are planning an exciting calendar over the next (3) months that will conclude another years journey in July. There are challenges ahead of us on both our local, state and national elections. Let your voice be heard through the power of your "VOTE".

Mark your calendars and plan to join us in these sessions.

Congress Officers (2006-2010)

Lula Gainey, President
Frank Byrd, 1st VP
M. L. Kaufman, 2nd VP
Betty Adams, 3rd VP
Roosevelt Baxter, 4th VP
Janifer Campbell, Dean
Jamale Johnson, Asst. Dean
Alberta Moore, Secretary
Antonio Scott, Asst. Secretary
C. Trumillia McDowell, Oratorical Director
Debbie moore, Asst. Oratorical Director
David Eggeston, Musician

Congress Of Christian Education

2008 Calendar of Events

May 13-14, 2008
GBSC Mid-Year Session,
Roanoke Rapids, NC

July 18 and 19
GBSC Singles Conference

June 16-20, 2008
National Bapt Congress
Louisville, KY

June 23-25, 2008
GBSC Oratorical Contest

July 17-18, 2008
GBSC Single/Marriage Conf

July 27-31, 2008
All Baptist Assembly
Winston Salem, NC

October 28-29, 2008
GBSC Annual Session(TBA)

The Usher Ministry Meeting



Helen
Thompson

Ushers' Convention Officers (2006-2010)

Helen M. Thompson, President
Charles W. Dunn,
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Archie T. Lofton, Jr.
3rd Vice President
Norman H. Dorsey, Sr.
4th Vice President
Valerie Singleton
Mary Belle, Recording Secretary
Viola N. Thorton,
Assist Recording Secretary
Martin Clowney, Dean
Charlie Rhodes, Assistant Dean
Youth Supervisors: Felton Davis
Charlie Rhodes
State Coordinator
Nancy High

2008 Calendar of Events

May 13-14, 2008
GBSC Mid Year Session
Roanoke Rapids, NC
May 17, 2008
Ushers' Executive Meeting
10:00 am - Baptist
Headquarters - Raleigh, NC
August 16, 2008
Ushers' Executive Board Meeting
10:00 am - Baptist Headquarter
October 18, 2008
Ushers' Executive Board
Baptist Headquarters
Raleigh, NC
October 28-29, 2008
GBSC Annual Session
Winston Salem, NC
November 7-8, 2008
Ushers' Retreat Assembly

Harold Booker
Former president
Wake County Usher Union

This article was presented by Harold Booker on March 1, 2008 at the annual Wake County Usher Union Workshop. Due to the positive reception of the presentation and its potential for wide application, a request was made to publish it in the Baptist Informer.

Harold Booker is a past president of the Wake County Usher Union. He is currently vice president of the New Providence Missionary Baptist Church Usher Ministry, located in Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina. Reverend Nathaniel J. Wood is his pastor.

The Usher Ministry Meeting

To have a good Usher Ministry at your church it is necessary that you have periodic Usher Ministry meetings.

When you hold your Usher Ministry meetings and conduct them well, they will become an asset to the ministry: they will help your Usher Ministry become an outstanding organization in your church. Today we discuss the purpose for having the meetings, the content of the meetings, the frequency of the meetings, and some Do's and Don'ts for the meetings.

The meeting is the place where we receive our basic education on how to usher. It is where we learn the basic ushering skills (where to stand, when and how to seat people, how to dress, how to communicate while on the floor, how to receive the offering, and a host of other skills). It is where we practice these skills until our ushers feel comfortable enough to work on the floor. When we place our ushers on the floors of the church, we want them to perform well, and they will if they have been prepared well. Well-prepared ushers can render their reasonable service to God while meeting the needs of the pastor and the congregation.

A well-prepared and properly-trained usher ministry is similar to a finely tuned orchestra playing a musical masterpiece: the conductor leads, directs and sets the tone for the performance, the skilled musicians play the different instruments, but they all work together to produce sweet music that is

pleasing to the audience. The usher ministry president leads and directs the usher ministry; the ushers work at their different positions throughout the church. Now, when all of the ushers work together, the worshippers are quietly seated, everyone receives a program, envelopes and hymn books are in the pews, and order is maintained throughout the service. When ushers perform their service well every other element of the worship experience goes well.

Purposes:

Now let's consider the five purposes for having a meeting: (1) the sharing of ideas, (2) transacting business, (3) training, (4) handling problems, (5) fellowship and bonding.

1. Sharing of ideas

Every great accomplishment begins with an idea, a belief that something can be made or done. Our ideas are very important to us. Each of us probably has ideas about how to improve our church Usher Ministry.

These ideas should be presented to the Usher Ministry; the time and place is the Usher Ministry meeting. These ideas may be given to the President before the meeting for inclusion on the meeting agenda or brought up from the floor during the meeting. Some ideas may result in new plans or goals. Some may not, but they all should be discussed.

The leader should set a congenial tone for the meeting so that ideas are discussed freely but orderly. No usher should leave the meeting feeling that his/her idea was not discussed and handled well.

2. Transacting business

Usher Ministry business is working out the details for accomplishing the goals adopted by the ministry: the ministry anniversary, uniforms, social events, visitations, attending conventions and workshops, sponsoring workshops, etc.

This Usher Ministry business is just as important as any other part of the ushering experience. If the business part of the meeting is handled properly, it can be just as uplifting and stimulating as being on the floor ushering. It is very important to present the business items for discussion very clearly so they may be understood by all in attendance. It is imperative to have everyone's attention when discussing the business

items: if noise and mini-discussions take place, stop the meeting until they are eliminated. All business items should be brought to a logical and concise closing: tabled, resolved, or eliminated from consideration. If the business part of the meeting begins to drag, the leader may want to move on to another agenda item or even take a short break to reinvigorate the meeting.

The amount of business to be transacted depends on (1) the size of the Usher Ministry and (2) how active it is in the church. Each usher has a right and a duty to help transact Usher Ministry business. The best way for an usher to stay informed is to attend the Usher Ministry meeting.

Some ushers think that only the officers are to conduct usher ministry business, that's not the way it works. Each usher should take ownership of and responsibility for the business items presented at the meeting.

3. Opportunity for training

We never outgrow our need for training: times change, people change, churches change and procedures change. We must train and retrain in order to stay abreast of the latest ushering techniques.

As our church grows and our membership ages our usher requirements may change. Reasons for the change: a new sanctuary, a special area for the handicapped, two services instead of one, a larger floor, or a new request from the pastor. To meet the new requirements we must update our usher procedures and implement them. When training is a part of the regular meeting, ushers can review and practice the old procedures and learn the new procedures. Regular training sessions help raise the skill levels of the ushers and help make them more confident. In order for ushers to be the best they can be, they must be highly trained.

4. Handling problems

The Usher Ministry meeting is the perfect time to address problems. When working with people, it is commonplace to encounter situations which have not been anticipated. The meeting provides the time and place to discuss "unexpected" situations and how to handle them. Emergencies will continue to occur, accidents will happen, funerals will continue, special services will continue, so ushers will always be expected to handle "unexpected" situations. By

(Continued next page)

(from page 16)

acknowledging that the "unexpected" will occur, ushers can prepare themselves to be in a state of readiness at all times.

5. Fellowship and bonding

The Usher Ministry meeting provides the opportunity for ushers to fellowship and bond with each other. It is difficult for ushers to get to know each other if their only contact is while they serve on the floor.

The meeting provides the opportunity for ushers to develop relationships and develop trust. Ushers who know and trust each other will work well together as a team. Bonding between team members makes the team run smoothly and work more efficiently.

Elements of the meeting

A good Usher Ministry meeting should have the following three basic parts: a time for worship, a time for business, and a time for training.

1. Worship

The church is the house of worship; each time an usher comes to the church, worship should have top priority on his/her mind. The usher meeting is no different. Once the meeting is called to order, the first item should be the Devotion. The Devotion helps put ushers into a spiritual frame of mind. A spiritual frame of mind will help eliminate or reduce fussing and bickering.

2. Business

The Usher Ministry will have business to transact; the annual picnic, the conventions, visitations, the anniversary, badges, travel, and uniforms are just a few typical business items. These items require time, effort, and finances to handle. The means to handle these items can be worked out at the meeting.

3. Training

A training plan should be developed at the usher meeting. The plan should include the training manual, local church training, county level training, and state

level training. A part of the plan should be executed at each meeting. If more training is needed, an extra session should be scheduled.

Frequency of meetings

The Usher Ministry meeting should be held as often as necessary to handle the needs of the church. Large church usher ministries may need to meet more frequently than smaller church usher ministries.

The general rule for meetings is this: the meeting should be held no more frequently than monthly and no less frequently than quarterly. If items requiring immediate attention occur between meetings, the leader may call a special meeting.

Some Do's and Don'ts for the meeting

1. Do not cancel the regular meeting: it is difficult to restart your meetings plus there is always a need for worship and training.

2. Always have a meeting agenda: this forces the leader to plan the meeting and it helps to keep things running smoothly during the meeting.

3. Do not miss the usher meeting: you will miss that fellowship with your fellow ushers as well as the usher ministry business plans.

4. Be timely: start the meeting on time, stay with your agenda, and end the meeting on time.

In Summary:

Always have the meeting at the scheduled meeting time and place, make sure the meeting includes devotion, business, and training, plan your meeting well and do an agenda, bring all items of business to an orderly closure, and end the meeting on time. As ushers, we should always strive to conduct our meetings in decency and in order.

Resource: *A Ministry of Service, A Ministry of Joy: Dr. Haywood T. Gray, 1993*

Listen to your Father who begot you, And do not despise your Mother when she is old. Proverbs 23:22

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

Writers:

Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
Marvin E. Davis
Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
Wheeler L. Jones
T.L. Lewis
Robert L. Malone
Joseph L. Slade
Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-MAILED OR MAILED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ORIGINAL ORDER!
FOR PRICING SEE THE WEB SITE!



1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com
Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN



Special Announcement

Dr. Haywood Gray, GBSC Executive Secretary-Treasurer, has informed us that the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Cafeteria has been damaged extensively by fire. Therefore, he has closed the Assembly for use until further notice.

Because of the fire and shutdown, we will need to change some of the plans (maybe time and place and program). As soon as the details are set forth, we shall inform you. At this time we ask for your prayers for direction, patience and support.

GBSC NC Laymen's League

Officers (2006-2010)

Theodore David, President
(919) 508-5468
Richmond Turner,
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Gregory Gabriel
3rd Vice President
James Jeter
4th Vice President
William Pointer
Publicity Chair - Dallas Foster

Laymen's League Calendar of Events

May 13-14, 2008

GBSC Mid-Year Session
Roanoke Rapids, NC

May 17, 2008

Mini-Skills Exhibit
TBA

June 14, 2008

Study Commission Meeting
Penn Ave Baptist Church
Oxford, NC

July 11-12, 2008

Laymen and Boys Summer Retreat
TBA

July 27-31, 2008

All Baptist Assembly
Winston Salem, NC

August 23, 2008

Scouting Camporee
TBA

September 13, 2008

Laymen's Men's Retreat
TBA

September 26-27, 2008

Southeastern Walter
Cade Workshop
Greenville, SC

October 28-29, 2008

GBSC Annual Session

December 13, 2008

Study Commission Meeting
Gethsemane MBC
Salisbury, NC

Theodore David
President Laymen's League Auxiliary



Theodore
David

The Laymen's Leadership Auxiliary is truly grateful for your support and prayers.

In the aftermath of the recent, February fire destruction at the JJ Johnson Baptist Assembly, Baptist Headquarters has advised the NC Laymen to continue soliciting your sup-

port, suggestions, and ideas concerning alternative meeting locations for - three of our annual calendar events:

Laymen's News

• The Youth Laymen's Mini Skills_TBA

• The Laymen's Annual Scouting Camporee-TBA

• The Laymen's Men and Boy's Retreat Camp-TBA

Contact Baptist Headquarters if you have helpful information or suggestions.

Each Church or Assoc. Laymen's League is asked to participate in the following during this year:

• Pay State Laymen's Assessment of \$400 per year

• Participate in the Laymen's Royal

Court

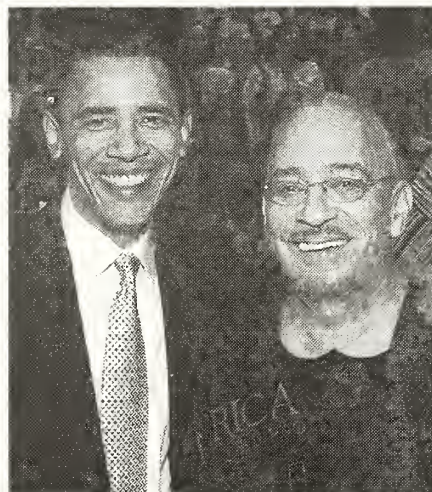
• Attend the Walter Cade Jr. Regional Laymen's Workshop in Greenville S.C. - September 26-28, 2008.

• Workshop registration will cost \$145.00 per person when two persons per room or \$200.00 when only one person per room. Please begin planning for your registrations and transportation arrangements in advance.

We solicit your prayers, support, and continued collaboration and partnership.

We pledge to let the Lord God guide every aspect of our lives that we might truly be ambassadors for Christ, for God's living, redeeming, reconciling love.

Reverend Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr.



Barack Obama and Reverend Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr.
Rev. Wright suggested the title of the book bestselling of Obama's, *the Audacity Of Hope*.

Reverend Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr. (born September 22, 1941) is a former pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ (TUCC), a largely African-American megachurch in Chicago, Illinois with 10,000 members. In early 2008, Wright retired after 36 years as the senior pastor of his congregation. Following retirement, Wright's beliefs and manner of preaching were scrutinized by the media when controversial segments from his sermons were publicized in connection with the presidential campaign of Barack Obama.

Hey, lay off the reverend

Judging by the backlash against Barack Obama for things his former pastor said, you'd think the Rev. Jeremiah Wright was the first person to rail against our government.

He's not. Evangelists Jerry Falwell,

Pat Robertson and several others often made such criticism the cornerstone of their fundraising efforts, frightening true believers into thinking that jackbooted government thugs were coming to their homes to take their Bibles and guns unless they shored up their ministries with copious cash contributions. They've said the same things as the Rev. Wright and worse about 9/11 and other tragedies, yet some people want Wright and, by extension, Obama, swept from the national stage or tried for treason.

Since Wright has tilled no new soil with his preachments, the question becomes, "Does a black preacher have the right to say the same things as a white preacher?"

No, he doesn't have that right. He has an obligation to say those things. And more.

Much of what Wright was quoted as saying was strident and, at the least, undiplomatic. Who, though, wants a diplomatic preacher, one content to mouth pious irrelevancies and sanctimonious trivialities from the pulpit?

I tell you what: With so many preachers behaving like prosperity pimps -- preaching that the good life in the form of big cars, big houses and flush checking accounts is just a cash contribution to their ministry away -- it is refreshing to hear someone not afraid to express statements that will anger the mighty.

A good preacher should be like a good journalist: the mission of both should be, as the saying has it, to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.

Balanced news sources have reported that Wright was just as scathing toward the shortcomings of blacks

as he was toward those of whites or the government. He was well known for saying things that made both the government and his parishioners uncomfortable, so uncomfortable that Obama acknowledged confronting him after some sermons.

That's good. Here's a tip:

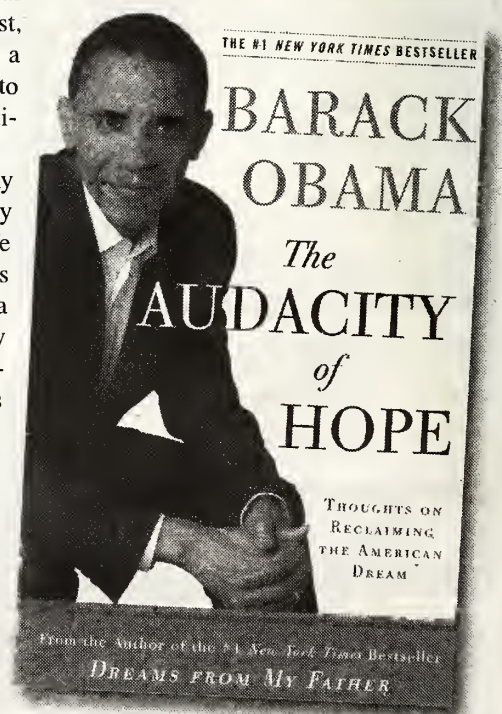
If your pastor never says anything to make you feel uncomfortable, you probably need to find a new one. Can I get an "Amen"? I didn't think so.

(Barry Saunders, N&O Staff Writer)



Rev. Joe A.
Jackson

Rev. Joe A. Jackson, President
Minister's Council



Lott Carey Foreign Missions Convention

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Project

*Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
Second Vice President
Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention*



Dr. Gregory Moss

Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr., (Second Vice President Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention) recently returned from a trip to Rome, Italy. The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention commemorate with Italian Baptists 40th anniversary of the assassination of The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Since his assassination in Memphis, Tennessee forty years ago, King has become a major symbol for human freedom and human rights around the world. The Christian Evangelical Baptist Union of Italy partnered with Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention to hold the special commemorative events in the city of Rome on April 4. President Moss is Second Vice President of Lott Carey as well as President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The Christian Evangelical Baptist Union of Italy has been a denomination

active in Italy since 1870. Over the last twenty years, the Churches of the Baptist Union have become increasingly multi-cultural representing several ethnic minorities in Italy.

The traditions of Italian Baptists aligns well with the African-American Baptist church in the United States as both groups have been active in the causes of social justice and civil/human rights. The Baptist Union's partnership with Lott Carey included a special international conference on King last fall that included more than 300 participants in Rome. Speakers last fall included Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Lott Carey. During the President's recent trip to Rome, Lott Carey and the Baptist Union awarded its first Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award to an Italian organization or individual working in human rights in Italy and advancing the cause of non-violence on behalf of suffering people.

Dr. and Mrs. Gregory K. Moss, Sr., spent eight days as guests of the Christian Evangelical Baptist union of Italy commemorating the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

2007 Annual Report

*Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Lott Carey Foreign Mission
Convention
2007 Annual Report*

THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PROJECT

I should like to make one example on how the friendship with the Lott Carey family is making a great impact in our churches. I want to tell you briefly what happen in Italy this year for what we call the "Martin Luther King Project." We've trained a network of teachers who brought the program in the schools. We've prepared a DVD on MLK and the relevance of his message that will be used in the churches and in the schools. We are building a web site on Martin Luther King in Italian. There is a lot on Dr. King in English on the Internet, but there is almost nothing in Italian.

Italian choirs are preparing themselves to participate in different places of Italy to the global effort we are doing (in jails, churches, refugee camps). We are working on a project of an International Martin Luther King

Award to be given to persons chosen for having worked for the promotion of human rights in their own context. We prepared a book on the same theme and planned some seminars in some Italian

Universities. And we are, as I said, organizing an international gathering next Fall that we hope will bring together around 300 people from all the churches. Half of those attending will be young adults, and a third of them will come from Ethnic minority churches. All this ambitious program has been possible only because Lott Carey is helping us in everything: by finding the best speakers and preachers, by finding authors of the articles for the book, by finding a great choir coming for the international event and also for a program in a jail in Rome, by sending a group of young adults who will participate in the churches and schools in programs of conflict resolution, and last but not least, by assisting us financially.



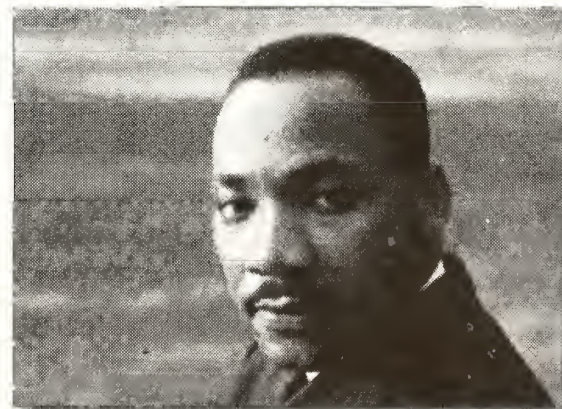
Dr. David Goatley

Dr. Martin Luther King: YESTERDAY AND TODAY

A Conference of the Christian Evangelical Baptist Union of Italy

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen awareness in Italy of the cultural wealth and humanitarian importance of the present of different immigrant groups,
- Counteract incipient forms of intolerance and racism present in many environs, not the least of which being youth-in-sports and soccer fans,
- Encourage the development of a global culture that values the contribution of all nations and peoples to a collective well-being,
- Spreading a message, above all among young people, that of combining the need for justice and peace for all nations – also those distant and forgotten – with the promotion of a lifestyle that is sober and consistent with those principles in one's daily choices,
- Foster an awareness of the fact that within the African-American Baptist Churches, there are many, at various levels, contending for the rights of minorities, for justice and peace, on the basis of a vibrant and conscientious Christian spirituality.



BAPTIST *Inform*er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiaBrandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Breed Community Church, a predominantly African American congregation birthed by God in 2004, is seeking a Bi-vocational Pastor, who loves the Lord and has been called by God to serve as an Under-shepherd. This individual should be born again, led by the Holy Spirit and meeting the qualifications outlined in Titus 2.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and a letter of interest, including a statement of your philosophy of the Pastor's role in church leadership.

Please forward resumes and letters of interest to:

Pastoral Search Team
New Breed Community Church
110 Towerview Ct.
Cary, NC 27513

Or email them to nbcchurch@bellsouth.net.

PASTORAL VACANCY

Mt. Bright Missionary Baptist Church is seeking candidates for the position of senior pastor. The church has approximately 150 members and is located in Hillsborough, NC, a small historical town just west of the Triangle area. More demographic information about Mt. Bright is available upon request. Applicants who would like to be considered for this position should possess the following:

- Have ministerial experience, though not necessarily as a senior pastor
- Have graduated from an accredited college or university and Seminary
- Be licensed and ordained as a Baptist minister
- Ability to administer the sacraments of communion and Baptism
- Possess strong administrative, leadership, and computer skills
- Possess excellent communication skills
- Expected to preach, teach, counsel, perform marriage ceremonies, visit sick, & conduct funerals
- Represent the church at Association, State, and National Conventions
- Be family and community oriented
- Ability to work with all ages in the church
- Cooperate with church officials
- Must be a good role model of moral and ethical conduct, living by 1 Timothy 3: 1 - 7
- Concerned with the spiritual and intellectual growth of the Church
- Be willing to be evaluated on an annual basis
- Be willing to live in close proximity to the church
- Be willing to submit to a background check

Please submit resumes to:

Jo Borden - Chairperson
Pulpit Committee
Mt. Bright Missionary Baptist Church
.211 West Union Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278 or mtbrightsearch@aol.com

Union Baptist Church Church Musician

A Devoted Christian, must read and play all types of church/gospel music. Direct Choirs/Praise Team and teach parts.

Union Baptist Church
110 Lincoln Avenue
Lexington, NC 27292
336-243-1648 • 336-243-1648

PASTORAL VACANCY Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC)

Job Description: The 500+ member congregation of Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC) in Raleigh, North Carolina, a predominantly African American congregation, is seeking a pastor who demonstrates an enthusiastic love for Christ, possesses and applies a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and has a clearly defined vision for the church. The individual shall be a born-again Christian who is thoroughly immersed in the Holy Spirit, meeting the scriptural qualifications outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. The pastor will be responsible for intrinsically inspiring and emphatically motivating others to operate in a spirit of excellence while using their gifts and talents for God in planning, coordinating and evaluating all activities of the church. MSBC's friendly, out-going and approachable pastor will be able to relate to all age groups and minister to every person in the congregation. S/he will provide leadership in evangelism, outreach, missions education and missions projects. The pastor shall be of impeccable professionalism and personal integrity at the highest level. MSBC's pastor shall work directly with the Deacon Board and associate ministers of the church, while supervising and evaluating the work of a staff of three (3) employees.

Job Requirements: (Only candidates with these requirements will be considered)

- Exhibit a well developed vision for the future of the church and of doing God's work and enthusiastically share with the church.
- Make the Gospel relevant to people's lives through clarity and creativity in preaching, resulting in increased membership. Strengthen yourself and the church through private and public devotions, prayer and as the leader of Bible study, availing yourself of on-going education.
- Minister in the midst of a crisis, for example death, sickness, or other traumatic events in individuals' lives.
- Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology. Increase youth membership and foster greater Christian service. Have strong skills in program planning and the implementation of youth activities.
- Plan and conduct well-prepared and meaningful worship services that are relevant to all aspects of the congregation which would facilitate congregational growth.
- Minister to, befriend, nurture, support, reconcile, and affirm church members in their homes, through informal contact, and at church; Pastoral counseling.
- Lead the church staff. Manage the affairs of the congregational organization through planning, decision making, delegating, evaluating and managing conflict and stress.
- Set aside time to assist persons facing problems or decisions.
- Be aware of and concerned with community needs, activities, and affairs and be capable of addressing these concerns from a pastoral perspective.
- Share, personally, the Christian faith, enabling laypersons to witness and support denominational missions.
- Display an understanding of the formal and informal structure of the Baptist Church organizations. Be accountable for the integrity and external perception of the Martin Street Baptist Church and use this understanding to influence support to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Church.

Education/Experience:

- At least 5 or more years of active, continuous experience as an ordained Baptist minister in good standing with affiliated religious organizations.
- Advanced degree (Masters or higher) in theological training from an accredited School of Divinity or Seminary.
- 3-5 references required (at least 1 from current employer).

Job Start date: Negotiable.

Job Salary: Negotiable.

How to apply:

Please forward a letter of interest discussing qualifications. Include resume, official copies of all college/university and Divinity School transcripts and 3-5 letters of reference to:

Deacon Donald Liles, Chair
Pastor Search Committee
Martin Street Baptist Church
1001 East Martin Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

If you have questions, please call the church office at 919.833.9756 between 9am and 5pm.

Ministers & Missionaries Benefits Board Plan (MABB) • (1-800-986-6222)

How to Pay the Pastor

"Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching; for the scripture says, '... the laborer deserves to be paid'" -

Timothy 5:17-18

Fair compensation for those in ministry is often viewed as a puzzle with disparate pieces. Making decisions about pastoral compensation requires careful review of many facts. The church's financial resources and unique circumstances play a major role in determining cash salary and housing, but there are many pieces that need to be examined before a fair solution can be found.

First the minister should be evaluated regarding:

1. Responsibilities
2. Experience
3. Education
4. Expertise
5. Effectiveness
6. Years of Service

Then the following factors should be researched and documented:

The cost of living and salaries of professionals with similar education, experience and responsibilities.

A review of pastoral compensation for similar size churches based on average Sunday worship attendance, membership and budget can be obtained from your regional office. For more information call (1-800-986-6222).

GBSC and MMBB Offer Essential Benefits

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. (GBSC) and The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) partner to make the following essential benefits available to pastors and other employees of GBSC-related organizations:

- The Benefits for Life program builds retirement income while providing pre-retirement disability and life insurance protection
- The Tax-Deferred Annuity gives employers a way to make additional retirement contributions for their employees
- The Annuity Supplement cuts current taxes as employees save on a pre-tax basis
- Medical, dental and long-term care insurance are also available at group rates.

MMBB's has been ministering to churches and their employees since 1911.

For more about the plans or MMBB's financial ministry, please call:

Mr. Dexter Perry, A&B Management Services, Inc. 1400 Crescent Green, Suite G-100, Cary, North Carolina, 27511 Phone 919.858.7817, or Ms. Rose Harper, MMBB, Phone 800.222.3872 ext. 2348.

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

*To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
Dear Christian Leader and Friends,*

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

New Saint John Missionary Baptist Church Charlotte, NC

We are currently accepting applications for position of Pastor.

Qualifications:

- Born again Christian
- Licensed and ordained Baptist minister
- Strong Christian leadership
- Have vision for spiritual and intellectual growth of church
- Candidate must be able to minister to congregation (preach and teach)
- Possess management and business skills
- Theology or seminary degree preferred
- Ability to pass criminal and credit background check

This list is not inclusive, but serves as a snapshot of what is expected of a Pastor of New Saint John Baptist church.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and brief biological sketch to:

Pastoral Search Committee
New Saint John Baptist Church
P.O. Box 16725
Charlotte, North Carolina 28297-6725
Attention: Deacon Bernard Caldwell, Chairman

PASTORAL VACANCY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

722 Sikes Avenue • Wadesboro, N.C.

Is accepting letters of interest/resume's for licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Reply only if you are sincerely interested and meet the stated qualifications.

1. Must be born again, filled with the Holy Spirit and called by God to preach the gospel.
2. Must be family oriented, with a reputation of being a good role model.
3. Must have a strong reputation of honesty and integrity.
4. Must be a graduate of a four-year accredited college or university.
5. Must be an effective communicator with sufficient command of the English language.
6. Must possess strong knowledge of Missionary Baptist doctrine, church policies and practices.
7. Must be an effective leader, administrator and counselor with good interpersonal skills.
8. Must have skills necessary to work with all age groups with emphasis on spiritual growth and development.
9. Must have at least four years of experience as pastor, but will consider years of experience as an assistant pastor.
10. Must have excellent teaching skills (Biblical).

Please reply to:

The First Baptist Church
Pastor's Search Committee
Deacon Jay J. Clark
P.O. Box 157
Hoffman, N.C. 28347
(910) 2814819

Please include the following information in your reply: name, age, marital status, phone numbers, and an e-mail address. Application form will be mailed to you.

LIBERTY HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

WAXHAW, NORTH CAROLINA

Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Waxhaw, North Carolina is currently Seeking a Pastor who is ordained, licensed, spiritual leader counselor and teacher.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2008.

Candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- Full of the Holy Ghost, wisdom and knowledge. Be of good reputation.
- Must be married and have strong family values
- Must be willing to work with all ages groups, especially the your of the church.
- Male or female with at least 3 years or more of pastoral experience.
- Must have knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies, and procedures and be willing to follow them
- Must exhibit leadership skills that are not dictatorial.

All applicants should provide the following information:

- Copy of high school diploma, college degree(s), certificates of license and ordination
- Name, address and telephone number of four recent character references
 - 2 personal
 - 2 coming from other ministers

All material should be forward to: Chairman Edward Bradley
c/o Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church
520 Billy Howey Road
Waxhaw, North Carolina 28173

First African Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Louis S. Leigh, Jr. Pastor

First African Baptist Church is currently seeking candidates for the position of Music Ministry Director.

Qualifications:

- Born-again Christian, with good character
- A spirit filled leader versatile in the music ministry
- Proficiency in organ and piano with three or more years of choir leadership experience and/or education in church music
- Willingness to work cooperatively with the pastor and the music ministry leadership and have a willingness to align the music ministry with the pastoral vision
- Able to accompany Pastor and choir at various engagements
- Ability to teach hymns, spirituals, gospel and sacred anthems
- Capable of working with a diverse range of singers and age groups
- Able to maintain respectable rehearsal schedule with choirs as well as be available for designated services
- Must be committed to strengthening and building the music ministry

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume. Please be sure to include telephone numbers, email address, and three references to:

First African Baptist Church
Sister Susie Shepherd, Music Ministry Coordinator
803 Harris Street
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Pastoral Vacancy

BROWN NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Brown New Calvary Baptist Church of Thomasville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must have the Biblical qualities of a Pastor as defined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- Must possess a Passion for God, His Word, and His People
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups within the church
- Must live or be willing to live within 60 mile radius of the church
- Must be at least 34 years old and pastoral experience preferred
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual growth of the church
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability

All applicants should mail the following to the address below:

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include their home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to: Brown New Calvary Baptist Church
Attn: Pulpit Committee
200 Doak Street
Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church

102 Mt. Olive Road • Windsor, North Carolina 27983



REOPENED 11-01-07

PASTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE

Full-time Senior Pastor for Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church with an approximate membership of over 400 African-American congregants located in rural eastern North Carolina

Qualifications: The successful applicant must possess at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college, university or seminary and proven ability to prepare and deliver stimulating and inspirational sermons. A Master in Theology or some other religious area or pursuing the same is preferred. Additionally, this candidate will have the following traits: a firm grasp of Baptist policy, thorough belief in and knowledge of the principles of our faith, demonstrated aptitude to teach, broad education preparation and good health.

The candidate shall be a person serious in purpose, careful in speech, sound in Baptist doctrine, and above reproach in life and conduct. The candidate shall have an appreciation for a diversity of religious music and a zeal for Christian education. Further, the candidate must:

- Be a spiritual leader able to cast a vision for growth and expansion
- Possess at least 3 years of pastoral experience (Senior, Associate, Assistant)
- Possess high interpersonal relationship skills
- Demonstrate a compassionate approach to visiting members (including sick, shut-in, and the needy)
- Possess good leadership development ability
- Possess sound budget/financial management skills
- Possess a record of impeccable administrative and organizational abilities
- Possess strength in evangelism
- Possess praiseworthy counseling ability
- Be a person dedicated to fulfilling the mission of the church in harmony with God's Holy Word

Salary and benefits are open for negotiation, commensurate with qualifications and experience. The deadline to submit applications is until the position is filled.

All interested parties should submit a letter of interest, which requests an application to:

Pulpit Search Committee
Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
Post Office Box 214
Lewiston, North Carolina 27849

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

Upcoming
Events...

BAPTIST Informer

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

May 11, 2008

"Meanest Mother on Planet"

DES MOINES, Iowa - Jane Hambleton has dubbed herself the "meanest mom on the planet." After finding alcohol in her son's car, she decided to sell the car and share her 19- year-old's misdeed with everyone — by placing an ad in the local newspaper. The ad reads: "OLDS 1999 Intrigue. Totally uncool parents who obviously don't love teenage son, selling his car. Only driven for three weeks before snoopy mom who needs to get a life found booze under front seat. \$3,700/offer. Call meanest mom on the planet." (Associate Press, January 79, 2008)

My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching. Bind them on your heart always; tie them around your neck. When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk with you. Proverbs 6:20-22

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



Mid Year Session May 13-14, 2008 Schedule at a Glance

All events will be held in The Centre at Halifax Community College, Weldon

Tuesday, May 13	11:00 a.m.	Registration Opens	
	1:00 p.m.	Opening Session	
	1:30 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops	
	3:30 p.m.	Break Begins	
	5:00 p.m.	Northampton Association Dinner	
	7:00 p.m.	Break Begins	
	7:30 p.m.	Neuse River Association Lecture	
	9:30 p.m.	Session Ends for the Day	
Wednesday, May 14	8:00 a.m.	Registration Opens	
	9:00 a.m.	Official Opening of Mid Year Session	
	10:00 a.m.	Business Session	
	10:30 a.m.	Workshop	
	11:45 a.m.	Break	
	12:00 p.m.	Closing Worship Rev. Faye S. Gunn Alfred Street Baptist Church Alexandria, Virginia	
		1:00 p.m.	Adjournment

11/28/2008
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553
\$20 P17



BAPTIST

The Pastor as Father and Son

Volume 131, No. 6

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

June 2008

GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC

Grace and peace to you!

Summer is fast approaching which signals one of the busiest times of year for the General Baptist family. From our oratorical contest in Fayetteville, to the All Baptist Assembly, to Lott Carey, to the National Conventions-it is a busy time. In between there will also be associational activities in addition to those of the local church. It goes without saying time is upon us to evaluate and or rethink how we approach these gatherings. God expects us to be good stewards of the time He has given. The challenge is before us to explore ways and means we can become more efficient and effective. It requires cooperation, skillful coordination and sacrifice on the part of our entire General Baptist family. But we are optimistic it can and will be done.

The All Baptist Assembly will provide an opportunity and preview of what

future convention endeavors will look like. Please come with an open mind, a spirit of participation and a hunger for learning. We are excited and are anticipating a wonderful experience. The Spirit will be high, equipping will occur, training will be tantamount and worship of the Lord Jesus will be paramount.

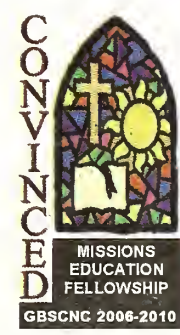
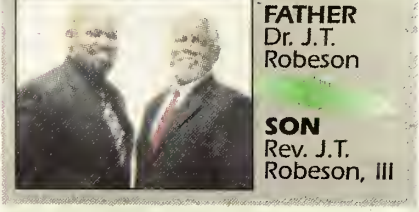
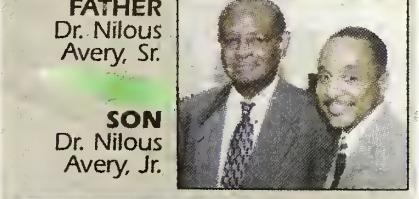
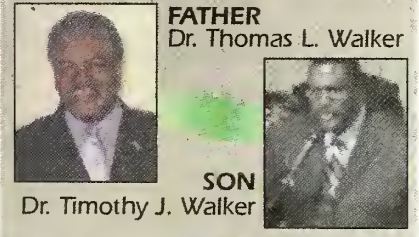
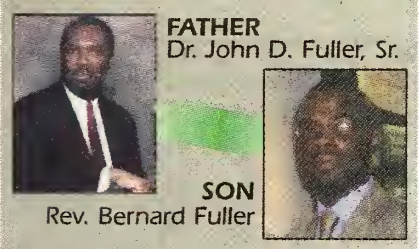
Thank you for your participation in the recent primary elections. What a tremendous turnout and I am positive our churches made a difference. However, we must not become complacent. Let's begin preparations NOW for the upcoming general elections in November. Please continue to encourage voter registration. We can, do and will continue to make a difference in our communities, state and nation by our participation in the voting process.

Thank you for your support during our Mid-Year session. Our aim is to improve each session by providing meaningful opportunities for learning and fellowship. Our presenters were well pre-

pared and continue to raise the bar. We are also grateful for the leadership of Moderators Robert Sessums and James



The Pastor as Father and Son



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

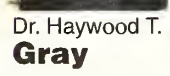
Burston who left no stone unturned to accommodate us while in Ronoake Rapids. Thank you on behalf of the entire General Baptist family.

Let's continue to encourage each other as we seek to be instruments of Kingdom building. May God continue to bless you and our convention.

President Moss honored by Shaw University

Dr. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the GBSC

Shaw University will confer the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree upon The Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr. on Saturday, May 10 during the University's 2008 Commencement. Additionally, Dr. Moss will preach the Baccalaureate Sermon for the Class of 2008 on Friday, May 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Thomas Boyd Chapel on the Shaw University campus.



In making the announcement, Dr. Clarence G. Newsome, President of Shaw University, said that Dr. Moss was "chosen to receive this degree because you have demonstrated, in undeniable fashion, a commitment to the betterment of human well-being. Your contributions to

mankind have been identified clearly through your unselfish personal contributions of service to individuals, civic, cultural and charitable agencies. Moreover, through your deeds and performance, you present an exemplary model for Shaw University graduates and students.

Shaw University, founded in 1865, is the first historically black college of the South. Shaw is a private, coeducational, liberal arts university affiliated with the Baptist Church. The University awards degrees at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Former GBSC President John D. Fuller honored by Morehouse School of Religion and The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), Atlanta, Ga.

The Reverend John D. Fuller, who served as President of the GBSC (1998-2002) received the honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Morehouse School of Religion and The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), Atlanta, GA. The Degree was conferred upon Fuller during the 50th graduation exercise of the ITC in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Chapel on the campus of Morehouse College.

Fuller who graduated from the institutions in 1978 was lauded for his advocacy, recruiting and financial contributions.

Since October 1973, Fuller has been pastor of the Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC.



Rev. John D. Fuller

The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board • Preventing Tragedy at your church

Dr. Howard Parker
Vice President At Large

A beloved pastor becomes ill or injured and can no longer work. A faithful executive assistant is called home in her prime. A family's wellbeing hangs in the balance.



Dr. Howard Parker

We may not be able to prevent sorrowful events in our church community. But we can prevent the ultimate tragedy—turning our backs on our pastors, lay staff and their families when they need us most because we were unprepared.

We love our shepherds, and mean to do right by them. We need to know that the world has changed a great deal in recent years. No love offering, no matter how generous, can meet the ongoing, catastrophic financial needs that disability or death of a staff member can present to a church today.

When your pastor and church staff are covered by MMBB's Benefits for Life program, you are much better prepared for these situations. The plan would provide income for the disabled and death benefits if they are called home. It would provide income for dependent children and survivor income for the spouse. If your church had been paying the employee's medical and dental premiums, the plan would assume these payments for the disabled individual as well.

In contrast, how often have we heard about a church worker called home by accident or illness when the church is unprepared? Far too often, churches end up making painful tradeoffs between stopping the ministry and abandoning a suffering family. At times, churches must choose between loving their neighbor and spreading the Gospel, and evicting bereaved families from the parsonage—a true financial and public relations nightmare.

Q: Why am I hearing more about this? Is it worse than it used to be?

A: The problem is not new. In the later 1800s, the plight of church families upon the death, disability or advanced age of the pastor motivated Henry L. Morehouse to agitate on their behalf. His efforts ultimately founded The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board in 1911.

However, certain factors present greater challenges today. More of us are surviving serious illness and injury, sometimes with disabilities. Medical costs carry ever-higher price tags. Our mobile society means fewer of us live near extended families that can help in times of crisis, and fewer families have

nonworking members who can share caregiving duties.

Q: What does Benefits for Life provide?

A: The comprehensive Benefits for Life program available through the GBSCNC provides.

- Disability income protection during your pastoral or lay employees' working years,
- Pre-retirement death benefit protection; and
- Professionally managed funds to invest retirement contributions.

Disability benefits include child allowances until eligible children reach age 21 as well as income for the disabled employee. Survivor benefits include life insurance, a monthly income to the surviving spouse (with a guaranteed mini-

THE VICE PRESIDENT AT-LARGE shall preside over the deliberations on the Convention in the absence of the President, or at the request of the President. He shall assist the President in the carrying out of the work of the Convention and shall preside over the General Board.

mum) and child allowances. Retirement benefits help employees retire in dignity.

Thousands of Baptist churches and related Baptist employers sponsor these essential benefits, for good reason.

Q: How do disability benefits protect my church?

A: Consider the benefits when your church provides disability income protection for your employees by providing Benefits for Life coverage. If your ill or injured pastor or other employee applies for and is approved for disability plan benefits, Benefits for Life provides the following while the employee remains disabled:

- Monthly income for the employee;
- Child allowances for eligible children;
- Continued Benefits for Life plan premiums; and
- Continued church-paid medical and dental insurance premiums.

These plan benefits, which care for your employee, free up church resources. This makes church funds available for the staff you need to keep your good work going.

Without disability benefits like these, you may be forced to choose between suspending valuable work and turning your back on your disabled shepherd and their family so you can afford to hire a replacement.

Q: Why should my church provide death benefit protection?

A: The scriptures call us to care for widows and orphans. The death benefits through Benefits for Life:

- Provide a substantial death benefit;
- Provide a lifetime monthly income to the surviving spouse, with a guaranteed minimum; and
- Provides the spouse with monthly benefits for each eligible child until he or she reaches age 21.

Churches without Benefits for Life have been known to evict a grieving spouse and family from their parsonage with nowhere to go and no resources for a new start.

Q: Why should my church provide retirement benefits?

A: The retirement portion of Benefits for Life helps pastors and lay employees retire when they are ready. Benefits for Life, especially when supplemented with church contributions to the Tax Deferred Annuity (TDA) and employee savings

time when an aging pastor can no longer meet expectations yet can't afford to retire. If the church and pastor wish to keep the pastor in the pulpit, a reduced capacity is a possibility with an associate to carry part of the load. The senior pastor is freed to mentor junior leaders, write memoirs and pursue other worthy pursuits.

Q: Who is eligible for these benefits?

A: Any employee of a GBSCNC-related church or affiliated organization is eligible, with no maximum age limit or minimum hours-per-week work requirement. The plans are designed for your pastors as well as lay employees including musicians, custodians and church secretaries.

Q: What if our pastor serves more than one church?

A: If your pastor serves multiple churches, each church could contribute part of the pastor's compensation to Benefits for Life up to the annual maximum amount allowed by law. Your pastor could also have multiple GBSCNC-affiliated organizations contributing to TDA on his or her behalf. ■



Ms. Rose M. Harper
MMBB Relationship
Manager for GBSC

HOW TO REACH US

PRESIDENT
DR. GREGORY K. MOSS, SR.
(704) 334-5309
GMOSS1@BELLSOUTH.NET

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE
DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
(252) 355-2966
shmbaptist@earthlink.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
DR. NILOUS AVERY, II
(704) 637-0954
AveryRevKin@aol.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
(704) 598-2219
ldlynch@ebccharlotte.org

3RD VICE PRESIDENT
DR. RICKY BANKS
(252) 335-5035
pastorrickybanks@yahoo.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT
DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
(919) 807-1194
mountpeachbc@aol.com

Executive Secretary-Treasurer
DR. HAYWOOD T. GRAY
(919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR/MANAGING EDITOR
MRS. PORTIA H. BRANDON, M. DIV.
(919) 821-7466 portiabrandon@hotmail.com

WBH & FMC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER
Dr. PRISCILLA BRODIE
pbrodie@wbhfmcc.org

WBH & FMC, PRESIDENT
MRS. BRONNIE HARRIS DANIELS,
PRESIDENT (336) 767-6156

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, PRESIDENT
MISS LULA GAINEY
(910) 728-0021
lulagailey@ccs.k12.nc.us

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT
MR. THEODORE DAVID
(919) 508-5468
Theodore.david@pgnmail.com

USHER'S CONVENTION, PRESIDENT
MRS. HELEN THOMPSON
(910) 488-5322

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President

To the holy and faithful sisters and brothers in Jesus Christ of the General Baptist family: Grace and peace to you from God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. I thank my God every time I remember you. "Because of your partnership in the gospel and the confidence of knowing that



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

God will finish the good work God has started in you and God will carry it on to completion until the day of Jesus the Christ" (Philippians 1:5-6, paraphrased).

Several years ago, songwriter Jimmy Owens wrote a song entitled "Forgive Me, My Friend." He posed a revealing question: Have we failed those around us who look to see a glimpse of the Christ in us? In other words, as Christians who are called to be the "light of the world," have we lit our lamps and put them under a bowl? Does the world around us view us as a city on a hill that cannot be hidden? Are we failing those who look to see a glimpse of the Christ in us?

A glimpse of the Christ...in us? YES! Jesus apparently gave the world permission to expect a glimpse of the

Christ in us. Jesus issued this timeless challenge to His disciples of yesterday, for today, and through forever: "Let your light shine (for everyone), that they may see your good deeds and praise (God) in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, NIV).

How awesome and profound! A glimpse of the Christ in us:

- A glimpse of the Christ's COURAGE as displayed by Peter and John who decided to preach in the name of Jesus, anyway, anywhere, and anyhow (Acts 4:18-19).

- A glimpse of the Christ's COMPLETE STEWARDSHIP as displayed by the poor widow who gave all she had to live on (Mark 12:42 & Luke 21:2).

- A glimpse of the Christ's COMPASSION as displayed by Stephen when he prayed for his mockers and murderers (Acts 7:60).

- A glimpse of the Christ's CONSTANT & CONSISTENT PRESENCE as displayed by the women before the cross, at the cross, at the tomb, on Ascension Day, and before, during, and after the Day of Pentecost.

Many lives have been influenced because of the glimpses of the Christ in Christians who have left footprints on the sands of time. My beloved sisters and brothers, has anyone's life been positively influenced because they saw a glimpse of the Christ in us? Has our resistance to temptation and trust in God been a bea-

con of light to a weary traveler who may be looking for a glimpse of Christ in us? Have we embraced and exhibited a life-surrendering and will-submitting PASSION FOR GOD...COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE?

The opportunity to provide a glimpse of the Christ in us is here and now! The beneficiaries of our convention's objectives are watching and waiting to catch a glimpse of the Christ in us. Let us shine our lights and stand tall as a city on a hill for God through Jesus the Christ our Lord and Savior.

Today, this day, I am challenging every General Baptist disciple of Jesus the Christ to become a "glimpse-provider" through your prayerful, cheerful, and IMMEDIATE support of State Missions. State Missions is the engine that propels our convention through operations and programming. We need you to become the "fuel" that will equip and empower us all to "convince the unconvinced to be convinced through Education, Missions, and Fellowship."

Thank you in advance for your upcoming generous spiritual and financial support of State Missions and the General Baptist State Convention.

"The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen" (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV).

Second Vice President

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
2nd Vice President



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

Greetings in the matchless name of our risen Christ,

Why Foreign Missions?

Within themselves, missions are a great challenge. For several

years the clear definition has escaped many persons, even within the church. Some believe mission work is reduced to an annual day of worship on the church calendar or a small group of members who wear white every now & then. The real power of mission work is discovered from Jesus in Matthew 25:31-46.

Missions can be said then to be the practice of meeting the needs of humanity. What is true mission work? It is when someone does something for a person in need already knowing that he or she can not pay you back. In this scripture Jesus is making a change in the perspective of the Disciples. He notes the impending judgment that shall come upon all of us at the close of our journey. The judgment has a simple purpose and that is to sepa-

rate the righteous from the un-righteous. The criterion for separation is in part based upon our service to humankind.

Jesus provides for us a listing of some of the criteria that will be used in our evaluation at the judgment.

It is interesting to note that both those on the right and those on the left, neither recognized Jesus within hurting humanity. This remains our challenge to meet the needs of God's children where we recognize Jesus in the crowd or not.

Therefore when we DO MISSIONS we fulfill the mandate of the master and, when we cease to DO MISSIONS we cease to be the church! Emil Bruner in his book God's Forgetful Pilgrims, Recalling the Church To Its Reason For Being states, ~ "The Church exists by mission as fire exists by burning".

Let us go forward into all the world and DO MISSIONS!

Our 2008 Foreign Mission Project

As we approach the All Baptist Assembly {July}, and the Annual Session {October} we are asking your support for a project - Samaritans Feet. Please lift a special offering during the months of June & July and report these

funds at the All Baptist Assembly Session to be held in Winston-Salem, NC July 28 - 31, 2008. Please report funds in the registration office at the convention center upon arrival. Also, please lift a special offering during the months of August & September and report these funds at the Annual Session of the GBSC, October 27 -30, 2008.

Please visit their website www.samaritansfeet.com for further information.

Servants Needed on the Committee on Foreign Missions

We are in process of completing the Committee on Foreign Missions of the GBSC. If you have a desire to serve please send an e-mail to drlynchnewsletter@yahoo.com with "Foreign Missions Committee Interest" in the subject line.

Save the Date - Holy Land Tour 2009

Save the DATE - Holy Land Tour 2009
Nov. 8 - 18, 2009

5th Generation Ministries, Inc., sponsors a Life Changing Experience as we travel to walk where Jesus walked. Save the dates, trip pricing will be forthcoming ASAP.

Father: God's Representative

The father is head of the home. The Lord has placed him in this position so he will give the family godly direction and guidance. God calls children to obey their father as they would obey the Lord, but Dad is the one who teaches them how. When a child questions authority, a popular response is, "Because I said so." To the parent's way of thinking, this phrase should end all discussion and whining. After all, the child's authority figure has made a decision and will not change his mind. But as children grow older, those four simple words position Dad as their ultimate authority, which means that in their minds, when they rebel, their transgression is against only him. A godly man understands that God is the true authority. In training his children, such a father will transfer a sense of accountability from himself to the Lord. He does this by teaching his children that he is God's representative in the household and if they choose to disobey, they will have to answer to God. This approach helps children recognize their accountability before the Lord as they mature. Then when Dad is not around to give instruction or guidance, they'll still choose to make wise choices because the Lord is watching.

Mission - Be a Samaritan

We bring shoes to the ends of the earth in the Name of Christ who changes lives.

Statement of Purpose

Evangelize, Educate, Encourage, and Enrich the lives of as many people as possible globally, helping them live a life of Legacy through participation in sports and equipping their feet with shoes.

Our Goal

to equip **10 million** impoverished children with **10 million shoes** in 10 years

To learn more please call toll free 1.866.833.SHOE or e-mail info@samaritansfeet.org.

More Than Conquerors



Rev. Ricky Banks

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. Romans 8:37KJV.

When we read the account of the crucifixion, our hearts ache, and we are distressed to think our sins nailed Jesus to the cross. We imagine the hurt and the agony which was unbearable. The cross is rough and ugly,

and we do not like it. We do not like the actions of those who mocked Him, who spit on Him, who stripped Him of His clothes, who beat Him, who made Him carry that heavy cross, who drove the nails in His hands and feet.

But wait! We are looking at only one side of the cross! Let's look again. If it hadn't been for the cross, where would be our salvation? There would be no victory. Satan would have won the battle and we would be condemned. But because of that ugly cross and the angry mob, we are now conquerors. More than conquerors. For no one or nothing

can now separate us from the love of God. Jesus paid the price for your sins and my sins, and Satan has lost the battle. The victory is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord. Raise the banner! Give the victory cry! Publish glad tidings! Jesus lives and reigns, and we are more than conquerors through Him! BLESS HIS NAME "SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL"

THE THIRD VICE PRESIDENT shall serve the Convention at the request of the President, and shall chair the Committee for the Department of Higher Education.

Shaw's Coach Names 2008 CIAA Men's Tennis Coach of the Year

The CIAA office has announced the spring sports 2008 CIAA Coaches of the year. For the fifth consecutive

year, Sunday Enitan of Shaw University has been announced as the Men's Tennis Coach of the Year. Coach Enitan led the CIAA powerful bears to the men's conference title this season and continued play in the NCAA Division II Men's Tennis Post Season. This is his 4th back to back Championship in the men's field. The Shaw Bears finished the regular season as an undefeated squad in conference play 4-0, 11-5.

Congratulations are extended to Coach Enitan from the entire Shaw University Family for his continued and remarkable excellence! ■

Annual Alumni Luncheon



Dr. Clarence G. Newsome

Dr. Clarence G. Newsome, President
Shaw University
Divinity School

The Shaw University Divinity School cordially invites you to attend the Annual Alumni

Luncheon at the Hampton Ministers' Conference, Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 1pm. Katherine House, Hampton University, Hampton, A 23666

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Johnnie White, Alumni First Calvary Baptist

Church, Norfolk, VA.

The cost will be \$25.00 per person. Please RSVP by emailing Ms. Tineka Richardson at trichardson@shawu.edu and by returning the below registration form by May 26, 2008. Make all checks payable to: Shaw University Divinity School **Send registration form along with checks to:**

Shaw University Divinity School
Attn: Ms. Tineka C. Richardson,
Conference Coordinator
P.O. Box 2090
Raleigh, NC 27602

Registration Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Number of People _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Contact: trichardson@shawu.edu • 919.546.8654

71st Annual Church Leadership Conference June 21, 2008 **Discipleship and Commitment**

The need continues for Christ's disciples to be prepared for the challenges of ministry that lie ahead.



Shaw University Divinity School • Raleigh, NC
Dr. Clarence Newsome, President
Dr. James T. Roberson, Jr., Dean
Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Director of Continuing Christian Education

"Strides to Excellence: Only the Best!"

This year's Leadership Conference offers 8 great workshops which will be conducted in the morning and in the afternoon. Participants will be able to share in at least two workshops of their choice. The workshops have been designed to enhance components of the entire church. We are encouraging pastors to bring buses and vans for this great Leaders' Conference. Registration will begin at 8:00 am, on the 1st floor of Leonard Hall, on the Shaw University Campus. Certificates of participation will be given at the end of each workshop.

Schedule as follows:

8:00 am	Registration begins
8:30am-9:00am	Opening Plenary
9:00am-11:30am	Morning Workshop
11:30-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-3:30pm	Afternoon Workshop
3:30pm-4:00pm	Closing Plenary

• WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTERS •

Small Church as the Agent of Change	Dr. Reginald High
The Roles and Responsibilities of Deacons/Trustees	Dr. Rudolph Tripp
The African American Church - Then and Now	Dr. James Authur Holmes
Equipping without Tripping	Dr. Bruce Grady
Spirituality of Stewardship	Dr. Cheryl Kirk-Duggen
Creating & Managing the Church Budget	Rev. Spencer Woods
New Membership Training	Minister Doris Sanders
The Duties & Responsibilities of Ushers and Greeters	Rev. Nellie Cook

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Title _____ Email _____

Name _____

Home Phone _____

Church Affiliation _____

Pastors' Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ /State _____ /Zip _____

Early Registration \$35.00 (Deadline: May 30, 2008/Includes Lunch)
On-Site Registration \$45.00 (Includes Lunch) Youth/Teens Registration \$10.00
Shaw University & Divinity School Students, Faculty and Staff (No Charge)

Workshop Choices:

Morning _____

Afternoon _____

Quantity _____ Price _____ Total _____

Please complete registration form to include your workshop selection and return to:
Shaw University Divinity School • P.O. Box 2090 • Raleigh, NC 27601

The Central Children's Home

Reverend Norman T. Davis
Executive Committee Board Member



Norman T. Davis

Grace and peace be unto you all from God our Father and His only Son Jesus, and may the Holy Spirit speak to your heart.

Let me first thank you for your pass support of the Children's Home. It is an objective of the General Baptist State Convention. We need your help today as never before.

Last March, I wrote to you through the Baptist Informer asking for your help. Thank you to all who reached out to the home. At that time we were about \$90,000 in debt and behind in bills.

Because of the two bad years of hurricane Floyd, and the slow coming in of funds, we have not been able to catch up. Today we are about \$186,000 in the hold. We need every Pastor, Church, Association, Missionary Union, the

Laymen League, Sunday School and others who have influence to help us.

Dr. George Cook, our new president, has divided the board into five teams to raise \$100,000 in the next physical year.



Dr. Wesley Elam, chairman of the fundraising committee, and all members have pledged to give \$1,000 a year. Each team is to raise \$20,000 in this physical year.

The Middle Ground Association met in March and gave to the Children's Home over \$15,000. We are asking that the other sixty one Associations lift us as best you can. We really need help. Dr. Walter Cherry is the Moderator of Middle Ground. Hat off to Dr. Cherry and all the Middle Ground pastors and staff.

Dr. Wesley Elam and Rev. Norman Davis are asking the New Hope Association to respond the same as the Middle Ground.

Please help us reach out to your members, businesses and the public.

We are back to 25 children and hope to get to 31 soon. The E4 money from the government really hurts. My brothers we have a real soul searching decision on what we are going to do with the children and the Home. God's richest blessings upon you and may you find some extra kindness in your heart, soul and spirit to help.

Dr. Cook, Dr. Elam and Dr. Haywood Gray, our Executive Secretary-Treasurer, along with Reverend Norman Davis are leading this project.

We hope to be able to share with you very soon who will be the next Executive Director of the Children's Home.

All checks are to be made out to the General Baptist State Convention and sent to the Baptist Headquarters earmarked Children's Home. ■

Dr. Vincent Terry
Fourth Vice
President



Dr. Vincent J. Terry

THE FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT shall serve the Convention at the request of the President, and shall chair the Committee for the Central Orphanage.



The Godly Father

A serious problem plaguing the American family is the absence of godly fathers. A disproportionate percentage of today's young people are angry, rebellious, and indifferent, and the primary reason is because so many lack a strong and loving dad.

Fathering well means having a positive relationship with one's children. The godly father is conscious of the impact his presence has on his family's life, and by extension, he has considered what the consequences would be, were he to walk away from them.

A father's presence gives his family security. He provides not only physical and emotional support to his family, but guidance and leadership as well. Even a father who struggles to do some or all of these things well—or one who feels he has failed somehow—is better for his family than no father at all. A father is his child's first view of what God is like. If Dad is around in everyday life, then it is easier for his son or daughter to understand that God is present too.

PASTORAL INSTALLATION SERVICE

REV. CLIFFORD ANTHONY JONES, JR.
SENIOR MINISTER

UNITED CORNERSTONE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
WINSTON SALEM, N C

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2008 - 4:00 PM

INSTALLATION SERMON

DR. CLIFFORD ANTHONY JONES, SR.
SENIOR MINISTER

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, CHARLOTTE, NC



Rev. Clifford A Jones, Jr.

Clifford A. Jones, Jr. is a preacher, singer and program administrator. He has devoted his life to "serving God and spreading the Good News" of his Christian faith.

Born in Clinton, NC and reared in Charlotte, NC, he has traveled extensively preaching, teaching and studying God's word. He studied the remnants of 1st Century Christianity in Malta and Tunisia; performed opera in Cortona, Italy; and represented Friendship Missionary Baptist Church as a delegate in Sevilla, Spain, Glasgow, Scotland, and Birmingham, England, Mexico City Mexico, and Leipzig, Germany. He also conducted revival for 7 days while in Soweto, South Africa.

Rev. Jones sensed God's call on his life and accepted the call to ministry in 1998. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1995 from South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC.; Master of Divinity degree in 2002 from Andover-Newton Theological School in Newton Centre, MA and the Master of theology degree in 2004 from Emory University/Candler School of Theology,

Atlanta GA. He also received Clinical Pastoral Education from Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston Salem, NC.

He currently serves on the board of the Baptist World Alliance with the Worship and Spirituality Commission. His organizational memberships include Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

On Christmas Day of 2005, United Cornerstone invited Rev. C. Anthony Jones, Jr. to come and preach. On the following Sunday, United Cornerstone asked Rev. Jones if he would consider pulpit supply for the month of January. After 16 months of pulpit supply, Rev. C. Anthony Jones, Jr. accepted the church's formal invitation on May 20, 2007 to be its Senior Minister. On September 9, 2007, Rev. C. Anthony Jones, Jr. officially assumed all duties and responsibilities as God's divinely appointed shepherd of United Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church.

He is the son of Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr. and Carolyn Brenda Jones; the Brother of Rev. Michelle A. Jones, Renee Darity and Alexa Fortune. ■



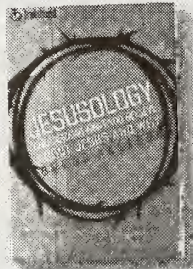
Dr. Clifford A Jones, Sr.

The books recommended for this year's study are:

Trusted Stewardship
(Seniors and Young Adults)



Jesusology
(Youth, 12-20)



Name That Bible Character!
(Youth, 9-11)



Hurry Up Noah
(Youth 6-8)



David and Other Bible Heroes
(Youth, Birth-5)



■ **2008 Calendar** ■

JUNE

- 7 Young Adult Retreat
- 21 United Easter Assembly, 9:30 am
- 28 Missions Prayer Day (County Unions, et. al.)

JULY

- 27-31 Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem

AUGUST

- Prayer month for The Family
- 11-15 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention

SEPTEMBER

- 8-12 National Baptist Convention
- 27 Family Missions Conference

OCTOBER

- Prayer month for Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School
- 10 Shaw University Founder's Day convocation
- 11 WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

- 1 Youth Evangelism Conference
- 3 World Day of Prayer (BWA Woman's Dept)
- 27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

- 25 Christmas Day



Bronnie Daniels

*Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC
Executive Secretary-Treasurer*

In June we usually emphasize fatherhood. There are many things that can be said about a Godfearing father, but one of the most outstanding is the demonstration of his standing in love.

Through Job 1,29 and Ephesians 5:25, 6:4 and 6:11 excerpts we are reminded of his love for:

God- "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless, and upright, and who feared God and shunned evil";

Self- "Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil";

Wife- "So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself";

Family- "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord";

Others- "Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him."

Let us thank God through Jesus Christ for the gift of father's standing in love.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Reminders

The All Baptist Assembly and 124th Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina will convene at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem. Please begin praying and making preparation to attend and participate in this session. The session convenes during of the week of July 27-31, 2008. the hotels are the Marriott and the Embassy Suites.

Among the events are:

1. The Johnnie Blunt McLester Pre-Convention Banquet on Monday evening, July 28th 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center. You may secure tickets from the office of the Woman's Convention now. Tickets secured through the Office are \$40.00 each. Tickets secured on site are \$45.00 each. Please send to the Office now for tickets;
2. Youth Officers and Supervisors' March on Monday, July 28, 2:00-4:00 P.M.;
3. Have A Heart on Tuesday, July 29th 2008 at 10:00 A.M. and Shaw Project Tuesday, July 29th at 1:30 P.M.;
4. The Missions Prayer Breakfast (YA) on Tuesday, July 29th, 2008 at 6:45 a.m. The advance donation is \$17.00; at the door, \$22.00. Space is limited. Please send to the Office for tickets now;
5. The Youth Prayer "Pizza Party" on Wednesday, July 30th, 2008 (time and

"Fathers Standing In Love

place to be announced.) The advance donation is \$9.00; at the door, \$14.00. Space is limited. Please send to the Office for tickets;

6. Youth Game Night on Monday, July 28 at 6:00 P.M.;

7. The Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship Luncheon on Tuesday, July 29th at 12:30 p.m. The advance donation is \$17.00; at the door, \$22.00. Space is limited. Please send to the Office for tickets now;

8. Annual Address of President Daniels, along with report of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie, on Wednesday morning (July 30th). Advance donation for the President's Address is \$5.00; on-site \$6.00;

9. Joint Early Morning Prayer Hour for All Persons from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 29th through Thursday, July 31st;

10. The Executive Board Meeting Sunday, July 27th at 4:00 P.M.,

The General Board Sunday, July 27th at 5:30 P.M.

Please wear yellow for the Tuesday afternoon session at 2:00 P.M., Benton Convention Center, South Main Hall, and please wear white for the Wednesday morning session at 10:00 A.M.

Pre-Rep representation and Pre-Registration fees should be sent to the office no later than July 7, 2008. Fee information and forms have been mailed to District Chairperson, Circle, Union and Auxiliary Presidents. Chairperson and Presidents, please contact the office if you have not received your Annual Session and Pre-Representation and Pre-Registration information.

Senior and Young Adults are to participate in the Joint All Baptist Assembly Class, but Youth classes are scheduled as usual.

The 2007-2008 Budget is \$803,325.00, which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Please be reminded that of the funds you send for objectives 2/3 should be sent for State Missions. State Missions funds provide all funds for the cost of all ministries and operations for home missions done with and for you in the conventional statewide ministry. ■



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of NC

**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT
JUNE 7, 2008**

LOCATION: Beauty Spot Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER BEFORE THE DEADLINE: MAY 16th, 2008

Advance Donation: _____ \$20.00 Per Person _____ \$35.00 Per Couple (Husband and Wife)

On-Site Donation: _____ \$21.00 Per Person _____ \$36.00 Per Couple (Husband and Wife)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Complete Mailing Address: _____

Church: _____

Telephone Number() _____ E-Mail Address _____

Young Adult _____ Young Adult Director/Associate _____ Senior _____

My Child(ren) will attend the Youth Class () Yes () No

Name of Child(ren) _____

Age(s) _____

I shall not hold the Woman's Convention or GBSC liable for any injury, which occurs to my child(ren) during the Young Adult Retreat.

Signed _____

**Please mail form and money by May 16TH, 2008 to:
Woman's Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602**

The All Baptist Assembly • July 27-31, 2008

THE ALL BAPTIST ASSEMBLY
460 N. Cherry Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

JULY 27 -31, 2008

Headquarters Hotels:

Marriott (800) 320-0934

THE ID CODE FOR THE MARRIOTT, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ALL.

ROOM RATES ARE:

Single/Double: \$92.00, with tax \$103.73
Triple/Quad: \$96.00, with tax \$108.24

Embassy (800) 696-6107

THE ID CODE FOR THE EMBASSY SUITES, WHICH YOU WILL NEED FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS, IS ABS.

ROOM RATES ARE:

One-Bedroom Suite (single/double) \$117.00, with tax \$131.92
One-Bedroom Suite (triple/quad) \$120.00, with tax \$135.30
Two-Bedroom Suite (single/double) \$179.00, with tax \$201.92
Two-Bedroom Suite (triple/quad) \$189.00, with tax \$213.10

In order to make reservations please contact immediately your choice of hotel accommodations at one of the above numbers. There will be no form; therefore, please make your reservation(s) via tele-

phone. The indicated ending date for making reservations is June 27, 2008.

Reminder: Please remember to get

confirmation numbers once reservations are made and take with you when you attend the All Baptist Assembly.

All Baptist Assembly
Vendors and Private Business Policy

- All persons seeking to reserve and/or rent exhibit space for the purpose of selling, show-casing, or informational purposes, should submit an application along with full rental payment to the General Baptist State Convention, June 20, 2008.
- All checks/money orders should be made payable to the General Baptist State Convention.
- Certified checks, cashier checks, and money orders may be submitted on-site the day of the event providing pre-arrangements have been approved.
- Vendors will be notified upon receipt of application and payment.
- The General Baptist State Convention will not be liable for any damages to personal property sustained on-site of the event.
- The General Baptist State Convention will make arrangements for each vendor to have one table and one chair for each rental space.
- The General Baptist State Convention will not be responsible/liable for securing any additional fixtures (i.e. extension cords, outlets, telephone connections, etc.) for your rental/exhibit space.
- The General Baptist State Convention does not make any representations regarding your potential profit or loss. Accordingly, there will be no refunds given due to poor attendance at any event or poor sales by any of the vendors.
- If, after pre-registering, any vendor is unable to attend an event, he/she must give the General Baptist State Convention at least 48 hours notice in order to receive a full refund. Please call (919) 821-7466, if you have any question.

GBSC STAFF

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Rev. Selma Hunter
Finance Consultant

Mrs. Darcell McNeill
Bookkeeping Clerk



Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Baptist Informer Managing Editor

If, after pre-registering, any vendor is unable to attend an event, he/she must give the General Baptist State Convention at least 48 hours notice in order to receive a full refund. Please call (919) 821-7466, if you have any questions.

General Baptist State Convention

ALL
BAPTIST ASSEMBLY
July 27-31, 2008
The M.C. Benton Jr. Convention Center
301 West 5th Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

EXHIBIT FEE - \$100.00

PLEASE RESERVE EXHIBIT SPACE AS INDICATED BELOW FOR:

Name Of Exhibitor _____
Describe Product(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Daytime Telephone Number () _____

Electrical Outlet Needed? YES NO

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM & PAYMENT BY

June 20, 2008
General Baptist State Convention
c/o Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
603 South Wilmington St
Raleigh, NC 27601

- (1) Fee for Exhibitor Space is \$100.00 (Make Checks/Money Orders payable to General Baptist State Convention. Each Vendor Will Be Provided One Table And One Chair. Electric Outlets Will be Provided.
- (2) Fee For Exhibit Space Shall Be Paid Before Setup. See Policy for More Details.
- (3) Each Exhibitor shall be Responsible for Displaying and Protecting their Booth.
- (4) Exhibit Setup Begins on: Monday morning, July 28, 2008
- (5) Must Be Removed by Thursday morning, July 31, 2008- after service

Portia Brandon May 2008 Itinerary

Dates	Purpose of Trip
1 May 4, 2008	Ridgeway Baptist Church Ridgeway, N C Rev. Willie Rainey Woman's Day Speaker 11:00 am
2 May 4, 2008	Middle Baptist Association First Annual Banquet (Tri County) Henderson, NC Rev. Kenneth M. Williams
3 May 9, 2008	June Baptist Informer publication - Benson, NC
4 May 11, 2008	Gethsemane Baptist Church 719 Caldwell Street Salisbury, NC 28144 Pastor: Dr. Clary Phelps Mother's Day Speaker
5 May 13-14, 2008	GBS GBSC Mid-Year Session Roanoke Rapids, NC
6 May 17-18, 2008	Emmanuel Baptist Church 1075 Shalimar Dr. Winston Salem, NC 27107 Pastor: Rev. Dr. John Mendez. May 17, 2008-Missionary Workshop Facilitator May 18, 2008-Missionary Anniversary Speaker
7 May 19-23, 2008	Kenansville Eastern Association Institute Warsaw, NC. Institute Instructor
8 May 25, 2008	New Hope Missionary Baptist Church 581 New Hope Church Road Apex, NC Rev. Dr. Marcus V. Ingram Women Day Speaker 11:00 am

Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor



Portia H.
Brandon

Dr. James T. Roberson, Jr., Dean of Shaw University Divinity School announced today that the Divinity School will begin offering selected courses over the Internet. The Dean said:

"Computer-mediated communications and the ubiquity of the Internet have made it possible for students to

receive a quality education without ever setting foot on a campus, Shaw University Divinity School has used Blackboard since 2001 to supplement the student dialog in face-to-face classes. We are now ready to expand this practice by offering course online, without any physical classroom at all. We are excited for Shaw University Divinity School to join the ranks of seminaries accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) that offer up to two-thirds (2/3) of the MDiv degree online."

Strong interest in online access to theological education is evident across North Carolina and around the country, particularly in the African-American Church community and the community of Historically Black Theological Seminaries (HBTS). Dr. Gregory Moss, President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina endorsed this method of education delivery and commented that "it is an excellent idea." Dr. Stephen



Dr. Gregory K. Moss
President, GBSC, Inc.

J. Thurston, President of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., echoes Dr. Moss, "Such an offering would make quality theological education available to many of our pastors and ministers who cannot afford to spend three to five years away at a resident seminary," Rev. Samuel Tolbert, president of the Louisiana Home and Foreign Missionary Baptist State Convention declared he "...[has] long desired access to an HBTS for the Louisiana Bayou area. Access to Shaw University Divinity School online courses would bring theological education with an Afro-centric nuance to us, a welcome solution for many of our communities."

Dr. Roberson has

ReThinking Christian Education

been invited to speak about Shaw's online project at the upcoming National Baptist Congress of Christian Workers and National Youth Convention in Fort Worth, Texas. "Shaw University Divinity School is committed to raising the level of theological education in the Black Church and we believe technology will help us to achieve this goal," said the Dean.

The Online Course Offering will begin with one course being offered during the summer 2008 semester. The summer 2008 course being offered is HIS 534 Women in Western Religion and will be available only to currently registered Shaw University Divinity School students.



Dr. Clarence G.
Newsome, President
Shaw University Divinity
School

This course will be taught by Dr. James Arthur Holmes and students will be able to engage in asynchronous dialog to achieve the Student Learning Outcomes of the course. In the Shaw University Divinity School Online Course Offering, the Course Description, Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes for a given course are the same for that

course whether the course is taught face-to-face, via video conferencing, or via asynchronous dialog using Blackboard.

Following the summer 2008 session, the Divinity School will offer three courses online during the fall 2008 semester. These courses are:

- ORA 501 Old Testament I
- HIS 501 Church History I
- MIN 502 Spiritual Formation

The Fall 2008 semester course offerings will be made available to potentially new Shaw University Divinity School students. All new students will be required to attend the New Student Orientation at which time they will be introduced to Blackboard. Once students have attended

New Student Orientation, they will be able to engage in classroom activity via a virtual classroom on Blackboard.

For the spring 2009 semester the Divinity School will offer the following courses:

- OTS 502 Old Testament II
- HIS 502 Church History II
- HIS 533 African American Church History

The spring 2009 Online Course offerings consists of courses which have prerequisites and hence are not courses that entering students would be eligible to take. Since students for these classes will have already attended the New Student Orientation, they will not be required to come back to the campus to register for these courses. All registration and class interaction (can?) be done online.

Shaw University Divinity School is proud to join the ranks of many other seminaries that are members of the Association



Rev. Stephen J. Thurston,
President, National
Baptist Convention of
America, Inc.

of Theological Schools (ATS) and have begun to make theological education available to persons who otherwise would not be able to come to the campus and hence not be able to get a quality theological education. Shaw University Divinity School is committed to raising the level of theological education in the Black Church and we believe technology will help us to achieve this goal.

For more information on the Shaw University Divinity School online course, contact Dr. Roberson at (919) 546-8569 or at jtrob@shawu.edu. Further information is available at the Shaw University website at www.shawu.edu.



Rev. Samuel Tolbert, Jr.,
President Louisiana
HFBC

Free Robes (with minimum order)

- ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070
Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!



Dr. James T. Roberson



Baptist Informer
RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM



Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check)

New Subscription

Renewal

Address Change (include old address label)

Number of Years: (check one)

1 Year

2 Years

3 Years

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention
603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 821-7466 • www.gbsc.org

Signature _____

*When you can't come to us,
our mobile showroom will come to you!*

**Coordinating
Group Outfits
from Head-to-Toe!**
**Suits
Shirt/Tie Sets
Shoes**

**On-Site Group
Fittings!**



**Suit Sizes to 80
Shirt Sizes to 22**

**Call to Schedule
a Showing!**

Suits with Brand
Names such as:
**Tayion
Stacy Adams
Falcone**

ROWE'S
MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

Laymen's League

Leadership of the N.C. State Laymen's League

Theodore David, President
 Richmond Turner, First VP
 Gregory Gabriel, Second VP
 James L. Geter, Third VP
 William L. Pointer, Jr. Fourth VP
 Mr. Samuel Greene, Secretary
 Mr. Nathaniel Daniels, Treasurer
 Joseph J. Scott, Youth President
 Tedric Taylor, Youth VP
 James Burt, Youth Secretary
 Darrell Cozart, Asst. Secretary

STATE LAYMEN PRESIDENT April 12 - 13, 2008

DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
SYCAMORE HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
1001 HOOKER ROAD • GREENVILLE, NC



Dr. Howard Parker, Jr.



I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection. Sigmund Freud

2008 Laymen Calendar

July 11-12, 2008

Laymen's Men and Boy's Retreat
 Lewis Chapel Miss. Baptist Church,
 Fayetteville, NC
 Pastor, Dr. John D. Fuller

July 27-31, 2008

All Baptist Assembly
 Winston Salem, NC
 Laymen's Annual Session will be held one day during this period

Aug 23, 2008

Laymen's Annual Scouting Camporee, Location TBA

Sept. 13, 2008

Laymen's Men's Retreat
 Nicey Grove Miss. Bapt. Church
 Marshville, NC
 Pastor, Dr. M. L. Kaufman

Sept. 26-28, 2008

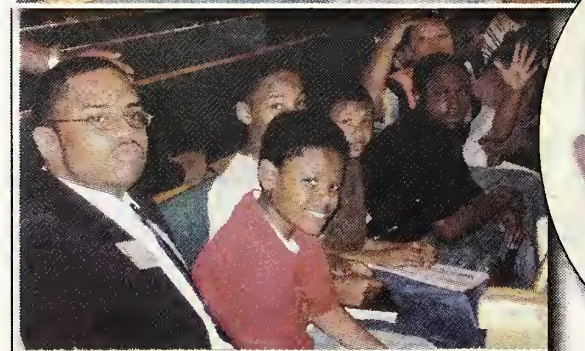
Walter Cade Jr. SE Regional Laymen's Workshop, Greenville, SC

Oct. 11, 2008

Youth Laymen's Mini Skills
 Temple Memorial Baptist Church
 High Point, NC
 Pastor - Rev. Thomas A. Banister III

Dec. 13, 2008

Quarterly Study Commission Meeting
 Gethsemane Baptist Church
 Salisbury, NC
 Pastor - Dr. Clary Phelps



Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association

Bear Creek Usher's Auxiliary Holds Annual Workshop

Ms. Helen Thompson
President



Helen
Thompson

March 8, 2008 -
Goldsboro, NC

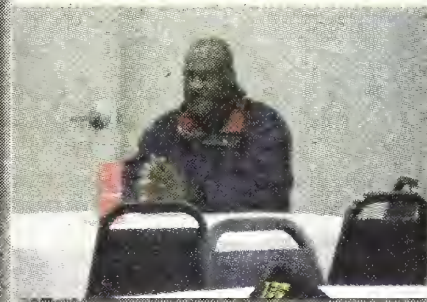
The Bear Creek Baptist Association Usher's Auxiliary in Goldsboro, NC held its Annual Workshop on Saturday, March 8.

The assistant dean of the General Baptist State Convention, Bro. Charlie Rose, was the instructor for the workshop. Some of the ushers from the 29 churches of Bear Creek were in attendance. As Dean Rose spoke, he left

opportunity for any questions to be asked. Dean Rose is shown as he answers questions from Moderator Michael Johnson. The usher's auxiliary celebrated its 21st Annual Usher's ban-



quet April 5 at 6:00 p.m. at Bear Creek Association in Goldsboro. The youth ushers from the various churches of Bear Creek were in charge of the program. The One Day Session of the Bear Creek Usher's Auxiliary was held April 12 at Bear Creek. ■



21st Annual Usher's Banquet

Bear Creek Missionary Baptist
Association
by Sis. Sharon Warren

The Bear Creek Usher's Auxiliary held its 21st Annual Banquet at the Association Building in Goldsboro on April 5, 2008. The annual banquet is to provide fellow-

ship one with another and to provide the youth an opportunity to participate on the program. Ushers, members and guests from the 31 churches dressed in red and white assembled in the Bear Creek fellowship hall. The dining area was also decorated in red and white. The youth of the various churches were the speakers of the evening and also gave scripture and prayer. The great congregation of ushers and friends were blessed with music provided by The Bear Creek Male Chorus. We are grateful for the outstanding job this great choir did.

This year, all usher treasurers and ushers serving 21 years or more were honored. Mother Lynetta Fields, Sis. Almetta Williams and Sis. Elizabeth Applewhite were honored as the seasoned ushers for having served 50 or more years.

The main speaker was Miss Ashton Johnson of Ebenezer MB Church in LaGrange, NC. Little Miss Ashton won the oratorical contest held by the usher's auxiliary at the annual retreat held last June. She was

blessed with one hundred dollars for her great effort. She spent approximately five minutes speaking on her selected topic.

The moderator of this great Association is Dr. Michael A. Johnson of Goldsboro and pastor of Ebenezer MB Church in

LaGrange. The president of the usher's auxiliary is Bro. Othaniel Britt of Mt. Pleasant MB Church, Goldsboro, and Bro. Rickey Williams of St. Delight MB Church, Walstonburg is the vice president.

It was a wonderful time of celebration in the Lord.



Ushers Celebrate One Day Session

"To God Be the Glory"!

The Bear Creek ushers held their Forty Seventh Annual Session on April 12, 2008 at the Association Building in Goldsboro. The ushers, dressed in white uniforms and black suits, gathered together to worship the Lord. President Bro. Othaniel Britt presided over the service. The ushers celebrated with a Grand March led by the president as they sang the Usher's Anthem, "Stand Up For Jesus". "Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye ushers of Bear Creek. Lift high His royal banner, it must not touch your feet. 'Til victory unto victory, His ushers shall He lead, 'Til everyone is seated and Christ is Lord indeed." This song was written by the former moderator, the late Dr. W.C. Horton. After the President's Address, the preached word was given by Rev. Tedaro Reid of First Missionary Baptist Church Fremont. Rev. Reid's text came from Acts 10:9-15 and his subject was "When God Do A Work". The mass choir of Bear Creek provided music for the service. Refreshments were served after the service.

**"A wise son maketh
a glad father.**

Proverbs 10:1

2008 Calendar of Events

August 16, 2008

Ushers' Executive Board Meeting
10:00 am - Baptist Headquarter

October 18, 2008

Ushers' Executive Board
Baptist Headquarters
Raleigh, NC

October 28-29, 2008

GBSC Annual Session
Winston Salem, NC

November 7-8, 2008

Ushers' Retreat Assembly

Dr. James W. Smith

“Time Is Changing”

Dr. James W. Smith,
Consultant/Mediator
Missionary Baptist Churches

This has been an exciting time in my life. I never thought that I would live to witness an African American or a woman who could become the nominee of a party for President of the United States of American. It may not look like it, but time is changing. As a society, we still have miles to go. On May 6th, our churches, pastors and community rose to the challenge and we have a lot for which to be grateful.

This is an opportune time for our churches to continue to exercise bold leadership. We cannot afford to let this time past us by. Our churches have been the bedrock for our struggles and successes and to allow others to silence us now will be a travesty. And we must admit, there is a segment that would like to keep the churches and pastors quiet. All we need to do is think about the Dr.

Jeremiah Wright episode. Yes, this could and may be interpreted to say, “Black churches be quiet.” But we can’t be quiet. Scripture says, “Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.” As long as there are the least of them, we can’t be quiet.

I was just reading an article regarding things that churches and 501(c)(3) entities can and cannot do. There was a litany of things. Endorsing candidates and getting involved with political issues were some of them. It is one of the reasons I share with pastors and churches to be careful how we deal with foundation and faith based monies. We cannot afford our hands to be tied. I remember distinctively my mom telling me that there is more than one way to

skin a cat. And because I believe that our congregations may not always follow us, I do believe they would like to know which way we are going. So after I share with them and encourage them to vote and let them know that it is their God given right to vote, I simply say, “Now I am not telling you who to vote for but I am voting for” Now the last time I checked, there was no policy or law against that. What we do know is that we can encourage our congregations to vote. That is our God given right. Jesus called upon his disciples to be both “salt” and “light” in the world and to influence the world for good. Voting is the step we take to try to get the best person in office that has the integrity, faith and hope to affect the lives of our people. The primary is over, but the general election is still to come. The struggle is not over.

As we consider this moment of our life, let us ever be reminded of the sacrifices made by others. Don’t let them down. Yes, time is changing but we still have ways to go.

Pastor, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church Email: Jsmith9450@aol.com



Dr. James W. Smith

The son becomes the father

Lines of dialog from the movie can serve to underscore the Gospel parallels. Jor-El (Superman’s heavenly father): “You will travel far, my little Kal-El, but we will never leave you—even in the face of our deaths. You will make my strength your own. You will see my life through your eyes, as your life will be seen through mine. The son becomes the father. And the father, the son.”

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

Writers:

- Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
- Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
- Marvin E. Davis
- Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
- Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
- Wheeler L. Jones
- T.L. Lewis
- Robert L. Malone
- Joseph L. Slade
- Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-MAILED OR MAILED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ORIGINAL ORDER! FOR PRICING SEE THE WEB SITE!



1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com
Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN



Special Announcement

Dr. Haywood Gray, GBSC Executive Secretary-Treasurer, has informed us that the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly Cafeteria has been damaged extensively by fire. Therefore, he has closed the Assembly for use until further notice.

Because of the fire and shutdown, we will need to change some of the plans (maybe time and place and program). As soon as the details are set forth, we shall inform you. At this time we ask for your prayers for direction, patience and support.

Reverend Joe A. Jackson

The soul-winning church begins with an excited, influential soul winner. No person in the church is more influential than the pastor. Pastors can have soul-winning churches if they are soul winners themselves – in the pulpit and outside the pulpit.



Rev. Joe A. Jackson

Believers are weary of being told what to do. They want to be shown what to do. They must be shown how to be effective witnesses and soul winners in the marketplace. A revival of soul winning in the church will take place when spiritual leaders become fishers of men outside the pulpit and then share the joy and fulfillment of these new experiences from the pulpit.

The most effective motivation in creating soul winners is not preaching about soul winning but telling about it. I have seen this over and over in my own ministry. While I have been pasturing, I would often preach about soul winning, but I was most effective when I could tell the congregation about a soul I had led to the Lord that week. What a joy. I felt when people I was baptizing turned to me and thanked me for leading them to Christ at their workplace or in their home. In those moments, my congregation was able to relate to me as a witness of Christ as well as a pastor. As an undershepherd, I was able to say to them with authority, "Follow me as I follow the Lord, and I will help you become fishers of men."

KEYS TO A SOUL-WINNING CHURCH

1. The soul-winning church has soul-winning leaders. They create a hunger in others to become effective witnesses.
2. The soul-winning church makes room for those who win souls to share their joy and testimony with the congregation. Pastors would do well to have a witness box or a soul-winning window - time set aside in the service - to give opportunity for others to share the joy of fishing for men.
3. A soul-winning church will give opportunity for souls to come to Christ service after service. Altar calls are a priority in a church. If no one comes, it is still a victory because the opening of the altars reminds people why the church exists. Of course, when someone responds, the joy on earth becomes the joy of heaven.
4. The soul-winning church has effective altar workers. The training of altar

The Soul-Winning Church

workers creates soul winners. If people learn how to lead people to a saving knowledge of Christ at an altar, they will be able to do the same in a car, in a cafeteria, and in the corner of an office.

Evangelism: Major Component in Church Growth

Results from a national evangelism survey revealed important differences in the attitudes and behaviors of pastors and laypeople from churches in different stages of attendance growth or decline.

In growing churches:

- Evangelism is a priority to the pastor. Pastors of growing churches are more likely to rate evangelism as one of their top three priorities than those that have stayed the same or decreased (42% vs. 29%).

- Pastors are personally active in evangelism and are more aware of evangelism programs. Pastors from growing churches are 50% more likely than those from maintaining or declining churches to have had a part in leading someone to Christ within the past month (46% vs. 30%).
- More salvation messages are preached. According to laypeople, more salvation messages are preached in growing churches (65% vs. 51%).
- Evangelism efforts are more of a priority and better organized. Laypeople from growing churches are twice as likely to rate the organization of their church's most recent evangelism efforts as excellent (30% vs. 15%).
- Laypeople see themselves as part of the evangelism team. Laypeople from growing churches disagree more than "the

pastor is primarily responsible for evangelism" (83% vs. 72%). They are also more likely to perceive the entire church as being on the "evangelistic team".

In maintaining or declining churches:

- Pastors aren't as personally in touch with non-Christians. Pastors from churches that aren't growing are not rubbing shoulders with nonbeliever (13% vs. 6%).
- Pastors see laypeople as unsupportive. Pastors from churches that are not growing are more than twice as likely as others to rate lay support of evangelism programs as "poor" (37% vs. 17%).
- Pastors and laypeople feel guilty; or at least sense a deficiency in their church. Pastors from nongrowing churches agree more than others with the statement, "I feel guilty because I am not leading people to Christ on a regular basis" (47% vs. 33%)

God's Methodology for Church Growth and Winning the World

The methodology of the Great Commission is seen in four steps:

- 1: **GO** - Daily, home and abroad
- 2: **WIN** - Loved ones, friends, strangers
- 3: **BAPTIZE** - By and into the local church
- 4: **TEACH** - Literally, teach him to now do for someone else what you have done for him

The Five Developmental Stages of The Soul Winner

5. By allowing God to give you a broken heart for the lost (Jude 22, Romans 10:1).
6. By using the plan until the first soul is won to the Lord (Proverbs 11:30, James 5:20)
7. By leading converts to make public professions in the local church. (Matthew 10:32)
8. By training converts to do for someone else what you have done for them. (Matthew 28:20a, II Timothy 2:2)
9. By staying with it until you are a "second nature" soul winner. (Matthew 24:14, Isaiah 55:4a)

Discipline, Character, And Biblical Conviction Will Be Developed!

A Step-By-Step Soul Winning Plan

Getting on the Subject – Ask Them:

1. "What is your church background?" Now, give your salvation testimony.
2. "If you should die right now, are you sure that you would go to Heaven?"
3. "May I take a moment and show you how you can know for sure?"

Now Teach Them From the Bible:

4. That all have sinned (Romans 3:23).
5. That the penalty of sin is death & hell (Romans 6:23)
6. That Jesus paid the penalty (Romans 5:8)
7. That if he will believe and receive Christ, God will save him (Romans 10:13).

Now, Help Them to Receive Christ – Have Them:

8. Bow his head in prayer – you pray and ask God to help him be willing to receive Christ.
9. Pray aloud and receive Christ – you lead him in a phrase-by-phrase sinner's prayer.
10. Take you hand if he meant business.
11. Now, you pray, thankful for his decision.

Now, Help Them Begin to Grow:

12. Give him assurance of salvation (Romans 10:13).
13. Lead him to make it public in the local church (Romans 10:11 & Matthew 10:32).

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

FYI

This summer the Organization of Black Airline Pilots (OBAP) will hold 2 Aviation Career Education Camps sponsored by Delta Air Lines. The purpose of each one-week program is to introduce interested youth to the world of aviation by exposing them to the many challenging careers and opportunities which the aviation industry has to offer. This is a program has been around for several years and is an outstanding opportunity for all of our children.

Please take the time to read the brochure/application and pass it along to anyone that you know who may be interested. The age range is for boys and girls between 14-18 years old. It is FREE!!!! Delta Air Lines pays the entire cost.

Application deadline is June 2, 2008.
Please visit www.acecamps.org
or www.obap.org additional details.

SAVE THE DATE

Please Join
Shaw University Divinity
School for the
**Twenty-Fifth Annual
Women's Conference**



Rev. Anthonette
Wright

"FROM PURPOSE, TO POWER, TO PRAISE"



More
information
coming
soon!

featuring
Rev. Dr. Cecelia Bryant

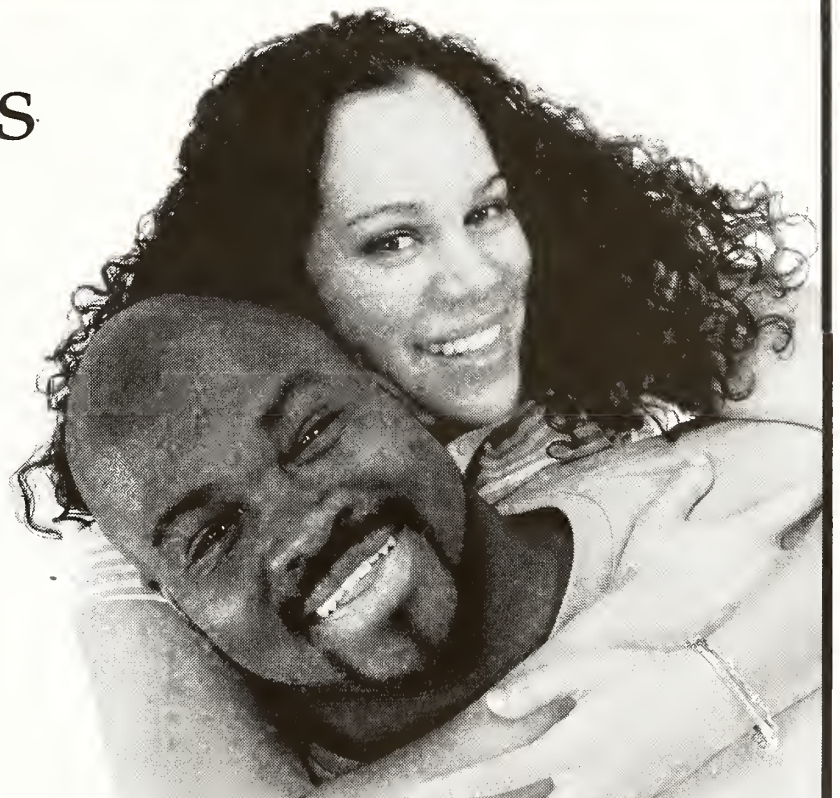
Friday, September 26, 2008 • 6:30 - 9:00 PM
Thomas J. Boyd Chapel

Saturday, September 27, 2008 • 8:00 - 4:00 PM
Willie E. Gary Student Union Ballroom

Making Relationships Work . . .

God's Way

Pastor, let us bring this exciting, dynamic, Bible-based workshop to your congregation. The workshop is for singles, married couples and anyone seeking a Christ-centered and long-lasting marriage. The workshop is absolutely free! You provide the place and participants and we'll do the rest. We provide all materials and we will even help you promote the workshop in your local media. Call us today toll-free at 866-463-1760 or visit us at www.NCFRCministry.org and let us help you enhance marriages and relationships in your congregation.



Workshop Presenters

Rev. Donald Stevenson, a corporate tax attorney and former senior pastor, and Dr. Sara Stevenson, a psychologist and life coach, have been married more than 35 years, are the authors of *Get A Clue! Why Relationships Don't Work* and are the founders of the National Christian Family Resources Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Christian marriages and relationships in the Body of Christ.

BAPTIST **Inform**er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiabrandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

Union Baptist Church

Church Musician

A Devoted Christian, must read and play all types of church/gospel music. Direct Choirs/Praise Team and teach parts.

Union Baptist Church
110 Lincoln Avenue
Lexington, NC 27292
336-243-1648 • 336-243-1648

PASTORAL VACANCY

First Missionary Baptist Church Smithfield, North Carolina

First Missionary Baptist Church of Smithfield, North Carolina, an African-American church with approximately 200 members, is seeking a pastor who meets the following criteria:

- Is an ordained Baptist minister
- Holds a degree from an accredited seminary or theology school
- Has 5 or more years experience as a pastor

Interested persons should send a resume to:

First Missionary Baptist Church
Attention: Pastoral Search Committee
P.O. Box 1422
Smithfield, NC 27577-1422

Resumes may also be sent via email to: firstmissionarybaptist@gmail.com.

The deadline for all submissions is July 31, 2008.

PASTORAL VACANCY

GASTON BAPTIST CHURCH

962 Highway 46
Gaston, NC 27832

The Gaston Baptist Church family is seeking a motivated, well-rounded licensed and ordained Baptist Minister. We're seeking for an ordained Baptist Minister with three (3) years or more of pastoral experience to lead our congregation from all aspects of spiritual and human development in accordance to The Holy Word.

Desired Pastor must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have the ability and love to work with all age groups within the church.
2. Preferred, a Bachelor Degree, a Masters of Divinity Degree, or working towards the completion of such degree from an accredited seminary.
3. Applicant will be subject to a rigorous background investigation.

Please submit a resume with references to:

Gaston Baptist Church
Attn: Pastoral Search Committee
Post Office Box 1339
Gaston, NC 27832

ALL RESUMES MUST BE POSTMARKED
AND RECEIVED BY AUGUST 31, 2008
Information will be treated confidential

"A good father is one of the most unsung, upraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society."

-- Unknown Christian
Evangelist



PASTORAL VACANCY

New Breed Community Church, a predominantly African American congregation birthed by God in 2004, is seeking a Bi-vocational Pastor, who loves the Lord and has been called by God to serve as an Under-shepherd. This individual should be born again, led by the Holy Spirit and meeting the qualifications outlined in Titus 2.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and a letter of interest, including a statement of your philosophy of the Pastor's role in church leadership.

Please forward resumes and letters of interest to:

Pastoral Search Team
 New Breed Community Church
 110 Towerview Ct.
 Cary, NC 27513

Or email them to nbcchurch@bellsouth.net.

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

612 Salisbury Street, Wadesboro, NC 28170

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a licensed, ordained Baptist pastor.

I. Character/ Personality

- Full of the Holy Spirit, wisdom and knowledge
- Strong reputation of honesty and integrity
- Involved in the community, cares about the community and things outside of the church
- Not over age 55 and preferably married
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must have good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the church
- Demonstrate a compassionate approach to visiting members (including sick, shut-in and the needy)

II. Education/Experience

- Must have knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies, and procedures
- Must have at least three years of Pastoral experience
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Must have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college, university or seminary
- A master's in Theology or some other religious area or pursuing the same is preferred

III. Administration/ Professionalism

- Must understand taxes and financial obligations of the church
- Should be accessible
- Should be willing to live within a 30 mile radius of the church
- Should have office hours
- Administrator over all salaried personnel
- Full-time Pastor preferred
- Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups in the church with emphasis on spiritual growth and development
- Must have excellent biblical teaching skills
- Must represent the church Association, State and National Conventions

The deadline to submit applications and resumes is until the position is filled.

Please submit letters of interest and resumes to:

Deacon Robert Hilliard Jr.
 Chairman, Pastor Search Committee
 Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church
 PO Box 302
 Wadesboro, NC 28170

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274
"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
 Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

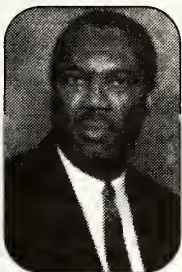
At Your Service
 Thomas L. Jones

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
 Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
 and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
 for publication and inquiry to
 Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*



A Simple Guide To Filling the Pulpit



by
Dr. John D. Fuller Sr., BS, M. Div., D. D. DHL
To purchase this book please contact:

Liz McPhatter
(910) 424-2344

Pastoral Vacancy

BROWN NEW CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Brown New Calvary Baptist Church of Thomasville, NC is currently accepting applications for a Pastor.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must have the Biblical qualities of a Pastor as defined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- Must possess a Passion for God, His Word, and His People
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups within the church
- Must live or be willing to live within 60 mile radius of the church
- Must be at least 34 years old and pastoral experience preferred
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual growth of the church
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability

All applicants should mail the following to the address below:

Resume, brief biographical sketch, official transcripts, three reference letters which include their home address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Mail all application material to:
Brown New Calvary Baptist Church
Attn: Pulpit Committee
200 Doak Street
Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

Ministers & Missionaries Benefits Board Plan (MMBB) • (1-800-986-6222)

How to Pay the Pastor

"Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching; for the scripture says, '... the laborer deserves to be paid'" -

Timothy 5:17-18

Fair compensation for those in ministry is often viewed as a puzzle with disparate pieces. Making decisions about pastoral compensation requires careful review of many facts. The church's financial resources and unique circumstances play a major role in determining cash salary and housing, but there are many pieces that need to be examined before a fair solution can be found.

First the minister should be evaluated regarding:

1. Responsibilities
2. Experience
3. Education
4. Expertise
5. Effectiveness
6. Years of Service

Then the following factors should be researched and documented:

The cost of living and salaries of professionals with similar education, experience and responsibilities.

A review of pastoral compensation for similar size churches based on average Sunday worship attendance, membership and budget can be obtained from your regional office. For more information call (1-800-986-6222).

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

Upcoming Events...

BAPTIST Informer

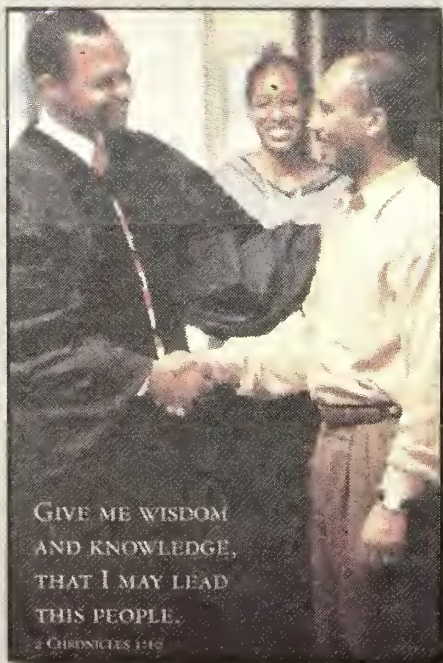
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
June 7, 2008	WBH & FMC Young Adult Retreat	Beauty Spot Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC
June 17, 2008	Laymen's Study Commission	Penn Ave, Oxford, NC
June 15, 2008	Father's Day	
June 15-19, 2008	WBH & FMC-The Youth Bible Camp	Shaw U, Raleigh, NC
June 16-19, 2008	WBH & FMC-The Leadership Training Conf	Shaw U, Raleigh, NC
June 21, 2008	Central Children Home Day	Oxford, NC
June 23-25, 2008	Congress -State Oratorical Conference	Fayetteville State University Fayetteville, NC
June 28, 2008	WBH & FMC Mission Prayer Day	

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



Happy
Father's
Day!



GIVE ME WISDOM
AND KNOWLEDGE,
THAT I MAY LEAD
THIS PEOPLE.
2 CHRONICLES 1:9

The Pastor as Father and Son

God's Word models all different types of father-son relationships from which we can learn and grow. Think of Abraham and Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, David and Solomon, and ultimately God and His Son, Jesus.

11/28/2008
SE Baptist Theog Seminary SE Ra
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553 \$20 P17

131:7

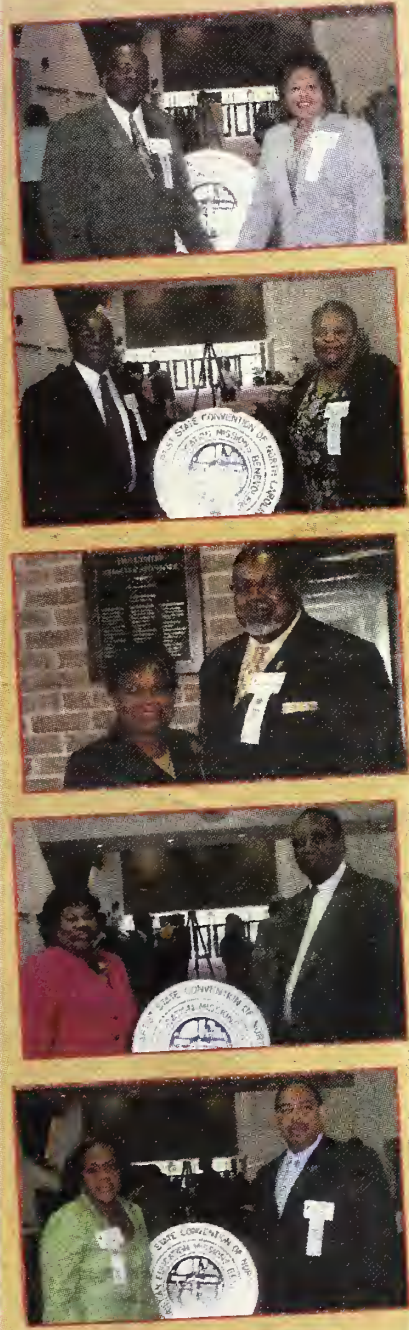


INFORMER

Volume 131, No. 7 Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. July 2008

2008 Mid Year Session

GBSC THEME "To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20



By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

What an exciting time to be alive! We have been given opportunities to during the past month to interact with and pour into hundreds of young people across the state with our planned activities. Summer Camp activities were held at Shaw University this year, returning to the site of its beginning. The J. J. Johnson site is being evaluated and plans to replace the cafeteria are under way.

The Congress of Christian Education held the annual oratorical contest at Fayetteville State University. And the Lott Carey Youth Seminar convened at Shaw University attracting youth from 16 states. It has proved to be an exciting month of June enhancing and touching the lives of future generations. Having been a former counselor at summer camp, I know first hand those in attendance will never forget the experience, the fellowship and the chance to know God better.

The primaries are over and now we turn our sites to the general election in November. Congratulations to Senator Barack Obama for making history and running a tremendous campaign in the primary. Most across this country and even the globe never thought they would live to witness this time in history. Prior to and during the primaries, many new voters were added to the rolls. However, there are thousands more to register. Please keep the momentum going. Far to many remain cynical about the voting, dismissing and minimizing its importance as a responsibility and right.

A recent visit to the Holocaust Museum in Israel proved a sobering reminder of how

crucial one's participation is. When the Nazi Party came to power prior to World War II, they wiped out opposition parties and created a dictatorship led by Adolph Hitler. Just two changes to German law affected the course of human history far beyond German shores. First, German Jews were stripped of their civil rights-could not run for office, could not own property etc... Second, it became illegal to intermingle with and or marry a Jewish person. As a result, the Nazis were empowered to demonize and annihilate persons they considered less than human-Jews and blacks included.

It is not inconceivable to think it could happen again, even in our beloved America. Especially when so many are apathetic and nonchalant about voting. Let us work diligently before November to ensure as many as possible will exercise their right to vote.

On May 27th, I traveled to Israel along with 21 other pastors across the country for a spiritual pilgrimage. The Cousins Foundation of Atlanta sponsored the group and designed the trip as an opportunity for rest, renewal, restoration and enhancement of pastors in mid-career. It was a tremendous gift and I am eternally grateful for the opportunity. I am appreciative to Shaw Divinity School and Southeastern Theological Seminary for sound biblical and theological training. The journey not only challenged me, but also affirmed much of what I had learned from time spent at these to institutions and from self-study. I encourage every General Baptist who can to journey to the Holy Land. Your sense of biblical history, theology and knowledge of the geopolitical situation that prevails between Israelis and Palestinians will be greatly enhanced. Our second-vice president, Dr. Leonzo Lynch is a valuable

resource in this arena and sponsors tours at least once a year to Israel. Please contact him at your convenience and he will assist you with your plans.

Our All-Baptist Assembly is upon us and we are encouraging you to make plans to meet us in Winston-Salem. As promised, we are preparing to enhance our meeting with opportunities to learn and fellowship like never before. We plan to provide a snapshot of what a statewide congress (or conference) will look like. You do not want to miss this opportunity. One such opportunity will be in the area of evangelism. Dr. Robert McGowens and our Evangelism Commission target neighborhoods in Winston-Salem reaching for youth to expose them to and or deepen their relationship with Christ. Their activities will be held off-site in conjunction with the Mt. Carmel Church, Dr. A. T. Griffey, pastor.

Please register early. We are expecting you. Also, remember to bring a liberal offering for State Missions. State Missions is the engine of our convention and the engine cannot run without fuel. In fact, monthly contributions as small as \$125.00 from associations, churches and individuals will enable us to achieve stability in our operations. And remember, to whom much is given, much is required. Come and see how we are positioning ourselves to better serve and support you.

Looking forward to seeing you in Winston-Salem. God bless you and our convention.



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

2008 Mid Year Session



FREE!

Please get a copy of "THE FAMILY STUDY GUIDE" from the Christian Family Life Enrichment Ministry Committee at the Literature Table. (Annual Session - July, 2008)

Each family is asked to participate in this adventure during August, 2008.

(Families who complete the guide and return the form to the Office by the given date receive a certificate at the Family Missions Conference in September 2008.)



2008 Calendar

JULY

27-31 Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Winston-Salem

AUGUST

Prayer month for The Family
11-15 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention

SEPTEMBER

8-12 National Baptist Convention
27 Family Missions Conference

OCTOBER

Prayer month for Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School

10 Shaw University Founder's Day convocation
11 WBSA Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

1 Youth Evangelism Conference
3 World Day of Prayer (BWA Woman's Dept)
27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 Christmas Day

"Standing In The Love of Jesus"



Bronnie Daniels

*Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC
Executive Secretary-Treasurer*

I was sinking deep in sin, Far from the peaceful shore,
Very deeply stained within, Sinking to

rise no more;

But the Master of the sea heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me-now safe am I.

All my heart to Him I give, Ever to Him I'll cling,

In His blessed presence live, Ever His praises sing.
Love so mighty and so true Merits my soul's best songs;
Faithful, loving service too to Him belongs.

Souls in danger, look above, Jesus completely saves,
He will lift you by His love Out of the angry waves.
He's the Master of the sea, Billows His will obey;
He your Savior wants to be-Be saved today.

Chorus

Love lifter me, even me,
Love lifted me, even me,
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me; Love lifted me.

- James Rowe

Standing in Love of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us go and meet in Winston-Salem for the Annual Session July 27th -31st, 2008. As always let us pray for a great session to the glory of God.

Reminders

Among the events are:

1. The Johnnie Blunt McLester Pre-Convention Banquet on Monday evening, July 28th 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center. You may secure tickets from the office of the Woman's Convention now. Pre-Registration tickets secured through the Office by July 7th are \$40.00 each. Tickets secured on site are \$45.00 each. Please send to the Office now for tickets;
2. Supervisors' & Officers' March on Monday, July 28th, 2008 near 2:00 P.M.
3. "Have-A-Heart" Project, Tuesday 29th, 2008 near 10:00 A.M.
"Shaw University" Project, Tuesday

29th, 2008 near 1:30 P.M.

4. The Young Adult Missions Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday, July 29th, 2008 at 6:45 a.m. Pre-Registration tickets secured through the office by July 7th are \$17.00; at the door, \$22.00. Space is limited. Please send to the Office for tickets now;

5. The Ministers' Wives and Widows Fellowship Luncheon on Tuesday, July 29th at 12:30 p.m. Pre-Registration tickets secured through the office by July 7th are \$17.00; at the door, \$22.00. Space is limited. Please send to the Office for tickets now;

6. The Youth Prayer "Pizza Party" Wednesday, July 30th at 6:00 P.M. Pre-Registration tickets secured through the office by July 7th are \$9.00; at the door, \$14.00. Space is limited. Please send to the Office for tickets;

7. Annual Address of President Daniels, along with report of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer Brodie, on Wednesday morning (July 30th). Advance donation for the President's Address is \$5.00; on-site \$6.00;

8. Joint Early Morning Prayer Hour for All Baptist Seniors, Young Adults and Youth from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 29th through Thursday, July 31st;

9. The Executive Board Sunday, July 27th at 4:00 P.M.- 5:00 P.M.,
The General Board Sunday, July 27th at 5:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M.

• Please wear yellow for the Tuesday afternoon session at 2:00 P.M., Benton Convention Center, North Main Hall, and please wear white for the Wednesday morning session at 10:00 A.M.

• Pre-Representation and Pre-Registration fees should be sent to the office no later than July 7, 2008. Fee information and forms have been mailed to District Chairperson, Circle, Union and Auxiliary Presidents. Chairperson and Presidents, please contact the office if you have not received your Annual Session Pre-Registration information.

• Senior and Young Adults are to participate in the Joint All Baptist Assembly Class, but Youth classes are scheduled as usual.

• The 2007-2008 Budget is \$803,325.00, which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Please be reminded that of the funds you send for objectives 2/3 should be sent for State Missions. State Missions funds provide all funds for the cost of all ministries and operations for home missions done with and for you in the conventional statewide ministry.



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

Johnnie B. McLester Pre-Convention Banquet Speaker Mrs. Sylvia Cunningham

President of the D.C. Branch of Lott Carey Women's Auxiliary

On Monday, July 28, 2008, at 6:00 P.M. at the Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, will be the Johnnie B. McLester Pre-Convention Banquet of the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention. Mrs. Sylvia Cunningham, a resident of Washington, D.C., will be the guest speaker.

Mrs. Cunningham is a native of Virginia. She received her early education in Virginia and furthered her education at West Virginia State University, Simmons University and several other schools. She received her M.A Degree in Secondary Education and a M.R.E. in Religious Education.

She was the first black Chairman of the Mothers' March in D.C. for the National Foundation March of Dimes; former Associate Dean of Glad

Tidings Bible Institute, the only black staff person; the only black member and past president of Northern Virginia Church and Synagogue Library Council; President of the Baptist Women's Fellowship of Metropolitan Washington; a member of many other organizations.

She is a member of the Gospel Missionary Baptist Church, where she serves as Director of Christian Education and Coordinator of the Deaconesses. She is a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Her greatest achievement is being a born again child of God.



Mrs. Sylvia Cunningham

Church Building Seminar

HOW TO GET YOUR CHURCH PROJECT BUILT

PRESENTING FINANCING, DESIGN, & CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

Saturday, August 10, 2008

First Baptist Church – Raleigh, NC
101 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

10 AM to 12 PM

SEMINAR COST - \$25 PER PERSON BY AUGUST 1, 2008



The OBSIDIAN Group

Architecture – Project Management

5540 Centerview Drive Suite 400 • Raleigh, NC 27606 • Tele: (919) 854-5540 • Fax: (919) 854-5582



Baptist Informer RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check) New Subscription Renewal Address Change (include old address label)

Number of Years: (check one) 1 Year 2 Years 3 Years

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention
603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 821-7466 • www.gbssc.org

Signature _____

ALL ROADS
Lead to
Winston-
Salem
July 27-31



GBSC STAFF

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
 Executive
 Secretary-Treasurer



Rev. Selma Hunter
 Finance
 Consultant



Mrs. Darcell McNeill
 Bookkeeping Clerk



Mrs. Portia H. Brandon,
 M. Div.
 Christian Education
 Coordinator/
 Baptist Informer
 Managing Editor

Upcoming GBSC Events:

June

▪ J. F. Wertz Oratorical Contest
 Congress of Christian Education
 Fayetteville State University, NC

July 18-19, 2009

▪ Married/Singles Conference
 Congress of Christian Education
 Gethsemane Baptist Church,
 Salisbury, NC.



Dr. Robert McGowen
 Chair, GBSC Evangelism Ministry



2008 ALL-BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

GBSC • WBH&FMC • CONGRESS • USHERS • LAYMEN • MINISTERS

"A Family Reunion"

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST

• Author's Day •

Monday, July 28

North Carolina authors (affiliated with a General Baptist State Convention congregation) are invited to participate in the 2008 All-Baptist Assembly on "Author's Day" on Monday, July 28, 2008.

- Participating authors will be formally introduced to the Convention by the President on the morning of July 28.
- Participating authors will be provided a complimentary table in the main hall of the convention center to meet conventioners and autograph copies of books.
- Sales of books are encouraged, but is at the sole discretion of the participating author.
- Participating authors may also purchase tables in the vendors area for the whole of the All-Baptist Assembly. The purchase of a table as a vendor is not required to receive the complimentary table on "Author's Day".
- Deadline to request a table for "Author's Day" is June 15, 2008.

Contact: Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, (919) 821-7466, Email: GBSCgray@bellsouth.net

July 18 - 19, 2008

**MARRIED/
 SINGLES
 CONFERENCE**

Gethsemane Baptist Church

**719 South Caldwell Street
 Salisbury, North Carolina**

**Dr. Clary L. Phelps,
 Host Pastor**

Registration:

Singles \$30.00
Couples \$40.00



2008 All-Baptist Assembly
July 27 - 31, 2008

M.C. Benton Convention Center
Winston-Salem, NC

Hotel Reservation deadline is
June 27 for GBSC rates:

Marriott
HOTELS & RESORTS

Marriott Hotel Winston-Salem

(\$92.00 per night)
425 North Cherry Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 725-3500 or (800) 320-0934



Embassy Suites Hotel Winston-Salem

(\$117.00 per night)
460 North Cherry St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 724-2300 or (800) 696-6107

HOW TO REACH US

PRESIDENT

DR. GREGORY K. MOSS, SR.
 (704) 334-5309
GMOSS1@BELLSOUTH.NET

VICE PRESIDENT-AT-LARGE

DR. HOWARD W. PARKER, JR.
 (252) 355-2966
shmbaptist@earthlink.net

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

DR. NILOUS AVERY, II
 (704) 637-0954
AveryRevKin@aol.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
 (704) 598-2219
ldlynch@ebccharlotte.org

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

DR. RICKY BANKS
 (252) 335-5035
pastorrickybanks@yahoo.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT

DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
 (919) 807-1194
mountpeachbc@aol.com

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

DR. HAYWOOD T. GRAY
 (919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR/MANAGING EDITOR

MRS. PORTIA H. BRANDON, M. DIV.
 (919) 821-7466 portiabrandon@hotmail.com

WBH & FMC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Dr. PRISCILLA BRODIE
pbrodie@wbhfmcc.org

WBH & FMC PRESIDENT

MRS. BRONNIE HARRIS DANIELS,
 PRESIDENT (336) 767-6156

CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, PRESIDENT

MISS LULA GAINEY
 (910) 728-8718
lulagaineey@ccs.k12.nc.us

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT

MR. THEODORE DAVID
 (919) 508-5468
Theodore.david@pgnmail.com

USHER'S CONVENTION, PRESIDENT

MRS. HELEN THOMPSON
 (910) 488-5322

General Baptist State Convention, Inc. All Baptist Assembly



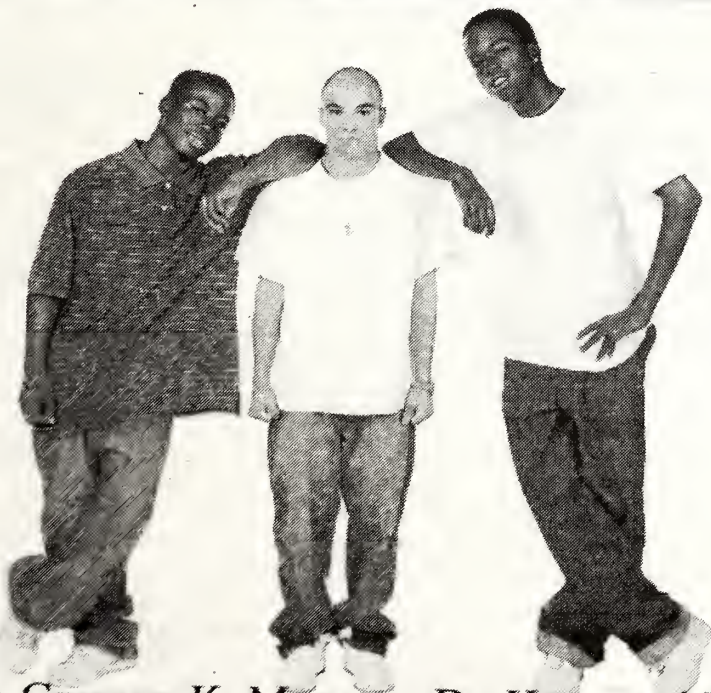
Youth Empowerment Evangelism Week
July 28-31, 2008
8:00am-4:00pm
Ages 2-18

FOOD, GAMES, BIBLE STUDY, ACADEMIC STUDIES, MUSIC



Location

Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
3230 Heitman Drive
Winston Salem, NC 27107
Dr. A.T. Griffey, III - Pastor



Dr. Gregory K. Moss
GBSC President

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
GBSC Executive Secretary

Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens, Sr
Evangelism Ministry Chairman



Obama's Nomination Moves King's Dream Closer to Reality

Dr. Howard Parker
Vice President At Large

By Rev. Dr. Cureton L. Johnson
A Political/Religious Commentary

Senator Barack Obama on Tuesday, (June 3, 2008) became the first African American to head the ticket of a major political party



Dr. Howard Parker

Last month we saw a historic event of epic proportions take place in the life of our nation. An African-American, for the first time, ascended to the highest political position in a major U.S. political party as the presidential nominee.

This is one of the great stories that will be recorded in modern U.S. political history!

Four years ago, when the little-known Senator from Illinois rose to address the Democratic National Convention, he was called a "rising star" among its leaders. Today, Barack Obama has become the "rising sun" in Democratic party politics as he now leads his party forward into the November general election.

When Senator Obama rises to address his convention in Denver on August 28, that speech will come exactly 45 years after Dr. Martin Luther King

Jr.'s famous "I Have A Dream" address on the mall in Washington, D.C. Most people from my generation (the 1960's Civil Rights era) never dreamed that a black person would run in a presidential general election in our lifetime. Yet, on June 3, 2008, one of Martin's dreams and one of our dreams was transformed into a reality.

Like Dr. King, we saw a glimpse of the Promised Land that he envisioned 45 years ago! It will require hard work and untiring perseverance to win North Carolina in November, 2008, yet, what we do can help the dream come to full fruition.

When Sen. Obama surpassed the required number of delegates needed to win the nomination in June, the whole world was looking. From Kenya to Hawaii, from Great Britain to the Soviet Union, the eyes of millions witnessed a new era in U.S. politics. The Clinton-Obama race caused them to ask whether our nation can move away from the prejudices of the past, away from the arrogant policies of our present administration, away from the negative politics of fear, and cause Americans to be truly "born again" as the "land of the free" and "the home of the brave" for all people.

This historic event brought to my mind the story of Israel's prophet, priest and judge, Samuel. Samuel was told by God to seek out a new king for Israel among the sons of Jesse in Bethlehem. While visiting Jesse's house, seven sons paraded before Samuel, but he did not discern that either was the king. It wasn't until the last son of Jesse came into the room--the youngest--that Samuel heard the Spirit of God say, "Arise, and anoint him; for this is he." (I Samuel 16:13)

Now, after about a dozen democratic candidates tried their hand at winning the nomination, ONLY the youngest candidate--Barack--is still standing.

Indeed, let us pray for the Spirit of the Lord to be upon Barack to endure the rough road ahead. Whether you are for him or his opponent in

November, one must pray for his wisdom and safety on his groundbreaking, historic journey!

David would go on to face the great challenge of ending the Israeli-Philistine war, by doing battle with Goliath the giant. Oddly, King Saul told David that he was "too young and too inexperienced" to tangle with Goliath (I Sam. 17:33). Just as David delivered Israel

from Goliath, let us pray that Barack helps deliver America out of the mouth of the world's giants.

Finally, David told Goliath, "This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand!" Last month, Obama rose to proclaim that "This day, I am proud to say that I am the democratic nominee for president." He was delivered through problems, through kitchen-sink smear efforts, through a political family dynasty and political machine, and through attacks on his patriotism and his wife!

But God is good. And let us remember not to lay hands on God's anointed.

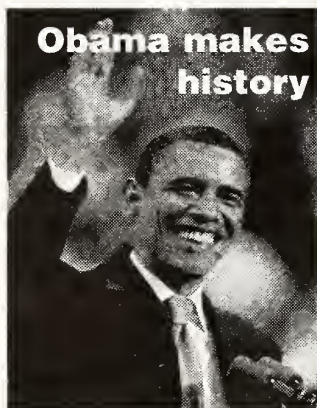
Psalm 118:24 encourages us by saying: "This is the day that the Lord hath made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Again, pray that God will give our nation a leader after His own heart, and let us work to make that a reality!

(Dr. Johnson is pastor of the First Baptist Church in Fayetteville and is active in the Obama for President Campaign. If you are interested in joining NC Clergy for Obama (CFO), contact Dr. Johnson at cjohnson035@nc.rr.com or write him at 1909 Bellemeade Road, Fayetteville, NC, 28303.)



Rev. Dr. Cureton L. Johnson



From the Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.

First Vice-President



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

To the beloved saints of the General Baptist family and all who love the Lord, the work, witness, worship, ministry, and mission of the Lord:

"Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus the Christ our Lord." (1 Timothy 1:2b, NKJV)

The late Dr. Edward Victor Hill, pastor of the Mount Zion Baptist Church, Los Angeles, California was noted for often saying there were three books the church needed to carry out its kingdom mandate: the good book (Bible), the hymnbook, and the pocket-book.

Throughout His earthly ministry,

Jesus used parables to illustrate the kingdom of God. Jesus emphasized the stewardship of material possessions in 16 of the 38 parables in the Gospels. The importance of stewardship and its faithful, generous practice in kingdom building is replete throughout the Scriptures. The writer in 2 Corinthians 9:11 reminds us that we are enriched by our generous and gracious God in order to be free and liberal givers. Liberality and generosity in giving are not optional; they are kingdom responsibilities.

John Maxwell notes that the scriptures challenge us to be liberal and generous in giving (Stewardship Strategies). Maxwell says we must support the ministry of God's kingdom building because:

- Giving is Kingdom-focused (Matthew 6:33).
- Giving responds to needs (Romans 12).
- Giving is consistent and deliberate

(1 Corinthians 16:1-2).

- Giving enriches and benefits others (2 Corinthians 8:9).

General Baptists, the objective of State Missions is Kingdom-focused, responsive to needs, constant and deliberate, and enriches and benefits the lives of others. YOU ARE STATE MISSIONS! God has blessed us to bless our convention through State Missions. In turn, State Missions will be blessed to become a blessing through us, to us, and others. My brothers and sisters, we are blessed to become blessings. We are recipients of God's grace and generosity in order to become gracious and generous givers.

The biblical example of the Macedonians is a great model for kingdom ministry and stewardship. They weren't rich, but they were willing. God enhanced and empowered their willing spirit in a mighty way. As a result, God

blessed them in order to be blessings for God. They were enriched by their will-

"Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus the Christ our Lord."

(1 Timothy 1:2b, NKJV)

ingness and generosity.

Please encourage your church, ministry, association, and community to support the convention, its objectives, and particularly State Missions. Remember, YOU ARE STATE MISSIONS! We await your generous and liberal support (financially, prayerfully) today! I am looking forward to seeing and hearing from you soon. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." (Philippians 4:23, NKJV)

Second Vice President - "The Good Father"



*Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
2nd Vice President*

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

We are in June, the month that officially begins summer (June 20), bringing with it the high humidity as well as the flies and other species of insects. June 21 is the longest day of the year, known as the summer solstice.

In addition, we observe Father's Day on the third Sunday of the month, celebrating the blessing of fatherhood. As we think about our fathers (biological and spiritual), I begin to reflect on some of the attributes that make a good father. God Himself has certainly provided a wonderful example for which to follow. There are so many things that go into the makings of a good father. Let us ponder some of the characteristics of God. Our Father:

1) **Provides.** Jehovah Jireh means 'God

who provides. You can rest in the fact that as you live a life pleasing to God, He will provide for you. Philippians 4:19 tells you and me, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." His Word also tells us to "seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you". "All what things", you ask? I believe its all the things you need.

2) **Advises.** None of us has the answer to everything. No matter how grown or educated we may be (or think we are), we need the Father's guidance. Psalms 37:5 encourages us to "commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass". Verse 23 goes on to say that "the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighth in his way". God has given us His Word (Bible) as well as unlimited direct access to Him through prayer. All wise people know how to receive instruction.

3) **Disciplines.** Correction is not pleasant, but needful. We preach this to our children, but how well do we receive correction from God? There is a saying

that says you can be sincere and be sincerely wrong. Hebrews 12:6-7 states, "For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is He whom the Father chasteneth not?"- If you want to be treated as a child of God by God, you must endure correction. As with any parent, it is not to harm you, but to keep you from harming yourself or others. Just as our natural parents want us to be good citizens, the Heavenly Father wants us to be good Kingdom citizens.

4) **Models what he wants his children to follow.** All good fathers know that children learn by example. As we study

the life of Jesus (1/3 of the Godhead), we see that His mission was simple and clear - to do the will of the Father who sent Him. Read John 14. Jesus told the disciples that if they knew Him, they knew God. He made it clear that He spoke not of Himself, but spoke for His Father. Fathers, do you live a life that you are proud for children to follow? Can they shadow your behavior and speech throughout your daily life? When your child begins a sentence with "My daddy said..." are you fearful of how the sentence will end? If so, ask God to strengthen you in those areas. Thank you fathers for the care you have provided for your children.

"Forgiver Sinners"



*Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President*

Rev. Ricky Banks

of us are sinners.

CRITIC: All? You too?

CHRISTIAN: Sure. I, you, everybody. That's what the Bible says: "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23).

CRITIC: Then what's the difference between Christians and other people?

CHRISTIAN:

Christians are forgiven sinners. All of us deserve to die-I, you, everybody. The Bible says so (Romans 6:23). But Jesus gave His life in place of ours. When we accept Him as Savior, our sins are washed away and we are saved from death (Acts 22:6; Mark 16:16).

CRITIC: Then you never sin again?

CHRISTIAN: Oh, yes we do. But we tell the Lord we're sorry, and He forgives us (1 John 1:19).

CRITIC: That sounds pretty simple.

CHRISTIAN: No, it's not simple. We

try hard to do right. It's not simple, but it's the way to survive death.

CRITIC: Survive death? I'll have to look into that.

CHRISTIAN: All right, but looking is not enough. You have to get into it. All the way!

"SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL"

HOME COMING 2008 October 16-19, 2008 Hotel Room Blocks are available at the following:

Sheraton Capital Center, 421 S. Salisbury Street 919-834-9900 or 1-800-325-3535, reserve by September 16.

Clarion Hotel Downtown, 320 Hillsborough Street, 919-832-0501, reserve by September 19.

Hyatt Place-North Raleigh, 1105 Navaho Drive, 919-877-9997 reserve by September 26, (formerly AmeriSuites Hotel)

Residence Inn- North Raleigh, 1000 Navaho Drive, 919-878-6100, reserve by September 29

BE BLESSED WILL TALK WITH YOU AGAIN IN AUGUST.

*Scripture: Psalm 51:7
"Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow"*

Home Going Celebration In Loving Memory of First Lady Lola D. Rogers

Sunrise:

December 13, 1949

Sunset:

May 16, 2008



Mrs. Lola V. Rogers is the wife of Dr. Joseph R. Rogers, Moderator of the Johnston District



Dr. Vincent J. Terry

*Dr. Vincent Terry
Fourth Vice
President*

Lola Mae (Vick) Rogers was born and reared in Spring Hope, North Carolina.

She is the third of five children born to Annie Louise (Hicks) Vick and Charles Edward Vick.

She attended public school in Nash County (Spaulding High School), Spring Hope, N. C. She graduated in 1969. She also studied Homemaking and Nursing and completed studies in Home Interior Decorating.

Because of her untiring commitment to the Lord and her family, she chose to join her husband in the pastoral ministry and worked with him at the Southern Grove Baptist Church, Kenly, NC; Johnston Piney Grove

Baptist Church, Clayton, NC; and the Greater Philadelphia Church Ministries, Raleigh, NC where her husband serves as Pastor.

First Lady Rogers served as Adult Church School Teacher, Choir Director and Praise Team Leader.

The Lord called her to her eternal home on May 16, 2008 at 1:30 A. M. She leaves to mourn her loving husband of thirty-eight years, Dr. Joseph R. Rogers, Sr. of the home; two sons, Joseph Jr. Of Tampa, Florida and Nicholas Lamont of Griffin, GA; two sisters, Mary Vick and Ethel Vick both of Spring Hope, NC; two brothers, Roger D. Vick (Millie) of Raleigh, NC and James Edward Vick (Carolyn) of Spring Hope, NC; a very special sister-in-law, Barbara R. Whitley of Middlesex, NC; eight aunts; a very special aunt with whom she lived with for a short time, Annie Lee Dukes of Spring Hope, NC; seven uncles, and a host of nephews nieces, relatives and friends.

Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor

Church Etiquette

Reverence for the House of God

1. Why did God instruct His people to build a sanctuary?



Portia H. Brandon

"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them." Exodus 25:8.

2. How did He tell them to regard this dwelling place of God? "Ye shall keep my Sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord." Leviticus 19:30

3. What does the Lord say of things dedicated to his service?

"Every devoted thing is most holy unto the Lord." Leviticus 27:28.

4. Why should all show respect for the house of worship?

"The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him." Habakkuk 2:20.

5. Who is present in all assemblies met in Christ's name?

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20.

A Lesson in Kingdom Etiquette

Jesus' first piece of etiquette advice is that when you are in a social situation, be careful not to assume you are the most important person around, and put yourself in the place of honor, because you might be embarrassed when someone more important than you comes along and bumps you out of your seat. (Luke 14:8)

1) **Please turn off all cell phones, PDA's pagers, and distracting electronic devices prior to your entrance in the sanctuary.**

2) Use the restroom just before services.

3) Bible-You should always bring your Bible when you come to worship. It gets you in the habit of reading it and makes the Word of God more effective when you read it for yourself.

4) One should always follow the instruction of the usher as to when to enter and where to sit. When a seat is assigned to you by an usher, and it's not your choice, never show resentment, accept the seat graciously. It will be regarded as an expression of obedience.

5) An essential of church etiquette is time. The element of time should always be observed, (because) late entrance attracts the attention of others, thus distracting the services.

6) Etiquette-wise, one should never be so selfish as to occupy two seats by spreading bags and other possessions in a space beside them.

7) When you are seated, you should sit quietly, erect and by all means attentively.

8) Except for an emergency, one should have no occasion for leaving the seats during the service.

9) Envelopes-Envelopes in the back of the pews are meant for tithes and offerings. Please do not use them to writing notes, throwing away gum, or as paper for children's art work.

10) It is bad manners to chew gum, write notes, talk or show resentment because you disapprove of something that is said or done.

11) The church pews should never be used for carving nor as a depository for chewing gum.

12) The church frowns on members misusing or destroying church property, i.e., (fans, Bibles or hymn books)

13) Showing reverence to the Almighty is expressed by bowing the head during prayer.

14) Enter and Exit as directed: Typically, you are not supposed to enter or leave the sanctuary during prayers, the reading of the Scripture or the sermon. You are also to remain in church until the closing benediction (final prayer of the service) has been given. Ushers, considered gatekeepers of the church, will remind you of these rules if you arrive late.

15) When speaking in a church setting: First, always give reverence to God, the pastor, church officers, members and visiting friends.

16) Types of prayer: Every prayer should have a specific purpose of its own. A prayer should not deal in generalizations. Unless this principle is followed, there's a danger of violating Jesus command, "Use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do." (Matt: 6-7).

17) Scripture reading: Always give the translation, chapter, and verse of the Bible.

18) Introducing someone: Do give the outstanding accomplishments, titles, positions, and limited backgrounds. Don't make a speech, neither over emphasize the person's qualities.

19) As to the Pulpit: Do not cross in front of the pulpit while service is in process.

20) Worship Leaders: Never say "Now we'll turn the service in the hands of the pastor."

21) Mistress or Master of Ceremonies: Do master the program. Don't comment after each presentation.

22) Appearing on Program: Do what you are asked to and no more. If you are asked to sing a solo, do not begin talking.

23) Offertory appeal: When making the offertory appeal, never say- this is the part of the service that everyone can take part.

24) Large hats. If you wear hats in church, consider those who cannot see through them. They may be pretty, but nothing can be that interesting for an hour.

25) Church Finance: The Bible teaches one plan for church finance, tithes and offering. The tithes is the tenth, meaning that God's people are to bring a tenth of their income to the Lord's house. The offering is in addition to the tithes.

26) Never argue the Scripture: Sensitive issues such as divorce and remarriage, simply quote what the Bible says and

move on.

27) Don't say: "I will attempt to do so"-- your attempts are made at home.

28) No Food, Beverages or Chewing Gum in the Sanctuary: This is another way of respecting the sanctity of God's house.

29) Take a place toward the front of the sanctuary: Leave the rear seats for those who must be late and for visitors.

30) Please do not bring cell phones or pagers to worship or make sure they remain turned off during the service.

31) Participation: Always keep in mind you are not a spectator, but a participant in the church services.

32) Row Two Is Not Your Pew. Never heard of pew blocking? There are no assigned seats in the sanctuary, although we have a tendency to sit in the same places all the time. Be considerate of those who will arrive for service after you do and sit as close to the front and middle of the church as possible. This helps prevent latecomers from distracting others from the service already in progress.

33) If you must have a certain cough drop or candy enclosed in a crackling wrapper, unwrap as many as possible before service starts.

34) Children are prohibited from the following:

- Playing in the pulpit at ANY time
- Walking or standing on the pews
- Using markers or pens on the pews
- Drinking, eating of food, or chewing gum in the sanctuary

• Playing with musical instruments

35) Visitors should always observe the customs of the church with reference to standing, sitting, or kneeling during the services.

36) Ladies, be modest in your dress. Men shouldn't have to battle lust, especially in church.

37) The appropriate songs for worship are psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.

38) Procedures for Making Appointments: Any member or person desiring to see the pastor and ministerial staff or who requests an appointment, must schedule such appointments with the church's Administrative Assistant (secretary). No one should go to the Pastor's or ministerial staff's office without first checking in the office with the secretary. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

39) Funerals: In the unfortunate event of the death of an immediate family member, the pastor should be the first person contacted. Plans for funerals at which the pastor is to serve in a principal role are not to be completed until s/he has been contacted and consulted with.

40) Home Dedication: When the Lord blesses a family to obtain a new or different dwelling place, it is considered spiritually proper to have that place dedicated to the Lord. Such dedications are to be arranged through the church office.

41) Hospitalization: If a member has to enter the hospital (whether planned or admitted through emergency means), the

church should be contacted.

42) Weddings: Once a couple determines that marriage is a possibility, the pastor should be contacted for counseling. This is to be done ideally before a wedding date is set. This affords the couple the opportunity to have spiritual direction from the time of the thought of marriage until the ceremony is consummated. Once a date has been set for a wedding, the church will assist with the arrangements based on:

- the availability of the pastor or appropriate minister,
- the availability of the sanctuary on the expected date,
- the setting of a meeting with the church's wedding coordinator.

43) When the benediction is given: Do not raise your hand unless you are the minister giving the benediction. Since the benediction is a blessing for the entire congregation, the minister raises h/his hand symbolically blessing the congregation. The appropriate response is for the congregation is to bow their heads, receiving the blessing.

44) Seven Statements That Kills Church Growth:

1. We've never done it that way before.
2. We are not ready for that.
3. We are doing alright without that.
4. We have all ready tried that.
5. It costs too much.
6. That is not our responsibility.
7. I can't see how that is going to work.

45) Scripture Reading. Always give the translation, chapter, and verse of the Bible.

46) Teachers. Do give wholesome information, Don't blunder if though you are doubtful of what you are teaching. Don't say, "Am I Right." You are the teacher you should know if you are right.

47) Dress Sends a Message: When you step into a room, even though no one in the room knows you or has seen you before, they will make decision about you based solely on your appearance:

1. Your economic level
2. Your educational level.
3. Your trustworthiness.
4. Your social position.
5. Your level of sophistication
6. Your success.
7. Your moral character.

• What we wear is a statement to the people around us. How we dress, style our hair and present ourselves is an expression of who we are, and a message to the people we encounter.

• When you see someone dressed like a policeman, what do you think that person does?

• When you see someone dressed like a nurse or doctor, what do you think that person does?

• What are you trying to say to people when you dress? Do not be defensive if they react to the message you are sending.

Resources: *Prophetic Etiquette: Helpful Guidelines for Giving and Receiving Prophecy* by Michael Sullivant

Prophetic Etiquette by Michael Sullivant
All Rise: Order In The Church: A Practical Guide for Church Etiquette and Church Behavior by William Flippin

From his retirement in Raleigh, a renowned minister shares his wisdom with clergy across the country

The Rev. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor may never preach another word, but the vocation to which he dedicated his life and for which he has won so many accolades still consumes his waking hours.

What Taylor really does is dispense wisdom, and he does it with a clear sense of humility.

Recently he wrote to the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, advising him how to respond to explosive excerpts of sermons that have tarnished Sen. Barack Obama's presidential bid, as well as to the Rev. Billy Graham, expressing his condolences on the death of his wife, Ruth.

Taylor, who will turn 90 in June, 2008, is still keenly attuned to the times.

The legendary civil rights champion and longtime pastor of Concord Baptist Church of Christ in Brooklyn, N.Y., has witnessed nearly a century of momentous events. From his study in Raleigh, decorated with framed photos of African-American church leaders, Taylor has dedicated himself to helping younger pastors.

Sunday mornings, Taylor and his wife take their seats at Christian Faith Baptist Church, off Garner Road in Southeast Raleigh.

"To have him sit as a parishioner and a receiver of the Gospel is humbling to us," said the Rev. David Forbes, the pastor. "We are challenged to make the word relevant, and of a quality that will



...speak to the average parishioner, but also to him."
(N & O Staff Writer)

Pastor

Head of Church
Shepherd (Luke 17:17; Heb. 5:4; I Cor: 9:7)

Placed over church by God
Eph: 4:11-13

Spiritual and administrative leader of church, supervisor

Total control of pulpit

Spiritual Duties

I Thes. 5:7; I Tim. 3: Titus 1

- saved in Christ
- husband of one wife
- Preach
- Counsel
- good hospitality
- not greedy
- not mean
- not jealous
- but patient
- love others
- blameless
- sober
- good behavior
- common sense
- apt to teach
- not gossip
- not fighter
- not curser
- but honest
- manage home
- peacemaker
- body temple of God
- Must take lead in church (Tithes, etc.)
- perform marriages
- visit sick
- conduct funerals
- carry out church ordinances
- represent churches at associations, state and national conventions
- community work

Reporting Relationships for Paid Staff in the Church

Question: To whom should paid staff report to in the church?

Answer: When it comes to reporting of staff through a chain of command, it really depends upon whether they are considered to be "pastoral" staff, maintenance staff, office staff, etc. Generally, all staff report to the Pastor through the particular ministry leader except for Pastoral staff, who report directly to the Pastor. For example, the building engineer would report to the Chairman of Trustees, who may have oversight of the building. That Chairman will, of course, consult with and report to the Pastor. The Church Administrator, or Minister of Music would report directly to the Pastor, because he will have direct responsibility over Worship and Church administration.

**When you can't come to us,
our mobile showroom will come to you!**

**Coordinating
Group Outfits
from Head-to-Toe!**
**Suits
Shirt/Tie Sets
Shoes**

**On-Site Group
Fittings!**



**Suit Sizes to 80
Shirt Sizes to 22**

**Call to Schedule
a Showing!**

Suits with Brand
Names such as:
**Tayion
Stacy Adams
Falcone**

ROWE'S
MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

BRINGING THE CHURCH **back** TO KINGDOM ORDER

Reverend Reginald A. Wells, Pastor
New Christian Chapel Baptist Church,
Rose Hill, North Carolina

The pastoral office of the



Rev. Reginald
Wells

Baptist Church is the only direct divine appointment from God over His church. Every other office in the Baptist Church might be styled as an office in the church and not of the church. The deacon, for instance, is generally spoken

of as the deacon of the church; but to be specific, from a standpoint of authority—a deacon in the church, because his appointment or office is over a mission in the church and not over the whole church, so far as the overall administrative policy of the church is concerned.

The pastor must also be an administrator, caring for the orderly processes

and mundane concerns of congregational life together. Not all pastors are able administrators, but every pastor can identify administrative gifts in others, encourage their assistance, and by that means encourage the well-being of the flock. Likewise, the pastor must be an educator, providing opportunities for

clear understanding of the gospel and its meaning for salvation, effective living, and growth in grace. Pastors are not uniformly gifted teachers, but as with preaching, attention to preparation and communication will not fail to strengthen a congregation's understanding.

Pastoral ministry must include compassion and caregiving. The pastor must be a sympathizing and empathizing friend to all, striving to be helpful wherever help may be needed.

There is nothing in the life of the church that should be beyond the concern, care, responsibility, and leadership of the pastor. For example, the constitution of the church may designate a layperson to receive and disburse funds, but the pastor is nevertheless the chief steward of the church. Traditions and organizational principles may designate the superintendent to organize

the Sunday school, but the pastor is the principal and headmaster of the church as an educational institution.

The pastor is charged with ultimate spiritual care and authority in the life of the congregation. This does not mean, however, that the pastoral role should be authoritarian or that only the pastor has spiritual insight. Quite the opposite. The effective pastor must work collegially with the congregation whenever possible and must identify and encourage the gifts within the congregation's members, both to reduce the burden of his or her own responsibilities and to enhance the strength of the congregation. Often the best evidence of effective pastoral leadership over time is a church in which a vitality of faith is so evident and effectiveness of operations is so smooth that it appears at first glance that the pastor has no significant role to play.

Pastoral Authority

A pastor is placed over the church by the calling of

God and by the free and voluntary consent of the congregations. Yet pastors and congregations will find that assent to such an assertion is easier theologically and in the abstract than in practice. All would agree, perhaps, that a pastor should not be a dictator nor regarded with blind

devotion. Neither would many claim that he or she should be a slave to the passing agendas or whims of assertive members of the congregation, whether elected to office or self-appointed. Somewhere between these poles is the broad road of proper authority.

A pastor must steer a certain course by articulating a vision for the church, developing understanding and support for the vision, and providing leadership to the church's leaders to demonstrate effective goals and strategies to accomplish the vision. Pastoral authority is wisely gained from developing trusting, lasting relationships with church members and by personal ministry among them. Conversely, it is rarely exercised simply by assertion. Rather, let the pastor preach with confidence, provide pastoral care with compassion and sensitivity, and challenge the church to fol-

low where he or she proposes to lead. In politics, true authority is derived from the consent of the governed. In churches, pastoral authority is prescribed by the Scriptures, but it is granted by the congregation.

Pastoral authority, then, must constantly be of concern not only to pastors but to the whole congregation. By open dialogue, study of Scripture, prayer, and seeking the guidance of the Spirit, a pastor must rely more than ever on the confidence that comes from God's presence and from the certainty of God's call.

Ministerial Support

Pastors in particular and ministers in general are worthy of adequate support. They deserve support first in the prayer and undergirding by fellowship of the congregation they serve. Let them feel loved, appreciated, cared for, and valued. Second, they deserve support in the financial and material means by which they and their families might live

in the community to which they have been called.

What should a minister be paid? That is the question likely to call forth every opinion as well as every complaint and criticism in the congregation.

Appropriate reference points for establishing pastoral pay should be based on community standards so that the pastor may live in dignity among the people he or she serves. In most communities the salaries of school principals, college deans, and managers in industry and other professions may help establish guidelines. A church that wishes to keep a gifted and productive pastor must provide a foundation for its pastor's well-being. And a church that wishes for a pastoral change must have more integrity than to withhold support in an effort to force the pastor to leave.

Resources:

(The New Hiscox Guide for Baptist Churches, E.C. Goodwin).

HUNTLEY'S MANUAL For Every Baptist by Thomas Elliott Huntley

Kingdom Attitude

- Invest in someone who will outlive you.
- Empower others to continue the multiplication process.
- Find the behind-the-scenes people and maximize their potential.
- Reach the "un-volunteers" who are waiting to be matched with the right ministry opportunity.

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

Writers:

Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
Marvin E. Davis
Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
Wheeler L. Jones
T.L. Lewis
Robert L. Malone
Joseph L. Slade
Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-MAILED OR MAILED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ORIGINAL ORDER!

FOR PRICING SEE THE WEB SITE!

1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com

Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN

BRINGING THE CHURCH **back** TO KINGDOM ORDER

*Dr. George Debnam, Deacon
Christian Faith Baptist Church*

In the original language, the word, Deacon, means Servant.

The title itself, is as descriptive as any job description could be. In the Bible, words have meanings and the word "deacon" means servant. Here is how the word has been defined in its various forms:



Dr. George Debnam

"**Diakoneo** -used mainly for personal help to others."

"**Diakonia** is found 34 times in the NT. It means service at the table in Lk. 10:40; Acts 6:1, etc."

"**Diakanos** is found 29 times in the NT. Its primary meaning is one who serves at tables."

Origin and Qualifications

The diaconate is most often identified in the election of the seven to help the apostles in carrying out acts of charity, compassion, and practicality (Acts 6:1-6). Following Pentecost, a large ingathering of new believers had stressed the capabilities of the original, tightly knit fellowship of the earliest Christians. Care of the needy and of aspects of fellowship life together had become so burdensome that these responsibilities began to threaten the spiritual duties of prayer and proclamation. And, according to the scriptural reference, care of the needy was apparently not being accomplished with consistency.

Therefore, in Acts 6 we learn that "seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom" (v. 3) were chosen to perform these activities, so that the apostles might devote themselves "to prayer and to the ministry of the word" (v. 4). These seven were set apart for this work with prayer and by the laying on of hands, an ancient rite symbolizing investiture and empowerment.

Qualification for the diaconate seemed to rest in three categories:

that they were men; that they were of good reputation; and that they evidenced the power of the Spirit within. Baptist churches have, for many generations, broadened the definition of "men" to mean "persons" in one of two ways. First, many churches have developed ministry of deaconesses, originally to bring ministry and charity to members of their own sex, and then later to specialize in acts of compassion and care. More recently, women have frequently been included as members of integrated diaconate ministry.

The deacons should be of "good reputation" was especially important because

their distribution of charity required them to handle money and to develop equitable standards for the distribution. That they should be Spirit-filled was equally important. First, only those empowered by the Spirit could be expected to be sensitive to the needs of the community, and especially the needs of the weakest in the community. Second, it is evident from the personal history of some of the seven in subsequent events that their duties as deacons took them beyond the confines of the mundane and temporal needs of the church. In fact, several became foremost as counselors and co-administrators with the apostles in some spiritual interests as well. However, it is important to understand that this heightened leadership role most likely developed because they were Spirit-filled and not because of their specific role as deacons.

Selection and Duties

In modern Baptist churches, deacons are chosen by vote of the church, often having been proposed by means of a nominating committee or upon recommendation by the pastor. They should ideally represent a cross section of the membership of the church with regard to age, circumstances, economic status, and other considerations of membership constituencies. They should, nevertheless, be faithful, prudent, experienced, and spiritually mature persons.

In some Baptist churches the diaconate still serves to guide the secular functions of the church, especially regarding finances and property concerns. However, in an increasing number of congregations, these concerns have been delegated to other ministries, such as trustees, property management committees, finance committees, and others. It is appropriate for the deacons to exercise leadership in these areas, but it is not necessary, especially if it overtaxes their ability to respond in other areas.

The primary duties of deacons should be to exercise ministry and to care for the sick and needy among the membership, and also, when appropriate, to assist the pastor and other ministers in advancing the spiritual welfare of the church. In the absence of a pastor, it becomes the duty of the deacons to conduct devotional or prayer gatherings or to arrange for their leadership, to provide for the pulpit responsibilities of the church, and to administer the spiritual concerns of the church in general. By tradition, deacons in many Baptist churches are charged also with the responsibility of preparing the elements for the Lord's Supper (also called Communion), and assisting the minister in serving the elements to the congregation. There is no scriptural precedent for this practice, however, and

churches should not allow deacons to be perceived merely as ritual participants or as jealous guardians of the Lord's table. In addition to Communion preparation and service, deacons are often also delegated responsibility for a broad variety of other worship and devotional needs.

There are two problems associated with the service of modern deacons. The first is that in some churches deacons can become little more than honorary, ritual leaders, often chosen only from the most senior members of long standing, and with little official or unofficial purpose. This is a poor understatement of a rich role of leadership provided by the Scripture and tradition. Deacons should be exemplars of servant ministry and models of spiritual leadership in the congregation.

The second problem is that in many Baptist churches the diaconate has developed into the "power center" of the congregation and can exercise an unbiblical tyranny over the church and, in some cases, the pastor. In such cases, diaconal ministry reverses the role established in Acts by making the servants in fact the supervisor. Indeed, many of the short-tenure pastorates and forced terminations that plague Baptist churches and weaken their witness are the result of "power struggles" between pastors and boards of deacons.

A century ago Hiscox addressed this problem by saying, "Deacons should be watchful guardians of the purity and good order of the churches, striving to maintain a healthful tone of Christian faith and activity in the body. But they must act only in conjunction with the pastor, not independent of him, except possibly in very rare and urgent cases. Hence, while it is desirable for the pastor to have meetings with his deacons often or stately for consultation and advice, it is not proper for them to hold meetings as a board of deacons, independent of and without the advice of the pastor." A pastor should be accountable for his or her ministry to the congregation. But it is not appropriate for the pastor to work under the supervision of the deacons. Concerns regarding professional evaluation or performance of ministry should be designated to the appropriate, responsible group. And the pastor and deacons should maintain an appropriate biblical relationship.

Number of Deacons and Length of Service

The number of deacons in a church is a discretionary matter and should vary according to the size of the congregation, the intensity of need, and the quantity of qualified candidates available to perform the service. General practice suggests that one deacon for every twenty-five mem-

bers in smaller churches, or every fifty members in larger churches, should be adequate. In very small or newly established congregations, a minimum of three deacons is suggested.

Although we may imagine there was no limit of service time for deacons in the apostolic era, modern deacons should generally serve a specified term of office. This practice will prevent diaconal burnout and will also encourage others to extend their gifts and abilities in this service. Traditional service length is often a period of three years. Some churches allow for reelection immediately, while others require that after one or two terms of service, a deacon may not be elected until a year's time has elapsed.

A few churches have established a practice of electing a few exceptionally worthy deacons to "life deacon" status. The basis for such a practice is a concern for institutional continuity, a desire to recognize persons of unusual spiritual maturity and good judgment, and other high motives. Stability and good order may result from such a practice, but there are also dangers. For example, relying upon the judgment of a few persons can result in a burden of leadership that may be unfair to the life deacons and may also cause leadership stagnation in the church. Such a practice also seems unavoidably to encourage deference to the most senior members of long standing in the congregation. If a church chooses to designate some as life deacons, it is wiser to make the designation honorific and not authoritative.

Ordination of Deacons

In Acts the seven were set apart to be empowered for their duties by prayer and the laying on of hands by the apostles. This action imparted a sacred trust to them and recognized the importance of their duties.

Churches that elect to ordain deacons should hold the service of ordination during a Sunday worship service following the election of deacons. The service should reflect the solemnity of the purpose, the support of the congregation, and the commitment of the deacons being ordained.

An effective, dedicated diaconate with a clear vision of its purpose and work can be a powerful influence for the good witness of a church. A pastor and a diaconate, empowered by the Spirit and working in harmony toward the vision of Christ's kingdom, are a blessing to themselves and to the church.

(The New Hiscox Guide for Baptist Churches, E. C. Goodwin A Baptist Manual of Polity and Practice by Norman H. Maring and Winthrop S. Hudson Church Officers at Work by Glenn H. Asquith)

2008 Mid Years Session



20
Mid
Se
Gener
State C
May
We
Northa
Neu
Ass
H

May 13-14, Weldon



2008
Year
Session
Baptist
Convention
May 13-14
Weldon
Weldon Baptist Association
Weldons

BRINGING THE CHURCH **back** TO KINGDOM ORDER

Helen P. Adams, Deaconess
New Providence Missionary Baptist
Church, Fuquay-Varina, NC

The Deaconess and Her Role in the Church

WHY HAVE DEACONESSSES?

In addition to continually having to study the Word of God and to pray, the pastor of a church has a multiplicity of duties to perform as the shepherd of his



Helen
Adams

flock, such as instructing, leading, feeding, guiding and guarding the sheep that have been committed to his care and protection. Because it is impossible for the pastor to facilitate all of these

activities without help, he is assisted in many cases by men—the deacons of the church. Very often there are duties, however, which must necessarily be executed in the interests of the female members of the congregation that cannot be performed by the men. For this reason, there is a need for deaconesses. These women are very necessary and play a great and important role in both the functioning of the church in delicate matters within its walls and in the life of the church discipleship in the home.

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE DEACONESS?

1 Timothy 3 states that a dea-

coness is to be "grave"—serious of mind and character, holding a serious view of life. She is not a slanderer, spreading false or twisted statements, or making wrong use of the details learned about the private life of members of the congregation. She is to be "sober minded"—temperate, calm, well composed, and not easily excited. A deaconess should be "faithful in all things." She must be a reliable, trustworthy woman - one who can be depended upon. Her countenance should always be radiant and cheerful.

In addition, she is faithful to her husband and her family, and conducts herself and manages her own household in such a manner that she first commands the respect of her own family. Then, this conduct and respect are shed abroad; consequently, she receives the same respect from others outside of her home. A deaconess is a sincere Christian woman with great confidence in the faith which is in Jesus Christ and who is dedicated to the service of God—ready and able, at all times, to hold forth the consolation of the Gospel of Christ to those with whom she comes in contact. She is tolerant, honest,

patient, understanding, full of human kindness with a "big heart" and has a desire to share what she has with those in need.

These godly characteristics and behaviors are the qualifications that prompt the selection and approval of women to be appointed to the position of a deaconess.



WHAT ARE THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEACONESS?

To serve God as a deaconess is a real privilege, but the position carries with it great responsibilities, and should not be entered into lightly. She is appointed to visit the sick, those in prison, and those who are helpless and miserable. She is to also perform delicate duties in the interests of the women of the congregation that are best left to the deaconesses, such as helping young, timid female Christians when they are to be baptized so these young women will feel at home and welcome in the church.

Women have always been considered the greatest influence for good or for evil, especially in their homes. Having all of the qualifications for the position, the deaconess is to advise and guide the women—the younger women and homemakers in particular—in all walks of life; counsel and help them in spiritual and moral matters. When the Christian home is strong, there is little

opportunity for evil to creep in; therefore, the chief duty of a deaconess is to maintain a Christian home. Then, she is obligated to model and instill the love of Christ and respect for His standards of living in the hearts of all of the women in the church.

Above all, the deaconess should serve with a single eye that aims to please God and to benefit the members of her congregation. Just as a good mother leads her family in concern for others, so a deacon's wife may stimulate her church to be like the good wife in Proverbs who "reacheth out her hands to the poor, yea, she stretcheth forth her hands to the needy." This is an opportunity for togetherness, for teamwork. What a challenge to serve in times like these!

References:

The Holy Bible, 1 Timothy 3, Proverbs 31
Joyner, Ronnie D., *Functioning as a Deaconess*, Martimort, A.G., *Deaconesses: An Historical Study*
Nelson, Martha, *On Being Deacon's Wife*, (Broadman Press, 1973)
Nichols, Harold, *The Work of the Deacon and Deaconess*



Associate Minister or Assistant Pastor?

Question: What is the difference between an associate minister and an assistant pastor? Do they have defined or generally-accepted roles? What scripture or resource supports this?

Answer: There is no scriptural reference for either Assistant Pastor or Associate Minister. Biblically, there is only one Pastor. S/He may appoint other ministers to responsible offices for the purpose of carrying out the work and ministry of the Church, as Paul did with those who traveled with him. The term "Assistant Pastor" is generally used incorrectly. The Assistant Pastor is usually one on paid staff, selected by the Pastor and accepted or voted by the Church to such office. What we really mean most of the time when that term is used is, "assistant to the Pastor." This is generally an associate minister who is appointed to more pastoral responsibility than other associate ministers.

Correction Correction Correction

In the June publication of the *Baptist Informer*, the article under the Minister's Council title The Soul Winning Church, is by Rev. Robert Horne.

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

BRINGING THE CHURCH **back** TO KINGDOM ORDER

Churches are treated by government agencies and laws as one category of "nonprofit" institutions. As a rule, state and federal laws establish requirements for reporting of status, filing of reports and fees, and especially for exemption of taxes on property. Most often state laws relating to religious corporations require that there be a specific body that holds legal title to the property of the church and is responsible for its financial and legal affairs. State law may even specify the number, tenure, and method of election of the members of such a body. In churches this body is usually the board of trustees.

In some churches, trustees also handle financial matters related to the operating budget. However, it is most often advisable to have this function handled by a separate committee for that purpose or as a specific function of an advisory board.

The Duties of Trustees

A trustee is obligated to be loyal to the Church and to always act in the best interests of the Church. The benefits of service should help and enrich the Church and not the

A. Trustee. The major avoidances are:

1. "self-dealing" arrangements
2. use of "inside" information for personal gain
3. improper use of position for personal gain

B. The Duty of Care

A trustee is obligated to show reasonable attention, interest and skills in carrying out responsibilities as a Trustee. Some major obligations are:

1. to attend meetings
2. to participate in discussions at meetings
3. to become familiar with projects and activities of the Trustees
4. to be familiar with the Church's governance documents (the Bible,

Constitution, By-laws, etc.)

5. to read and review materials provided to the Trustees

6. to support the Trustees seeking further information from experts and professionals in the area of interest

C. The Duty of Obedience

A trustee is obligated to be faithful to the mission of the Church. The Trustees are obligated to exercise the authority that is granted by the Church. This duty of obedience also means a duty to comply with applicable law.

D. Typical Trustee Areas of Interest

Each Church will determine what are the areas of responsibility delegated to the Trustees Ministry (Board). However, some typical areas of interest and involvement are listed:

- Financial
 1. Establishing bank accounts
 2. Securing loans
 3. Securing audits
 4. Overseeing Finance Committees and procedures
 5. Investments Property
 6. Maintenance and upkeep of buildings and grounds
 7. Purchase of land, equipment, furnishings
 8. Inventorying Church assets
 9. Disposition of surplus goods and property Legal
 10. Compliance with local, state, and federal laws
 11. Consultation with attorneys as needed
 12. Represent the Church in legal disputes Insurance
 13. Make sure the Church is properly, adequately, and continuously insured
 14. Review insurance and recommend changes as needed Transportation
 15. Purchase of Church vehicles
 16. Maintenance of Church vehicles
 17. Operation of Church vehicles
 18. Securing commercial transportation
- E. An effective Trustee is not only a person with good business skills and

experience, but also has good personality traits and good character.

1. They are Christian.
2. They are honest.
3. They are enthusiastic.
4. They keep an open mind.
5. They are team players.
6. They are not afraid of complex problems.
7. They are orderly in decision making.
8. They are competent.
9. They have a sense of humor.

Certain personality traits will hamper the effective work of a Trustee. Among these are:

- They become obsessed with a single issue.
- They always take the opposing side/contrary opinion to get attention and for show.
- They like to hold opinions that are not backed up with facts and research.

F. Trustees should be very familiar with the following:

1. The Bible
2. Personal study and devotions
3. Baptist Polity
4. New Hiscox Guide for Baptist Churches
5. The Denomination
6. The Association
7. The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina
8. National Baptist affiliation
9. The Church's Governance Documents
 10. Constitution & By-laws
 11. Articles of Incorporation
 12. Record of Church Actions
 13. • The Church's Properties, Assets, and Holdings
 14. • The Congregation
 15. • The Church's Mission Statement

(A Baptist Manual of Polity and Practice by Norman H. Maring and Winthrop S. Hudson Church Officers at Work by Glenn H. Asquith) New Hiscox Guide for Baptist Churches, E.C. Goodwin ■

In selecting the members for such a board, attention should be given to placing board members with expertise or experience in matters of real estate, insurance, legal liability, and other matters of corporate responsibility. Boards of trustees should be small in number, usually no more than required by law, and should serve limited, rotating terms. They should be constituted so that their actions must be approved by the church. As the legal agents for the church, their powers should be circumscribed so that they do not set policy for the church but rather carry out the will and administer the resources of the church according to priorities established by the congregation.

Missionary Baptist or Baptist Church?

Question: What is the difference between a Missionary Baptist Church and a Baptist Church?

Answer: Most Baptist Churches are by nature Missionary Baptist Churches. This means that they believe in the mission work of the Church as it relates to spreading the Gospel both at home and abroad. However, there are some of the Baptist persuasion that are not "missionary," most notable among them is the Primitive Baptist Church

Historically and culturally speaking, the African American Baptist Church grew in response to the withdrawal of most white Baptist Churches (Southern Baptist Convention) from doing mission work on the continent of Africa following the Civil War. Hence, our churches were distinguished from theirs, not by terms such as "colored" or "African", as was the case with the Methodist Church, but were designated as "missionary."

BRINGING THE CHURCH **back** TO KINGDOM ORDER

Reverend Dr. J. Wendell Mapson, Jr.
 Director of Music and Worship
 National Baptist Convention, U.S.A. Inc.

The church musicians should understand that they work within the framework of the church's total ministry and that the pastor is the head of the overall program and operation of the church. The fact that pastors may not be musicians does not matter. What matters is that pastors are responsible for the church's total ministry which includes the music ministry.

Many church musicians have run into problems because they have been unwilling to work under the auspices of the pastoral office. It would be helpful for a musician to consider this pastoral relationship in all of its dimensions before accepting the position of organist, choir director or whatever. The musician and pastor should discuss their relationship, purposes, and goals in order to get a clearer understanding of what is expected. Perhaps a job description could be devised to assist in the clarification of responsibilities and expectations. It would be to the musician's advantage to find out beforehand if the position being offered fits his or her philosophy of music as it relates to the life of the church and the peculiarities of the denomination.

The church musicians, through consultation with the pastor, must insist upon the enforcement of rules of discipline if he or she is to be effective. The musician, along with the pastor, is responsible for the selection and use of music in the church. This is not the responsibility of the president of the choir or any member of the choir. Reasonable expectations should be emphasized concerning rehearsal time and frequency. The musician has the right to expect choir members to cooperate in offering the congregation, and God, the very best.

The church musician must guard against the temptation to become an entertainer. Many musicians use the church and the choir as a background for their own performances. The church musicians who also sing are constantly subject to the temptation of being the perennial lead singer. Many musicians are more concerned about the development of their own talent than about developing the music ability of the choirs they serve.

Musicians who play the organ must

be careful not to allow the organ to dominate the worship experience. The musical instrument accompanies the music of the choir and congregation; it should not dominate or drown it out. This is true for accompanying solo voices as well. The organist need not play background music for every prayer or even during the sermon, for such music is often contrived and artificial. There are even times when the instruments should be silent as the people of God make their musical offering. The organist must always keep in mind that the Spirit does not cease to be felt when the instrument stops; neither does the Spirit depend upon the beat of an organ as the source of inspiration.

Today, most black churches have several choirs. In the average black church, one might find one or more of the following choirs: senior choir, gospel or inspirational choir, male chorus, young adult choir, youth (junior) choir, and children's (cherub) choir. In the past, and even today, some adult choirs are labeled choir #1, choir #2, and so on. Contemporary names for choirs include: sanctuary choir, chancel choir, ensemble, and mass choir. Many choirs bear the name of a living or deceased pastor or

outstanding church member.

The purpose of the choir rehearsal is to sharpen and polish the choir's skills. Rehearsal is not primarily a social gathering nor a task-oriented group in the sense of merely planning programs and raising funds, even though these activities may indeed be a part of the choir's agenda.

The choir is involved in the process of spiritual growth. It is through interaction that the songs of the people of God are made perfect. When the choir sings for the congregation, it is offering what the congregation cannot offer. The tools of the choir members are refined through practice, discipline, commitment,

and training. The vestments of the choir are modest, but uniform, for it is not individuals making the offering, but the choir itself. It is a collective voice.

One of the ways to improve the quality of music in the church is to reduce the number of choirs. Most churches have too many choirs, many of which are unnecessary. It is a myth that a church needs a different choir for each Sunday in the month. To encourage the formation of more choirs in a church is to

invite as well as promote competition and confusion. The competition takes the form of each choir trying to outdo the other and each comparing itself to another and none offering an acceptable gift to God.

Fourth, churches should provide money in the budget for the operation of the choir since the choir belongs to the church. It is suggested that the church, not the individual choir members, own the choir robes, for the choir robes are church property, just as the choir is church property in the sense of accountability. Choir robes should not be faddish or profane. Their colors should reflect the symbols of Christian faith. Time should be spent teaching the colors of the Christian church, and this knowledge should guide the selection of style and color of the robes. Long dresses and brightly colored suits are not proper attire to offer God in worship. The aim of the choir member is not to show self but to engage in collective worship in the presence of the holy.

Choir members must always guard against the temptation to exhibit self. There are many manifestations of excesses in the black church. One of the most disturbing is the tendency of many choirs to become exhibitionists and performers. Many soloists thrive on attention received as they parade from front door to back door. Much of this is contrived and artificial. Verses of songs are sung over and over again in an attempt to manufacture emotional responses. (Excerpts from "THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC IN THE BLACK CHURCH", Reverend Dr. J. Wendell Mapson, Jr.)

The Baptist churches use the word "Missionary" in their title. In most "Missionary Baptist Churches," the word "Missionary" is, in fact, a noun and not a verb. With extremely rare exception, most black churches do absolutely no outreach, perform absolutely no evangelism, and most certainly do no actual missionary work. The "missionary" societies at most of these churches are actually meetings composed of mostly women, and the majority of their efforts are focused on planning the next big annual day event.

There is a relatively small percentage of black churches that invest in real estate, businesses, producing CD's or other retail items. These churches usually become models for productive ministry as they invest in housing for the elderly and invest in businesses that provide vital services to the congregation. If more churches pursued this business model, they could prune their calendars of a lot of exhausting, distracting celebratory busywork, freeing up their people to do what the church is supposed to do: evangelize and see after the needs of the needy, two things that fall by the wayside as the churches gear up for the next big Annual Day.

BRINGING THE CHURCH **back** TO KINGDOM ORDER

"Why do we even band ourselves together into associations?" There are three basic reasons.



Dr. Haywood T. Gray

First, independent Baptist churches come together in associations because there is an understanding that there are certain things that the local church cannot do alone. Try as we may, it is clear that one church cannot bear the whole responsibility

for foreign missions, Christian education, or state missions. It is only when we come together and pool our resources — you with your whole lot and me with my little bit — that we are able to make headway in fulfilling the great commission of Jesus Christ. Projects like youth retreats, seminars, institutes, youth employment programs, political and social action efforts are best coordinated and executed by associations and not local bodies. Thus, it is the responsibility of the local church to support — financially, morally, and prayerfully — the association that these ventures, and others like these, can be accomplished.

Secondly, independent Baptist churches come together in associations because there is oftentimes a need for resource persons and advisory bodies. Even though the local church is self-governing, every now and then there are those rough spots wherein the individual church will need help and advice. The local association ought to be that clearinghouse for advice on professional standards, Baptist policy, and the unique culture of the Black Church in America. While the local church will still be free to pick and choose what advice it will take from the association, this does not mean that we should not allow them the opportunity to choose.

In conjunction with this, it is necessary, therefore, that the officers of the association be adequately prepared in their respective fields to be able to offer advice. We do not need a situation wherein the "blind lead the blind." Does not the Bible say that, "Many are called, but few are chosen." Perhaps the hierarchy of the association ought to be comprised of chosen few and not just the many called. Thus, it is the local church's responsibility to trust the local association's expertise, ability, and experience in helping it

iron out matters of faith, doctrine, and practice. Yet, it is important to note that it is not the responsibility of the church to automatically convey that trust, but the association ought to be able to prove itself. No one buys a new car without first taking a test drive.

Finally, independent Baptist churches band together into associations because we realize that there is strength in numbers. When independent Baptist churches band together, the sheer force of its numbers will force local governments and school boards to take notice. When we come together, the sheer strength of our numbers will cause others both great and small — to come to us. Thus, it is our responsibility to support the social and political actions of our associations knowing full well that Yanceyville, Raleigh and Washington will pay much more attention to 11,000 than 1,100.

The Association is to serve as a tool which teaches its churches ways to better equip itself for the job. There are many ways in which the Association can serve to aid the Church.

The Association should serve as a tool to aid the churches in its bounds. It

should be organized to the point to be a role model for the church. And if any church should have problems, it is the duty of the Association to come to the aid of said church.

a. If a church is without a pastor, it is the duty of the Association to see that this church has preachers to come in that will give the people sound preaching and quality leadership.

b. If the pulpit committee cannot come together on what they want in a pastor, the Association should be able to give some guidelines on what to look for in a good pastor.

c. If problems arrived between the pastor and the church, the Association (upon request), should send in a council to advise or offer some ways of solving the problem.

d. If there is a misinterpretation about doctrine, the Association should be willing to explain the said church where the Association stands.

e. The Association should have a guideline on organization and how each church should function.

In other words, the Association should look over her churches as a mother and father would look after their children. ■

Some Things Every Baptist Should Know

Reverend Dr. Percy R. Chase
Pastor, Community Baptist Church
Durham, NC

1. Let us not try to enter into nor stay in the church without being born again and without abiding by the doctrines of the Baptist Church, let us not try to hitchhike our way to heaven; but, let us take up the cross by winning souls and by paying our tithes and offerings, etc., according to the principles of



Dr. Percy R. Chase

word of God.

2. Let us not overestimate the sovereignty of the Baptist churches without the divine guidance of a preacher or pastor; remember that church and pastor are as (like) a lock and key; it takes two to make the one complete; and one is not distinctly independent without the other. The church may be free to dispose of material things possessed in the name of church; but it is not absolutely free in

spiritual matters without a preacher who was given the key of authority by Jesus Christ—{Matthew 16:19; Romans 10:14-15}.

3. Let us not try to run the Baptist churches as we would social club, fraternal organization, public school board, political organizations or labor union, etc.; neither try to operate it according to the ritualistic, legalistic, monopolistic, or dogmatic formula of the Catholic, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Methodist, or any other non-Baptist Church that operates according to the formula of a centralized superior governing body. The Baptist Church is a distinct body of "peculiar" people that operates on basis of the Bible alone as its basic parliamentary guide, according to the will of the majority, it cannot even operate like an Association or a Baptist Convention entirely; for these bodies are largely shepherds' tents where shepherds lead shepherds primarily; beach Baptist church is a sheepfold where the under-shepherd leads the sheep under the guidance of the Great Shepherd.

4. Let us not take church matters to

the courts nor padlock the church doors without first having the approval of the majority of the church; such action is a violation of divine law according to the Scriptures—

Matthew 18:17 and 1 Corinthians 6:1-2.

5. Let us not desecrate nor minimize the true spirit of worship of our services with too much subjective, orgiastic singing (for a show) nor with too many collections, (but pay our weekly tithes), announcements, or superficial exhortations.

6. Let us not kill our church or any of its auxiliary — parts with too many fruitless business or busy-ness meetings where there is always more "business" than grace.

7. Let us not try to use our office, boards, or units as a block of influence against other boards of the church or against the general administrative program of the church. Let us not engage in "lefthanded" meetings in order to connive or plot against the general welfare of the church as regards who is supposed to do what, and who has no authority to do

what or why.

8. Let us not assume that we are in our office for life and that we cannot be moved; remembering that right and righteousness are always stronger than selfish wickedness; and that God is on the side of right; for any Baptist church that changes pastors every three to five years, while at the same time has members therein who have held strategic offices in that church from twenty to forty and fifty years, might well be scrutinized by a pastor before he accepts a call unless he is definitely sure that God has motivated the call.

9. Let us not forget the honor and respect due the pastor when he is in distress or to his widow or family when he sleeps, by making no adequate provisions for the widow or family especially if most of their lives have been spent in sacrificial service for us. And, let us never forget the old saints who have given their lives in the service of the church.

HUNTLEY'S MANUAL For Every Baptist by Thomas Elliott Huntley

Our churches' calendar is routinely dominated by annual celebrations — Church Anniversary, Pastor's Anniversary, Youth Annual Day, Ushers Annual Day, and Christian Education Day. Each Annual Day usually consists of several days of events and fund raisers, with exhausting drives to prepare food and music and decorate the church. It is, at the end of the day, busywork. To make a church seem busy, we jam our schedules full of these events, rather than dedicate our resources to feeding the hungry and evangelizing the world.

BRINGING THE CHURCH **back** TO KINGDOM ORDER



Mrs. Lena Johnson
President,
Ministers Wives

Answers to Questions Asked by Ministers' Wives

Dr. Weptanomah W.
Carter

Mrs. Lena
Johnson

God has chosen you to be the special helpmate for His minister of the gospel.

"He who finds a wife, finds a good thing." (Proverbs 18:22).

I am thankful for the ministry of Dr. Weptanomah Carter to Ministers' Wives. Although I never met her personally, her many books were an inspiration to me and provided much needed insight into the journey of a minister's wife. Dr. Carter served as a spiritual mentor to many and her wise counsel through her writings helped ministers' wives globally "become" the women God created them to be.

Below are some questions you may have. I pray Dr. Carter's answers will bless you and serve as a healthy way to support and celebrate your God-given ministry.

Q. What advice would you give a new minister's wife?

A. The Bible does not enlighten us with scripture from a Mrs. Paul, Mrs. Peter, Mrs. John or any other first wife in the life of the early church. We have the same scriptural mandates that all believers have and this is where I would begin. The life you live as a Christian will see you through as a new minister's wife. Tithe, love everybody, pray every day, read your Bible, and to that, I add, be generous with others and enjoy your life.

Q. In the call to pastor a church, am I to understand that only the pastor is called, or is the family called, as well?

A. Inherent in the call of a pastor is the call to the pastor's family. While there are no statistics to prove this point, the record will show that the pastor's family has reaped the benefits of the call from pain and struggle to scholarships and public exposure. Any other way of looking at this fact would be a denial of the individual nature of the biblical family God has established, called to be one.

Q. How involved in the church should a minister's wife be? In other words, what is expected of a minister's wife?

A. Today's minister's wife has so many more options than those in previous years. Traditionally, minister's wives were expected to be musicians, leaders of missionary societies, fashion stylists, and the like. Today, they can share the pulpit, preach the word, lead worship, whatever.

I suggest that you find your own niche in Christian service and be convinced in your heart that this is what God wants you to do.

Q. How do you communicate feelings of jealousy about another woman who you think is interested in your husband?

A. Quite often feelings are based on subjective observation and not on actual facts. The healthy marriage is one where the couple can speak with open hearts and truthful words. It is better to speak what you feel rather than develop inner anger about what may or may not be the truth. Let your husband know that at the moment you, perhaps, do not have a good feeling about the woman. He is then aware of your feelings. Then, leave it alone.

Q. Do you ever confront a member of the congregation who has spoken untruths about you?

A. It is not possible that a member can occupy the position you have as being the pastor's wife, as long as you serve in love and dignity. The great power of the Christian faith is that we are witnesses of our Lord. Being witnesses, we must always allow time and room for the providence of God to work out those things that come against us. In doing so, our witness becomes stronger and the enemy is brought to shame. The Word says that, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord."

Q. My husband has a dream of starting his own church. I want to be supportive of his dream but I also want to be realistic about trying to feed three children. To me, now is not the time to leave a steady, good paying job. Can you help me?

A. You are wise to be concerned about today's economic times. Many ministers that start a church keep their steady paying job until the church proves solvent. It could be that in your husband's case, he might be able to do the same thing. You and your husband should investigate all of the possibilities. Bear in mind, that many steps that move one forward, involve risks. Do your part to minimize this by planning ahead as much as possible.

Q. I have never been much of a church person and I thought my husband was clear on that fact. Now that we are married and he pastors a church, there is an expectation of my being at church every Sunday. I really don't like this expectation. Is there a compromise that we can reach?

A. I do not feel that church attendance in itself is the sole index of one's Christian faith. However, in the eyes of people, it goes a long ways. We live in an age where we are taught to do our own thing. On this note, I would agree that the burden is on

you to move beyond your feelings about Sunday church attendance and make yourself a part of the worshipping fellowship. Any other advice would be negating the gospel of the One who called us "to forsake not the assembling of ourselves together."

Q. I think that it is time for my husband to consider retirement from pastoring. Do I have the right to raise this issue with him?

A. Yes, you do have the right to raise the issue of retirement with your husband. However, you should do this with the skill, the wisdom and the touch of love that only a loving wife can provide. Is he "losing it" in the pulpit? Are there health problems becoming noticeable that are somewhat annoying? Is the congregation falling away? A wife is in a position to see these things and in some tactful approach, help to bring her husband to see and accept the same.

Q. My husband has recently been called to a new church but I am finding it to be a difficult adjustment. Part of the problem has been how I have been hurt by relationships within the church in the past. Is it best to keep your distance from the members?

A. Don't spoil your bright future by using your past as an indicator for today. The best place for the past, is in the past. Leave yourself open to new and positive relationships and they will come. This

does not mean that you have to divulge your entire life to the members but I encourage you to find a comfort zone that allows you to reach out to others. Furthermore, I am sure that there were some loving and kind members at your former church. Try to remember these people if you are going to reflect on the past. Quite often we let the bad situations define our entire experience and we overlook all of the good. When we do this a reality check is in order. Move forward knowing that you are wiser, and not wounded; better, and not bitter.

Q. I have become extremely bitter as a result of how badly my husband has been treated by the officers and members of our church. I find it difficult to be cordial with them. It might not be right but I do not know what else to do.

A. Amazingly, I have never seen or heard of any church where all the members "turn on" a pastor without exception. I am not speaking of "church fights" that might have sprung up because of certain issues. I am speaking of situations where the pastor is doing his best and yet the officers are resisting the ministry. My answer to you is to build deeper love and trust with those in the church whom God has raised up to support you. In the meantime, be as loving and kind to the others as much as possible. In due course, love will win out every time. ■

The Pastoral Installation Service

for

REVEREND DARRYL TODD



Spring Branch

Missionary Baptist Church

Of North Carolina Inc.

21300 Old Wire Road • P O Box 148

Wagram, North Carolina 28396

Sunday, March 16, 2008

4:30 p.m.

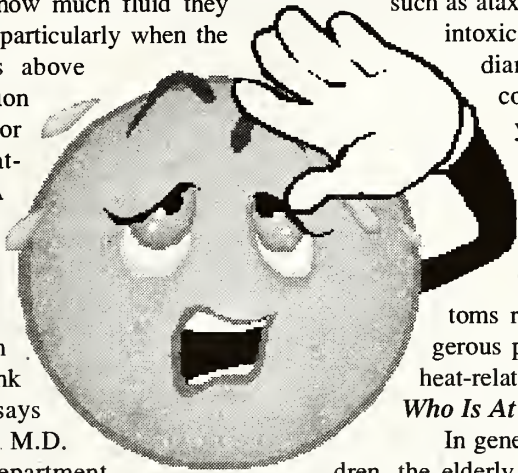
Stay Hydrated

One of the best ways to keep cool and prevent a heat-related illness, like heat cramps, heat exhaustion or heat stroke, is to keep hydrated. "Most people don't realize how much fluid they lose on hot days, particularly when the temperature rises above 100°F. Dehydration is a huge risk factor for serious heat-related illnesses. A good rule of thumb is that if you can't remember the last time you urinated, then you need to drink more fluid," says David Birdsall, M.D., Emergency Department physician at John Muir Medical Center, Concord Campus. "You want your urine to be pale yellow to clear in color. Dark urine means your kidneys are working overtime to absorb fluid because you are dehydrated." Be sure to avoid alcohol and caffeinated drinks as well; they act as a diuretic and will dehydrate you further.

Heat-Related Illnesses

Lightheadedness, muscle cramps, headaches, rapid heart rate, rapid breathing and nausea may all be early warning signs of a heat-related illness. If you or a friend experience these symptoms, find some shade or move indoors. "Tepid water applied to the skin may also help rapid cooling; just avoid ice-cold water, as this can potentially make matters worse," notes Dr. Birdsall. "Also, one should begin hydration techniques. Sport drinks are good, but equally effective

STAYING SAFE IN THE SUN AND HEAT



is water along with a salty food." Should more serious symptoms develop, such as ataxia (walking like intoxicated), vomiting, diarrhea and/or confusion, then you should go to the nearest emergency department or call 911. These symptoms represent a dangerous progression of a heat-related condition.

Who Is At Risk?

In general, young children, the elderly and those who are obese are at the greatest risk for heat-related illnesses. Certain medications such as diuretics, laxatives, blood pressure pills and antihistamines can put one at a greater risk for serious heat-related conditions. Therefore, these individuals should take greater precautions.

Keep Covered

When it comes to keeping the sun's rays at bay, experts suggest avoiding the sun altogether when the rays are strongest, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Another effective method of protection, according to Curtis A. Raskin, M.D., a dermatologist on staff at John Muir Medical Center, Concord Campus and John Muir Medical Center, Walnut Creek Campus, is to wear protective clothing. "Hats, sunscreen and staying in the shade will help reduce your exposure to the sun," he says. The American Cancer Society also recommends the

following:

- Seek shade: If your shadow is shorter than you, the sun's rays are at their strongest.
- Slip on a shirt: Choose comfortable clothes made of tightly woven fabrics that you cannot see through when held up to a light.
- Slop on sunscreen: Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher that blocks both UVA and UVB rays. Apply a generous amount (about a palmful) and re-apply after swimming, toweling dry or perspiring. Use sunscreen even on hazy or overcast days.
- Slap on a hat: Cover your head with a wide-brimmed hat, shading your face, ears and neck.
- Wear sunglasses: Glasses with 99%

to 100% UV absorption will provide optimal protection for the eyes and the surrounding skin.

Sun and Children

Children are particularly vulnerable to overexposure to the sun. Estimates show that humans receive about 80 percent of their exposure to the sun before age 18. A bad sunburn in childhood, according to Dr. Raskin, can increase the propensity of developing melanoma (skin cancer) later in life.

Teach your children the importance of covering up while enjoying the outdoors. Make sunscreen, hats and sunglasses just another routine before going outside.

Inside of a car can easily reach 150°F during the summer, so do not leave your child or pet unattended in any vehicle. And if you must exercise, do so in the early morning or late evening hours when temperatures are cooler. ■

• In Loving Memory •

WILLIE J. JOHNSON

March 16, 1937 - May 22, 2008

Willie James Johnson, the son of the late Frank and Mable Ward Johnson, was born on March 16, 1937, in Goldsboro. He departed this earthly life on May 22 at Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, D.C.



He was preceded in death by his son, James "Pete" Johnson, and son-in-law, Charles Barbour.

He is survived by his wife Gwendolyn; his children, the Rev.

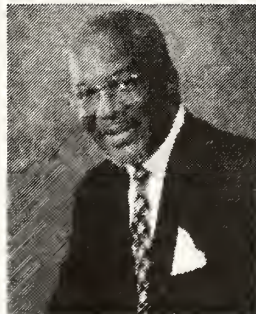
Dr. Michael Johnson, the Rev. Larry Johnson, Cynthia Reynolds, Derrick Johnson, Willie Johnson Jr., Valerie Barbour, Sharon Wilson, Edward Wilson, Keith Wilson, Pastor Cynthia Brazelton and Bruce Wilson; 31 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren;

a sister, Pauline Johnson Dillard; a foster sister, Maggie Lewis; an aunt, Geraldine Hawthorne; and a host of other family members and friends. ■

N.C. Council of Churches Honors Forbes

Dr. David C. Forbes, Sr. was the recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award of the North Carolina Council of Churches. Cited for his lifelong commitment to issues of justice and civil rights, Dr. Forbes received the Council's honor on May 13 during a luncheon sponsored by the Council.

Dr. Forbes was the first person arrested for participating in the civil rights demonstrations in Raleigh in 1960 making him a leader in the civil rights movement in North Carolina. Dr. Forbes was a founder of SNCC (Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee). SNCC was a central force for change in the civil rights movement in

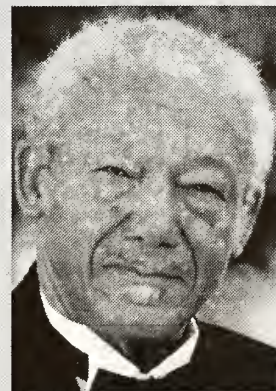


America. Founded in April 1960 at Shaw University, SNCC went on to coordinate sit-ins and Freedom Rides as well as played a major role in the 1963 March on Washington.

Dr. Forbes is in his 16th year as Pastor of Christian FAith Baptist Church in Raleigh. He is immediate past chairman of the GBSC Trustee Board and is a member of the General Board of Executive Committee.

Recently, he has been involved in issues of homelessness and in working on behalf of the "lost generation" of young African American and Latino men at risk because of poverty and prison. ■

Mr. Joe High, Jr. -Husband of Nancy High, GBSC Usher's Coordinator



Joe High, Jr., age 73 departed this life on Thursday, May 29, 2008.

Funeral service was held on Sunday, June 1, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at the Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon. Burial High Family Cemetery.

A wake was held on Saturday evening from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at William Toney's Funeral Home, Zebulon.

Survivors, wife, Nancy High; sons, Darryl High (Veronica) of Wake Forest and Alton High (April) of Raleigh; five grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends. ■

BAPTIST *Inform*er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiabrandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

Kenansville Eastern Missionary Baptist Association Christian Education Institute



PASTORAL VACANCY

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH - Smithfield, NC

First Missionary Baptist Church of Smithfield, North Carolina, an African-American church with approximately 200 members, is seeking a pastor who meets the following criteria:

- Is an ordained Baptist minister
- Holds a degree from an accredited seminary or theology school
- Has 5 or more years experience as a pastor

Interested persons should send a resume to:

First Missionary Baptist Church
 Attention: Pastoral Search Committee
 P.O. Box 1422 • Smithfield, NC 27577-1422

Resumes may also be sent via email to: firstmissionarybaptist@gmail.com.
 The deadline for all submissions is July 31, 2008.

Mt Level Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Youth & Christian Education Minister.

Qualifications include completion of a Theological Master Degree program with a focus in youth ministry.

The Minister should have a sound knowledge of scripture and Baptist Doctrine and the ability to teach youth and adults. Qualified Candidates should submit a resume to: Youth & Christian Education Minister Committee, Mt. Level Missionary Baptist Church, 316 Hebron Road, Durham, NC 27704 or email:

mtleveleducyouthchild@gmail.com.
 Visit our website: www.mtlevelembc.org

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Breed Community Church, a predominantly African American congregation birthed by God in 2004, is seeking a Bi-vocational Pastor, who loves the Lord and has been called by God to serve as an Under-shepherd. This individual should be born again, led by the Holy Spirit and meeting the qualifications outlined in Titus 2.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and a letter of interest, including a statement of your philosophy of the Pastor's role in church leadership.

Please forward resumes and letters of interest to:

Pastoral Search Team
 New Breed Community Church
 110 Towerview Ct.
 Cary, NC 27513 Or email them to nbchurch@bellsouth.net.

PASTORAL VACANCY

THE NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 1604 White Plains Church Road • Clarkton, NC

Qualifications:

- A man or woman of God licensed and ordained in the Baptist Denomination.
- Must have at least five (5) years experience as an Ordained Minister
- Pastoral experience.
- Seminary training.

OTHER ATTRIBUTES

- Gifted Teacher • Good leadership ability • Good communication skills
- Ability to counsel • Committed to the needs of the flock

If interested, please send information profile or resume to:

Bro. Ronnie Blanks, Pastor Search Committee Chairman
 New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
 1604 White Plains Church Road
 Clarkton, NC 28433

Please pray for our committee as we continue our search process.

**Making Relationships
 Work . . .**

God's Way

Pastor, let us bring this exciting, dynamic, Bible-based workshop to your congregation. The workshop is for singles, married couples and anyone seeking a Christ-centered and long-lasting marriage. The workshop is absolutely free! You provide the place and participants and we'll do the rest. We provide all materials and we will even help you promote the workshop in your local media. Call us today toll-free at 866-463-1760 or visit us at www.NCFRCministry.org and let us help you enhance marriages and relationships in your congregation.



Workshop Presenters

Rev. Donald Stevenson, a corporate tax attorney and former senior pastor, and Dr. Sara Stevenson, a psychologist and life coach, have been married more than 35 years, are the authors of *Get A Clue! Why Relationships Don't Work* and are the founders of the National Christian Family Resources Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Christian marriages and relationships in the Body of Christ.

**PASTORAL VACANCY
GASTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

962 Highway 46 • Gaston, NC 27832

The Gaston Baptist Church family is seeking a motivated, well-rounded licensed and ordained Baptist Minister. We're seeking for an ordained Baptist Minister with three (3) years or more of pastoral experience to lead our congregation from all aspects of spiritual and human development in accordance to The Holy Word.

Desired Pastor must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have the ability and love to work with all age groups within the church.
2. Preferred, a Bachelor Degree, a Masters of Divinity Degree, or working towards the completion of such degree from an accredited seminary.
3. Applicant will be subject to a rigorous background investigation.

Please submit a resume with references to:

Gaston Baptist Church
Attn: Pastoral Search Committee
Post Office Box 1339
Gaston, NC 27832

ALL RESUMES MUST BE POSTMARKED AND RECEIVED BY AUGUST 31, 2008 • Information will be treated confidential

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,

Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

Union Baptist Church

Church Musician

A Devoted Christian, must read and play all types of church/gospel music. Direct Choirs/Praise Team and teach parts.

Union Baptist Church

110 Lincoln Avenue

Lexington, NC 27292

336-243-1648 • 336-243-1648

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

612 Salisbury Street, Wadesboro, NC 28170

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a licensed, ordained Baptist pastor.

- I. **Character/Personality**
 - Full of the Holy Spirit, wisdom and knowledge
 - Strong reputation of honesty and integrity
 - Involved in the community, cares about the community and things outside of the church
 - Not over age 55 and preferably married
 - Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
 - Must have good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability
 - Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the church
 - Demonstrate a compassionate approach to visiting members (including sick, shut-in and the needy)
- II. **Education/Experience**
 - Must have knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies, and procedures
 - Must have at least three years of Pastoral experience
 - Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
 - Must have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college, university or seminary
 - A master's in Theology or some other religious area or pursuing the same is preferred
- III. **Administrative/Professionalism**
 - Must understand taxes and financial obligations of the church
 - Should be accessible
 - Should be willing to live within a 30 mile radius of the church
 - Should have office hours
 - Administrator over all salaried personnel
 - Full time Pastor preferred
 - Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups in the church with emphasis on spiritual growth and development
 - Must have excellent biblical teaching skills
 - Must represent the church Association, State and National Conventions

The deadline to submit applications and resumes is until the position is filled

Please submit letters of interest and resumes to:

Deacon Robert Hilliard Jr.
Chairman, Pastor Search Committee
Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church
PO Box 302
Wadesboro, NC 28170

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

Upcoming
Events...

BAPTIST
Informer

ABA

2008 ALL-BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

GBSC • WBH&FMC • CONGRESS • USHERS • LAYMEN • MINISTERS

"A Family Reunion"

July 27 - 31, 2008

M.C. Benson Jr. Convention Center • 301 West. 5th St. • Winston-Salem, NC 27101

BAPTIST
Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



BRINGING THE CHURCH
back
TO KINGDOM ORDER

The Dynamics of Kingdom placement:

- The wrong person in the wrong place - Regression (you go backward)
- The wrong person in the right place - Frustration (no skills for the job)
- The right person in the wrong place - Confusion (ability not fit for that task)
- The right person in the right place - Progression (you move forward)
- The right people in the right places - Multiplication (you expand)

4/1/2008
SE Baptist Theo Seminary SE Ba
114 N. Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553 520 P17



BAPTIST Informer

Volume 131, No. 8

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

August 2008

2008 All Baptist Assembly

Schedule At A Glance

Sunday July 27, 2008



Vanessa Bell Armstrong
In concert

Monday night, July 28, 2008

WBH & FMC Banquet

Special Issues Clinics

Health-Financial-Leadership-etc.

Evangelism Effort

Monday-Wednesday

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Francois Bergeron
Gospel Chalk artist

GBSC Auxiliary Sessions

Tuesday afternoon, July 29,
2008

Tuesday Night, July 29, 2008



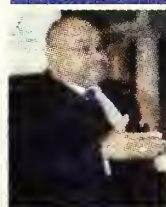
Dr. Cleophus Larue
Princeton Theological Seminary
Assoc Professor of Preaching

GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC
Gmoss1@bellsouth.net
(704) 334-5309

Grace and peace to you. It has been quite a busy summer. Word across the state is General Baptist family churches are engrossed in various ministries that are reaching the masses. It is a challenging and exciting time to be a participant in Kingdom building!



Dr. Haywood T.
Gray

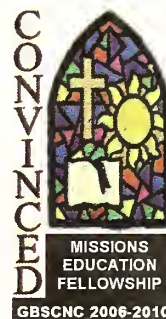
The All Baptist Assembly attracted Baptist from across the state to Winston-Salem. The anointed gathering featured noted professor/preacher Cleophus Lurie, recording artist Vanessa Bell Armstrong, NAACP president William Barber, motivational speaker Tawana Williams and Gospel Chalk Artist Francois Bergeron.

We were also favored with tremendous preaching, presentations, music, seminars, workshops and of course, fellowship.

The additional seminars were designed as a preview of what will be one of the best congress/conferences in the nation. It is a part of our vision to launch our congress in 2009. Your prayers and support are needed to bring this portion of our vision to fruition. Thank you Auxiliaries for your cooperation and willingness to sacrifice to make the All Baptist Assembly a session to remember. And a word of gratitude to Dr. Haywood T. Gray and staff for their tireless work and incalculable contributions to the work of our Christ.

Beginning the second Sunday in August, the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention will convene in Rochester, New York. For more than a century, General Baptist have been core supporters of the Lott Carey. We are encouraging your continued support and if possible, your presence at the convention.

August also signals the end of our fiscal year. I



Rev. Dr. Gregory K.
Moss, Sr.

challenge each church, pastor and leader to ensure our contributions for State Missions are forwarded to headquarters prior to August 31st. State Missions is the engine that moves our work under the unction of the Holy Spirit. As member churches, it is our responsibility to meet this obligation with an enthusiasm, joy and zeal that is contagious and consistent. Please show your love and commitment to the work God has put at our hand. General Board members please remember our personal contribution of 500.00 dollars. It is due by the end of October, but receivable now. Thanks for all you do, are doing and are going to do.

May the favor of God continue to cover you.

Building a Great Commission SUNDAY SCHOOL

Building a Great Commission Sunday School

Accurate Records

The importance of accurate and adequate Sunday school records cannot be overestimated. Their importance in guiding each individual pupil in his work and habits is beyond human calculation. Accurate records will enable Sunday school officers and teachers to place every effort where it seems to be most needed. A Sunday school superintendent who neglects the Sunday school records is failing at a vital point. Suppose a banker should neglect to keep accurate records, or suppose a captain of a ship should fail to keep an account of the position and direction of his ship.

Tuesday night, July 29, 2008

Speaker

Tawana Williams
Motivational Speaker
& Author of
"Unarmed But Dangerous"



Wednesday, July 30, 2008

President's Message



100th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention



Dr. Howard Parker

Dr. Howard Parker
Vice President At Large
shmbaptist@earthlink.net
(252) 355-2966

Hotel Reservation Form

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

August 11-14, 2008

This form must be returned to:
DePrez Travel Bureau, Inc.
Greater Rochester Visitor's Association Housing Desk
145 Rue de Ville
Rochester NY 14618

Toll free phone: 877-GRVA111 (877-478-2111) Fax: 585-442-8934
or submit this form electronically to pwhitcomb@depreztravel.com
If this form was faxed, please do not mail original

Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served space available basis. Please photocopy this form as needed, using one form for each room you are trying to reserve. Reservation requests will only be accepted on this form, and must be received by July 10, 2008. After that time, your request will be processed on a space availability basis. All changes and cancellations must be in writing to DePrez Travel by July 10, 2008. You will receive a written confirmation of your assigned hotel directly from DePrez Travel Bureau. Please read this document carefully as it will contain information unique to the hotel being confirmed.

Number your hotel choice in order of preference with "1" being your first choice. Circle your room type/price:

Number in order of preference	Hotels	Single (1 person 1 bed)	Double (2 people 1 bed)	Double (2 people 2 beds)	Triple (3 people 2 beds)	Quad (4 people 2 beds)
	Hyatt Regency Rochester	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$110.00
	*Clarion Riverside Hotel	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$104.00
	Crowne Plaza	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00

* Prayer Breakfast (Monday) as well as 5:30am Prayer Services (Tuesday-Friday)
Please Note: Confirmation will only be mailed to the address below:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Night Phone: _____

Day Fax: _____ Email address: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Church Name: _____ Pastor's Name: _____

If multiple occupancy, please list additional people's names, (please note, we will mail confirmation to the first person only):

Person 2: _____

Person 3: _____

Person 4: _____

Special Requests: _____

Your credit card guarantee: _____ Exp date: _____

Name (as it appears on card): _____ (Number must be exact or your reservation will be forfeited)

Signature: _____ (Card must expire after August 2008)

If you have used a credit card to hold your room, no charge will be made in advance. If you do not check into your hotel on your scheduled date of arrival, your reservation will be a no-show and you will be billed the first night's room and tax.

If I have not filled in a credit card guarantee, my check for \$110.00 (payable to DePrez Travel) is attached to process my form. I understand that my confirmed hotel will apply these funds to my room.

PLEASE NOTE: DEPREZ TRAVEL CANNOT ACCEPT YOUR TAX EXEMPT FORM OR PURCHASE ORDER. YOU MUST PRESENT IT TO YOUR HOTEL AT CHECK-IN.

Personal Registration Form

111th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
August 11-15, 2008
Rochester, NY

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete one (1) registration form for each individual who will attend the convention. The personal registration fee entitles you to: a delegate kit, the convention program, annual minutes, annual report(s), delegate badge, one 1-year subscription to the Lott Carey Herald Magazine, and enrollment in the Mission Study course.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

E-mail address (if any): _____

Please check (✓) one:

Clergy Laymen's League Women's Auxiliary Young Adult (ages 18-35)

Youth (ages 13-17) Hope Missionary (ages 10-12) Hope Missionary (ages 6-9)

Please circle one: MR. MRS. MS. REV. DR.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____ (day) _____ (evening)

Church Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Pastor: _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE CONTACT: TELEPHONE: _____

NAME: _____

Is this your first time attending the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention? YES NO

Did you attend Mission Study Class in 2007, New Orleans, LA? YES NO

	Cost	Quantity	Total
Adult Registration (through June 30, 2008)	60.00	x	=
Late Adult Registration (after July 1, 2008)	75.00	x	=
Youth Registration (ages 6-19 OML Y)	40.00	x	=
Late Youth Registration (after July 1, 2008)	55.00	x	=
Prayer Breakfast (Monday, August 11, 2008, 7:00 a.m.)	25.00	x	=
Community Feast/Banquet (Monday, August 11, 2008, 5:00 p.m.)	40.00	x	=
Musical (Monday, August 11, 2007, 7:30 p.m.)	10.00	x	=
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE			=

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:
LOTT CAREY BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION CONVENTION
111th ANNUAL SESSION
220 I (EYE) STREET, N.E., SUITE 220, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002
ADVANCE PERSONAL REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JULY 1, 2008

TODAY'S DATE	RECEIVED BY	REGISTRATION NO.	AMOUNT RECEIVED

Global Partners in Missions Around the World

- Grenada
- Mozambique
- India - Northern
- South Africa
- Jamaica
- Liberia
- Haiti
- Somalia
- Italy
- Zimbabwe
- Guyana
- Nigeria
- India - Southern
- Uganda and Zambia
- Kenya



Dr. Keith A. Troy
President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President
AveryRevKin@aol.com
(704) 637-0954

To my brothers and sisters in the General Baptist: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

(NIV).

What a wonderful thought to know with assurance that God is merciful. God blesses us so that through us, others will be blessed. The writer in Ecclesiastes noted that some things do change. There is a season for "every activity under heaven" (Ecclesiastes

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

3:1b). Change occurs frequently: from being born to dying ... from planting to uprooting ... from killing to healing ... from tearing down to building up ... from crying to laughing ... from loving to hating ... and so on. Some things do change.

For many who have seen a number of "getting ups and lying downs," dramatic changes have taken place. Many conveniences we take for granted today were non-existent at the beginning of the 20th century (the year 1900). Change is constant. Some things do change! A time traveler from the early 1900's would not recognize the world as it exists today.

And yet, some things do not change. When a woman came to Jesus with an alabaster jar of expensive perfume and poured it on His head, Jesus' disciples became angry and complained (Matthew 26). They concluded that the perfume could have been sold and the

money given to the poor. Jesus replied that the poor would always be around.

Some things do not change! We need food because we get hungry. We need comforting because we experience grief. We need guidance because we get confused. We need compassion and companionship because we get lonely. We need forgiveness and a Savior because we all sin. We need hope because at some point, we all die.

Some things do not change! God's grace, mercy, and love do not change. In Jesus, God's image is not stained and God's power is not weak. God is immutable. In darkness, God is light. In chaos, God is truth. In weakness, God is strength. In death, God is eternal life! Some things do change. God does not! As disciples of Jesus the Christ who strive daily to give thanks and live thankfully, our methods may change, but the goal is still the same: "To Convince the Unconvinced to be

Convinced ... through Education, Missions, and Fellowship." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Are we helpers or hindrances to the cause of Jesus the Christ? State Missions equips and empowers us to be helpers. Some things do not change: State Missions needs your financial support and prayers, NOW! It is my firm belief that the people of God in the General Baptist family will rise up to meet every challenge, every lion's den, every Red Sea, every flaming furnace, every wall, every stronghold that attempts to thwart the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. SEND YOUR SUPPORT FOR STATE MISSIONS TODAY!

"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV). Amen.

Second Vice President - Why Foreign Missions?

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
2nd Vice President
ldynch@ebccharlotte.org
(704) 598-2219



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

Greetings to my Baptist Family. As we continue to serve The Kingdom of God we must keep our focus on the purpose of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Within themselves, missions are a great challenge. For several years the clear definition has escaped many persons, even within the church. Some believe mission work is reduced to an annual day of worship on the church calendar or a small group of members who wear white every now & then. The real power of mission work is discovered from Jesus in Matthew 25:31-46.

Excerpts from Matthew 25:31-46:

³²And before Him shall be gathered all nations, and He shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. ³³And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

³⁴Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, 'Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.....' ⁴¹Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴⁵Then shall He answer them, saying, 'Verily I

say unto you, inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me.' ⁴⁶And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal."

Missions can be said then to be the practice of meeting the needs of humanity. What is true mission work? It is when someone does something for a person in need already knowing that he or she can not pay you back. In this scripture Jesus is making a change in the perspective of the Disciples. He notes the impending judgment that shall come upon all of us at the close of our journey. The judgment has a simple purpose and that is to separate the righteous from the un-righteous. The criterion for separation is in part based upon our service to humankind.

Jesus provides for us a listing of some of the criteria that will be used in our evaluation at the judgment. Feeding of the hungry, water to the thirsty, welcome to the stranger, clothing to the naked, visitation to the sick, ministry to those in prison. Our challenge is to be active within our local churches and Associations in these areas of missions. This charge however goes not only for the local scene but is also given to us on a global level. It is interesting to note that both those on the right and those on the left, neither recognized Jesus within hurting humanity. This remains our challenge to meet the needs of God's children where we recognize Jesus in the crowd or not.

Therefore when we DO MISSIONS we fulfill the mandate of the master and,

when we cease to DO MISSIONS we cease to be the church! Emil Bruner in his book God's Forgetful Pilgrims, Recalling the Church To Its Reason For Being states, ~ "The Church exists by mission as fire exists by burning".

Let us go forward into all the world and DO MISSIONS!

Please also note that servants are needed on the Committee on Foreign Missions. We are in process of completing the Committee on Foreign Missions of the GBSC. If you have a desire to serve please send an e-mail to drlynchnewsletter@yahoo.com with "Foreign Missions Committee Interest" in the subject line.

Please also note that under the direction of 2nd Vice-President, Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch, an E - Newsletter has been established. This newsletter will be distributed to your email inbox several times within the year. If you would like to receive this newsletter please send an e mail to drlynchnewsletter@yahoo.com with "Please add me to the newsletter email list" in the subject line.

OUR 2008 FOREIGN MISSION PROJECT

It was announced at the GBSC Mid-Year Session in Weldon, NC, that we have taken on a 2008 Foreign Mission Project.

We are asking your support for a project to support a missions effort - Samaritans Feet. We are asking you to please lift a special offering during the months of August & September and report these funds at the registration desk during the

Annual Session of the GBSC, October 27 -30, 2008.

Please visit their website www.samaritansfeet.com for further information. Some excerpts are listed below:

About Us

Our History

Samaritan's Feet is an International ministry focused on bringing a life-changing message of hope to youths and children through sports and recreational adventures. We provide relief to hurting people displaced due to poverty, ravaged wars, and religious persecution. We demonstrate compassion by washing and equipping their feet with shoes, and touching their hearts with the love of God.

The vision for Samaritan's Feet was conceived over 23 years ago on one hot summer afternoon at a camp in Lagos, Nigeria when a stranger from Wisconsin befriended a young African boy. The young boy, like so many other children in Africa and around the world had never known the comfort and security of owning a pair of tennis shoe. This "Good Samaritan" gave a life-changing gift and a message of hope to that 9-year old boy. He gave him his first pair of tennis shoe. With that new pair of shoes for inspiration Emmanuel went on to compete in sports activities in Africa. Specifically, he developed a love as well as superior talent for competitive basketball. His skill and confidence continued to flourish; his hard work and determination to succeed

(MISSIONS, cont. page 4)

Church Building Seminar

**HOW TO GET YOUR CHURCH PROJECT BUILT
PRESENTING FINANCING, DESIGN, & CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES**

Saturday, August 10, 2008

**First Baptist Church – Raleigh, NC
101 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601**

10 AM to 12 PM

SEMINAR COST - \$25 PER PERSON BY AUGUST 1, 2008



**The OBSIDIAN Group
Architecture – Project Management**

5540 Centerview Drive Suite 400 • Raleigh, NC 27606 • Tele: (919) 854-5540 • Fax: (919) 854-5582



Baptist Informer
RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: () _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check) New Subscription Renewal Address Change (include old address label)

Number of Years: (check one) 1 Year 2 Years 3 Years

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention
603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 821-7466 • www.gbsc.org

Signature _____

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President
pastorrickbanks@yahoo.com
(252) 335-5035



Rev. Ricky Banks

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1

Law is designed to bring social order. Where law is established, however, one can observe those who

flagrantly disregard its stipulations. Others ignore the penalties, and a few even interfere with its administration.

This response is precisely what happened in Israel as the law God gave to Moses was being administered. Our omniscient God knew His people would disregard the law, so He made that particular system a temporary provision until the nation could be ready for Christ's coming. Only Christ was the one who would give and administer a law that was perfect. His was a law rooted in His sacrificial death and resurrection. Through these acts

"Free From The Law"

of love, He made up for our deficiencies. He brought us into right relationship with God.

The Jewish Christians in the early Church missed this point and raised a problem of such magnitude that it had to be resolved by the leaders in Jerusalem.

Confusion had come about because of human misinterpretation.

Perfect law cannot be manipulated by human judgment. Nor can human ingenuity create a perfect legal system. It can come only from the mind of God, and only under His law can mankind be truly blessed.

"SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL"

ABOUT THE MDIV PROGRAM: The Master of Divinity degree is the normative degree to prepare persons for ordained ministry and for general pastoral and religious leadership responsibilities in congregations and other settings. It is the required degree for admission to the

Doctor of Ministry degree program, and the recommended first theological degree

for admission to advanced programs oriented to theological research and teaching. Students desiring admission may retrieve the application through internet access at www.shawuniversity.edu or by writing to Shaw University Divinity School 118 E. South Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

Shaw University: The Institute for Health, Social, and Community Research's Second Conference on Minority Health

When: Friday, September 26 2008, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Where: Sheraton Raleigh Hotel, Raleigh, NC 27601

Price: \$65.00

Description: Theme: "Charting the Way to Change: Advancements in Health Disparities Research"

In the past 6 years, IHSCR's creative research infrastructure at Shaw University

Scripture: Romans 8:1
There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit.

has enabled it to launch an aggressive research agenda in several areas of health disparities.

The conference will feature a dynamic showcase of the health disparities research conducted at the Institute, and a forum for exploring partnerships and collaborations for addressing health disparities.

The Institute is very pleased to announce that Dr. Harriet A. Washington and Dr. Thomas A. LaVeist will serve as keynote speakers. Dr. Harriet A. Washington is a medical ethicist who is an award-winning medical writer and editor with former appointments at Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health and Stanford University. Dr. Thomas A. LaVeist is the William C. and Nancy F. Richardson Professor in Health Policy, and the Founding Director of the Center for Health Disparities Solutions at Johns Hopkins University. The day promises to be filled with insightful information about health disparities research. Be sure to mark your calendar for this exciting event.

General Registration: \$65.00

Student Registration: \$30.00

\$15 million Fairfield Inn and Suites and Conference Center to be built in Apex

Dr. Vincent Terry
Fourth Vice President
mountpeachbc@aol.com
(919) 807-1194

GBSC Church Pastor and a Faith-based Non-profit Corporation Find a Way to Build a \$15 million Fairfield Inn & Suites and Conference Center in Apex, North Carolina

Invited guests and dignitaries turn the dirt on the site of the new Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott in Apex. A warm, picture perfect day greeting the participants

of the May 29 event.

Apex is getting a \$15 million hotel and its first convention center because a local pastor needed a steady source of money to build homes for poor people and a senior citizens center.

The Rev. Charles Tyner lined up a franchise and funding for the 102-room Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott and adjoining conference center. He plans to use profit from the rooms and meeting rentals to pay for charitable projects and create 60 jobs.

"I told him you have to find a way to

stop begging," joked Abdul Rasheed, chief executive of N.C. Community Development Initiative, a community development nonprofit that is lending money for the hotel and helped Tyner secure the franchise.

Tyner, pastor of Apex's historic White Oak Baptist Church and CEO of the nonprofit White Oak Foundation, previously borrowed money from the Initiative to buy land in Apex where 25 homes for low-income families are under construction.

But Tyner sought continuous revenue for future White Oak Foundation charitable projects including a soup kitchen, instead of coming back for more loans, Rasheed said.

The men and Everett Wallace, who heads the Initiative's lending division, hooked up with Marriott International.

Another nonprofit in Fayetteville was building a hotel, and Wallace introduced Tyner to Marriott executives.

The hospitality chain agreed to sell the White Oak Foundation a Fairfield Inn & Suites franchise at a "significant" discount, said Norman Jenkins, Marriott's senior vice president for North America lodging development.

"It's a pretty unique partnership," said Jenkins, who estimated the hotel and convention center could generate annual profit, it ranging from several hundred thousand

dollars to \$1 million. Actual profit will vary according to how debt is structured and room and meeting room rentals, he said.

The hotel will be owned by White Oak and the investors and operated by a separate management company. Jobs created will range from managers to housekeepers, Wallace said.

The new inn will face plenty of competition when it's completed in about 12 months. Also near the highways' intersection are an 80-room Days Inn, a 64-room Holiday Inn Express and a 64-room Comfort Inn.

A 121-room Value Place extended-stay motel is under construction, and another company is considering a sixth motel at the intersection, said Dianne Khin, Apex's planning director.

But Marriott's Jenkins and other officials said separate marketing studies by Marriott and a White Oak Foundation consultant showed there should be enough business to go around.

"We've got to keep the hotel full, so I can build more homes for poor people," Tyner said. (Dudley Price, The News & Observer, Raleigh, N.C.)



Dr. Vincent J. Terry

(MISSIONS, from page 3)

paid off. He was offered the chance to attend an institution of higher learning in America under a full basketball scholarship! He met his wife, Tracie while attending the University of North Dakota (Lake Region) and he later earned an executive position in a leading technology company. In spite of his successes in America, Emmanuel never forgot the other little boys and girls in Africa who were still living under the strain of poverty, drug abuse, war, gangs and other criminal activity. Determined to help impoverished people in Africa, as well as in Charlotte, North Carolina; the community in which he now resides, Emmanuel left the comfort and security of his executive position to birth the vision of Samaritan's Feet. Through Samaritan's Feet, Emmanuel has the opportunity to continue the legacy of love and hope he received when he was given that pair of shoes. He

has the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of millions.

"Samaritan's Feet" goal is to equip the feet of 10 million impoverished people, with 10 million pairs of shoes, over the next 10 years.

Mission - Be a Samaritan

We bring shoes to the ends of the earth in the Name of Christ who changes lives.

Statement of Purpose

Evangelize, Educate, Encourage, and Enrich the lives of as many people as possible globally, helping them live a life of Legacy through participation in sports and equipping their feet with shoes.

Our Goal

To equip 10 million impoverished children with 10 million shoes in 10 years

To learn more please call toll free 1.866.833.SHOE or e-mail info@samaritansfeet.org.



Woman's Convention

2008 Calendar

AUGUST

Prayer month for The Family
11-15 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign
Mission Convention

SEPTEMBER

8-12 National Baptist
Convention
27 Family Missions
Conference

OCTOBER

Prayer month for Shaw University
and Shaw Divinity School

10 Shaw University Founder's
Day convocation
11 WBSA Institute Workers'
Workshop, Baptist
Headquarters

NOVEMBER

1 Youth Evangelism
Conference
3 World Day of Prayer (BWA
Woman's Dept)
27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 Christmas Day



Bronnie Daniels

Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.

—Jeremiah 9:23

Last month we witnessed the 124th Annual Session of the Woman's Convention and the All Baptist Assembly. Teaching moments, praying moments, giving moments, worshipping moments reminded us, as indicated in the above scriptures that truly we must glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and not ourselves. We are to be about His mis-

"Give HIM (Jesus) the Glory"

Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC
Executive Secretary-
Treasurer
pbrodie@wbhfm.org
(919) 833-4823
Mrs. Bronnie Daniels
(336) 767-6156

sion exercising His lovingkindness, justice and righteousness and not our own mission. We have no other choice if, while standing in His love, we are to convince the unconvinced to adore and serve Him.

"O come, let us adore Him... For

Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee: for thy judgments are made manifest.

—Revelation 15:4

He alone is worthy... Let's praise his name together... We'll give Him all the glory, Christ the Lord."

—John Wade & Frederick Oakeley

We extend thanks to God, our Father in heaven, to the host pastor and church, and to each of you who shared in some way. Let us magnify the Lord Jesus and continue together in His mission for all of us.

Reminders

1. National Convention, USA, Inc.- During the week of September 8-12 2008, will be the 128th Annual Session in Cincinnati, Ohio.
2. Family Missions Conference- Reverend Daniel Lilly and Mitchell Baptist Church, Louisburg, NC 27549 will serve as hosts to the Annual Family Mission Conference on Saturday, September 27, 2008, beginning at 9:00 A.M. Concurrent sessions are planned for Seniors, Young Adults, and Youth. A joint workshop session follows the concurrent sessions.
3. Families who complete the Family Study Guide during August (Family

Month) and attend this Conference will receive "The Family Altar" Certificate.

4. All families across the State are invited to attend and share their sacrificial offering. The offering will be credited to the contributions of the family church to the Woman's Convention.

5. The Youth Evangelism Conference- The Person County Missionary Union may host the Conference which starts at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, November 1, 2008.

6. The fiscal year ends in August 2008. The checks and money orders should be made payable and sent to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home And Foreign Missionary Convention, P. O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

We ask that all churches send their quotas and that all Unions, Auxiliaries, Districts, send their monies to the Executive Office of the Woman's Convention before August 31, 2008.

The 2007-2008 Budget is \$803,325.00, which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Please be reminded that of the funds you send for objectives 2/3 should be sent for State Missions. State Missions funds provide all funds for the cost of all ministries and operations for home missions done with and for you in the conventional statewide ministry.



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

Writers:

Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
Marvin E. Davis
Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
Wheeler L. Jones
T.L. Lewis
Robert L. Malone
Joseph L. Slade
Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-
MAILED OR MAILED
WITHIN 24 HOURS OF
ORIGINAL ORDER!
FOR PRICING SEE
THE WEB SITE!



1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com
Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN



SAVE THE DATE November 15 - 17, 2008

25TH
ANNIVERSARY
Celebration

of our beloved pastor
**Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr., and
First Lady C. Brenda Jones and their family**
All events will be at 3400 Beatties Ford Road.
More details will follow....

The Role of the Sunday School Superintendent

Each congregation configures its educational ministry program in a different way. It would be unrealistic to expect your superintendent to wear all the hats



Johnnie Pettiford
Superintendent
Instructor
East Cedar Grove
Association

listed below. Some hats do not apply to every situation. See which ones fit best and which ones can be shared with others!

2. WELCOMER

This is probably the most important task of the superintendent and often the one most frequently overlooked. Students, parents and teachers alike deserve to be greeted in the hallway with a warm smile and a friendly good morning. A newcomer or visitor will especially appreciate this welcome when it is followed by help in finding a classroom, introductions to teachers and students, and help in locating other parts of the church such as the nursery, restrooms, fellowship hall, sanctuary, and even the telephone.

3. COORDINATOR

In any organization, it is important that at least one person is designated as an over all coordinator and contact person. This is the person who keeps the program running smoothly and appears to have all the information or at least knows how to get it. For a Sunday school superintendent, coordination means planning, scheduling, communicating, staffing, managing supplies and delegating responsibilities to others. In order to do this the superintendent works closely with the Christian education committee and the pastor. When teachers or parents have questions, supplies and equipment are needed or someone must be contact-

ed in the case of an emergency, it is reassuring that the superintendent is designated as that person. Members of the congregation also should know to whom to direct their comments and concerns.

4. RECRUITER

Ideally, the task of recruiting Sunday School teachers does not fall to one person but be shared by many. The superintendent can, however, play a significant role in recruitment by suggesting names of those who may make good teachers. Often the superintendent is the person who meets the parents or receives telephone calls from other interested members in the congregation. Recruitment is not limited to teachers. The wise superintendent is a careful listener who invites participation by those with a variety of skills. Someone may not want to teach Sunday school but would love to build bookshelves, or demonstrate an advent craft, or help with toddler snack time. Keep an ear open and welcome those opportunities.

5. CURRICULUM MANAGER

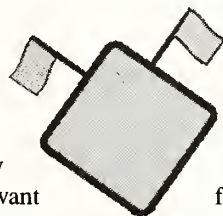
Once the education committee or a curriculum selection team has decided upon which curriculum to use, management and maintenance of the curriculum is a relatively simple task for the superintendent. Keep in mind:

- -your Sunday school records will tell you how much curriculum to order for each class
- -allow enough time for the materials to arrive and for the teachers to plan lessons
- -ask teachers to notify you if additional items are needed
- -determine how left over materials will be used

- -if you are using team teachers, will your budget allow one copy of the leaders guide for each teacher or will they have to share?

6. EQUIPMENT KEEPER

Nothing pleases a teacher more than to enter a classroom where the audiovisual equipment is set up and ready to use. Communication is the key to that picture. At the beginning of the year, it would be helpful for each teacher to have a listing of available audio visual equipment and a list of any cassettes (audio and video), films or filmstrips that are accessible. It is the responsibility of the teacher to request any equipment or media supplies at least two weeks in advance. A simple request form is helpful in facilitating this. Keep extension cords and spare light bulbs for projectors on hand. House all the audio visual equipment in the same closet or cupboard. Teachers and others in the congregation will be more likely to return any equipment to its proper place if they know where it belongs. Label all equipment including those elusive extension cords with a reminder such as Please Return to the First Floor Closet.



7. COMMUNICATOR

What is happening in Sunday school needs to be shared with the entire congregation and likewise what is going on in other areas of congregational life can be enhanced through the Sunday school. This can only happen if someone works hard to see that communication is consistent and correct. Suggested vehicles for communication include:

- -a monthly letter to parents describing upcoming events
- -a one page teacher newsletter
- -temple talks done by the children!
- -regular coordination with the church calendar
- -recommendations to the Christian Education Ministry and/or church council
- -a "What's happening in our Sunday school" column in the congregational newsletter
- -reminders in the church bulletin
- -bulletin boards and displays

8. ARCHITECT

Classrooms should be clean, well lighted and ventilated with furniture that is sturdy, safe and the proper size for the students. Make sure electrical outlets and switches are well maintained. Report any problems to the custodial staff or the property committee. Transform a dull classroom into one that is cheery and engaging by using colorful posters, banners, mobiles, displays, and live plants. Clean restrooms are a must.

9. SCAVENGER

A teacher sees an empty egg carton and visualizes an art project. Another teacher quickly retrieves a piece of carpet destined for the trash barrel, thinking it would be perfect for story time in the first grade Sunday school class. A superintendent who can see ordinary items through the eyes of a creative teacher will be cherished! Check with businesses or manufacturers in your area to see if they might donate scraps and left over articles for your craft closet. It is especially helpful if teachers take the time to advise the superintendent in advance that particular hard to find items will be needed. Don't be afraid to put a "want-ad" in the congregational newsletter.

10. DELEGATOR

A good coordinator is an even better delegator. The hats your Sunday school superintendent may wear can easily be shared with others. A helpful exercise is for the Christian education ministry including the superintendent to list on newsprint all the tasks required for an effective Sunday school program in your congregation.

10. FAITHFUL CHRISTIAN

Often when we are so busy attending to the needs of others we fail to leave time for our own spiritual yearnings. A Sunday school superintendent who spends time in worship, family devotions or other forms of personal faith rejuvenation is better equipped to put on these various hats with depth, enthusiasm, commitment and sensitivity. Give your superintendent a day off periodically to attend the adult Sunday school class!

Let's Get Organized!

Once you've tried a few hats on for size and you feel ready action, ask the time honored questions of.. Why? Who? What? Where? When? How? Now add one more...what if?

Other questions that will help create a frame work for your Sunday school are...

- How does our Sunday school fit in with the total mission of the congregation?
- How does our Sunday school relate to all areas of congregation life?
- How are parents involved as partners in Sunday School?
- How does our Sunday school relate to the community we live in?
- Who are we overlooking or leaving out, as we plan for Sunday School?
- Are we attentive to our learners with special needs?

(Written by: Diane Monroe and Miriam Campbell)

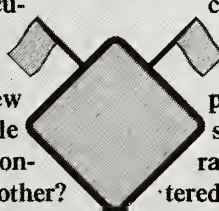
How to Choose Sunday School Curriculum

1. **Biblical integrity:** Is the Bible treated with respect and authority? Are the stories consistent with Scripture? Is biblical art accurate? Baptist Doctrine?
2. **Scope and sequence:** Are both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible taught? Is there a heavy concentration on one or the other? What Bible stories are taught? Is the material appropriate for the age level?
3. **Theological integrity and compatibility:** What views do the resources demonstrate about God, Jesus, the Bible, humanity, sin, grace and forgiveness? Are these

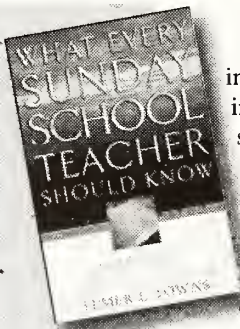
views compatible with those of our congregation?

4. **Inclusiveness:** Are persons of color portrayed in stories and activities? Are there gender stereotypes? Are persons with disabilities shown in active ministry, rather than only being ministered to?

5. **Teaching styles:** Are there a variety of activities in each lesson? Does the material encompass all learning styles at some time during the quarter? Are children offered choices? Are the activities creative and do they allow the children to express their own feelings?



Whether you recruit Sunday school teachers---or have just been recruited---this essential guide gives teachers the needed confidence to joyfully embrace their role. A leading expert on Christian education, *Towns offers a quick and easy guide to preparing and presenting a dynamic Bible lesson---even on short notice! Ideal for beginner and refresher training*



What Every Sunday School Teacher Should Know

ing. Opportunities for Christian teaching, even Bible reading, in public schools are becoming fewer and fewer. A well-informed church membership of the future must be rooted in the well-taught membership of the present.

Qualities of the Effective Teacher

The following acrostic suggests some of the necessary qualities of an effective teacher.

T—teaches ability. An effective teacher is willing to learn. S/He seeks new information, tries new methods, and continues to grow.

E—example. An effective teacher, especially in the Sunday school, must be a worthy example of what s/he is teaching. He can say with Paul, "You know yourselves how you ought to copy our example" (2 Thessalonians 3:7, The New English Bible).

A—attitude. An effective teacher is positive. S/He believes that s/he is doing God's work. S/He really wants to teach.

C—commitment. An effective teacher is committed first to the Lord Jesus Christ, to His Word, the Bible, and to the ministry of sharing Jesus with people.

H—sense of humor. An effective teacher has a healthy sense of humor. S/He may not be a witty person, but s/he appreciates the humor of h/his students and circum-

stances.

E—enthusiasm. An effective teacher has a zest for living, a joy in the Christian life, and the enthusiasm to share h/his joy with his class.

R—good relationships with people. An effective teacher understands that h/his goal is to help individuals to know the Lord. Therefore, s/he loves people and builds personal relationships with them. S/He is interested in people and is sensitive to their needs. S/He never forgets that h/his message is to and for people.

Responsibilities of the Teacher

The Bible explicitly states the duties of an effective Christian teacher.

1. Study God's Word carefully and consistently. "Try hard to show yourself worthy of God's approval, as a laborer who need not be ashamed; be straightforward in your proclamation of the truth" (2 Timothy 2:15, The New English Bible). The reason is evident—that pupils will be introduced to Jesus Christ. The curriculum is God's Word, brought alive by a growing, developing Christian teacher.

2. Be willing to do whatever is necessary to be an effective teacher. "Take your share of hardship, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. A soldier on active service will not let himself be involved in civilian affairs; he must be wholly at his commanding officer's disposal" (2 Timothy

2:3, 4, The New English Bible.)

3. Be an example. "In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned" (Titus 2:7, 8, New International Version). The effective teacher's words and behavior are in harmony.

4. Be prepared. "Hold the Lord Christ in reverence in your hearts. Be always ready with your defence whenever you are called to account for the hope that is in you, but make that defence with modesty and respect" (1 Peter 3:15, The New English Bible).

5. Know your pupils. Take the time to get to know each person in your class, so that you can teach him what he really needs to learn.

6. Teach with purpose and for a decision. Bible teaching is more than mere impartation of facts. In the New Testament, teaching is always the presentation of information in a way that requires people to make a decision about it, Jesus called for a response from the learner; an effective teacher does the same.

What Every Sunday School Teacher Should Know.
By: Elmer L. Towns
Introduction to Christian Education by Eleanor Daniel, John W. Wade, and Charles Gresham, © 1980 by THE STANDARD PUBLISHING Company, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The effectiveness of the educational program in the Sunday school depends, to a great extent, on the teacher. The effectiveness of the teacher in his/her task is often the difference between a lesson well learned and a lesson not learned by the pupil. Teaching, guiding the experiences of the pupils, is the chief function of the Sunday school. The effectiveness of a live-wire superintendent and a well organized Sunday school amount to naught without an effective teacher. The Christian education of boys and girls, men and women, is more and more the total responsibility of the church. Changes in home life have pointed to less direct emphasis in the home on Christian teach-

**When you can't come to us,
our mobile showroom will come to you!**

**Coordinating
Group Outfits
from Head-to-Toe!
Suits
Shirt/Tie Sets
Shoes**

**On-Site Group
Fittings!**



**Suit Sizes to 80
Shirt Sizes to 22**

**Call to Schedule
a Showing!**

Suits with Brand
Names such as:
**Tayion
Stacy Adams
Falcone**

ROWE'S
MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

New Sunday School Classes

When was the last time your church created a new Sunday School class? Creating a new class is not an easy task.



Helen Thompson

However, your church will be hard pressed to experience sustained growth without the creation of new classes.

Consider the following example: Find a church that has the same number of classes that they had five years ago and you will find a church that has not significantly increased their average Sunday School attendance. This may be true of your Sunday School.

Churches with growing Sunday Schools tend to start new classes as a strategy for encouraging new growth. Leaders in these churches understand that a new class enlarge the organizational base, offer opportunities for inactive members to make a fresh start, reach age groups that may not have assimilated, and often result in numerical growth. Creation of new class requires leadership.

1. Bible study groups exist to help the church enlarge the possibilities for reaching more people (Isaiah 54:1-2). Throughout God's Word believers are encouraged to enlarge their work, to go after new people for Christ. New classes help the Sunday School keep at the forefront the purpose of the Sunday School in

continually reaching out and enlarging it work.

2. New Bible study groups create even greater focus on people that need to be reached.

A new Bible study group can be started with a small core of committed leaders, including a teacher and outreach-evangelism leader. This core group needs to see the work of the new class as an opportunity to be a part of an intentional effort to reach people for Christ through Bible study who are not being reached currently.

3. The creation of new class enlarges the organizational base of the Sunday School, thus enabling it to grow naturally without sacrificing quality.

Any structure, any organization can support just a certain amount of "weight" before it implodes. Sunday Schools that do not add new classes tend to get overwhelmed with the ministry to those they have already reached and give their primary focus to their current members. Sunday Schools that start new classes are able to give balanced focus concentrating on reaching new people and providing effective ministry to those they have already reached.

4. New classes grow more quickly than older established classes.

History has proven that new classes grow faster than older classes. Normally a class will find its greatest growth during the first two years. One reason for faster

growth is that the new class has clearly established that it is trying to reach new people and understands who it is trying to reach. The leaders and participants in new classes usually give greater focus to reaching out to new people.

5. New classes are easier for newcomers to penetrate.

Long established relationships and long formed groups often make it difficult for new persons to feel fully included. This often happens even though the class is very caring. A New class include a variety of new relationships and new patterns that allow new people to feel equally involved and equally important to the group.

6. New classes tend to be more evangelistic.

New classes tend to give greater focus to unchurched unsaved people. Leaders and members are focused on building the new class and the purpose of the Sunday School class. These Classes clearly know who they are trying to reach. New classes tend to be "on-mission."

7. The creation of new class engages more people in leadership.

Every time a new class is started there are a new set of leaders engaged in and committed to the mission of the Sunday School. A New class give greater focus to the target being reached by a group of leaders.

8. New Bible study groups are central to training and engaging others to be strong in grace and to teach them to teach others. (2 Timothy 2:1-2)

The pattern of growth in the Sunday School should follow the pattern of 2 Timothy. Teachers in Sunday School should teach in a way that sees members mature in their faith and engage themselves in teaching others. New classes provide opportunities and encouragement for believers to begin to teach and serve.

As you give focus to starting new

Ushers' Convention

Officers (2006-2010)

Helen M. Thompson, President
(910) 488-5322n

Charles W. Dunn,
1st Vice President

2nd Vice President
Archie T. Lofton, Jr.

3rd Vice President
Norman H. Dorsey, Sr.

4th Vice President
Valerie Singleton

Mary Belle, Recording Secretary

Viola N. Thorton,
Assist Recording Secretary

Martin Clowney, Dean

Charlie Rhodes, Assistant Dean
Youth Supervisors: Felton Davis
Charlie Rhodes

State Coordinator
Nancy High

2008 Calendar of Events

August 16, 2008

Ushers Executive Board Meeting
10 00 am - Baptist Headquarter

October 18, 2008

Ushers Executive Board
Baptist Headquarters, Raleigh NC

October 28-29, 2008

GBSC Annual Session

November 7-8, 2008

Sunday School classes, you will also be giving great focus to the scriptural focus of the work of the church and the work of the Sunday School.

(Sunday School Attendance Boosters: 165
Fresh and New Ideas by Group Publishing
(LifeWay: Biblical Solutions for Life

The General Baptist State Ushers Convention

will convene with the

**General Baptist State Convention All Baptist Assembly
at the Benton Convention Center Winston Salem, NC
on Tuesday, July 29, 2008 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Ushers, please be in accordance to the State Uniform dress code: white uniform of common styles for women, with white gloves, white shoes, and state pin; black or dark blue dress suits for men, with white shirt, black or dark blue tie, black shoes, white gloves, and state pin.

Each church and Association has been asked to support our Assessment of \$400.00. Please ask your church to send this donation to one of our sessions or mail it to Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601, (919) 821-7466; (919) 836-0061 (fax); (800) 639-GBSC (4272); GBSCofNC@aol.com. Ushers, please continue to financially support the Convention with your individual \$10.00 registration fee.

Sincerely,

Bro. Wm. L. Pointer, Jr.

Bro. William Pointer, Jr.

Co-Chairman Publicity Committee

Reporter to the Baptist Informer

GBSUC Executive Board, P.O. Box 1107, Oxford, N.C. 27565

(919) 693-5019

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

***FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details**

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

The Sunday School Organization and Administration

Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor
(919) 821-7466
gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net
portiabrandon@hotmail.com

Sunday School Leadership Team

The Sunday school Leadership Team comprised of the pastor and general officers of the Sunday school shall have oversight of the operation of the Sunday school. The Sunday School Leadership Team shall meet monthly to evaluate, set goals, plan, and implement the ministries of the Sunday school.



Portia H.
Brandon

The entire Sunday school organization is amenable to the pastor and official church leadership. The superintendent shall coordinate its personnel and operation.

The Bible

The textbook of the Sunday School is the Bible. The purpose of the Sunday school is to teach the Bible. The business of the Sunday school superintendent is to see that the Bible is used by every officer, teacher, and pupil in the Sunday school.

Budget Policy

The annual budget shall be projected each year by the Sunday school Leadership Team as part of the church's central budget. All expenditures are to be made by the church treasurer after being approved by the superintendent. This budget, both as to actual income and expenditures, shall be reviewed by the Sunday School Leadership Team at their monthly meeting.

Planning and Evaluating

The Sunday School Leadership Team shall conduct an annual planning session during June or July of each year.

Records

The Sunday School Leadership Team shall communicate to the secretary and each teacher what records are to be maintained, for how long, and who will be responsible for their compilation and custody.

Organizing the School

The Sunday school will be organized into departments and classes. These divisions will be based on need and shall be determined by age, grade, or interest.

Association Support

The Sunday School Leadership Team will comply with the policy of the Association Sunday school Ministry concerning their Sunday School's financial responsibility. The Sunday school will show their support of the Association Sunday school ministry in

other ways such as attending conferences and conventions.

Staffing Policy

The pastor and church leadership shall appoint the offices of superintendent.

Appointment to all positions shall be for one year or the remainder of the unexpired term. All appointments shall terminate with the last day of the Sunday school year and all new terms of office shall begin immediately thereafter. The following criteria will be considered in appointment of all officers and staff members: Saved, baptized in water, Holy Spirit filled or seeking, private devotional life, acceptable conduct, showing a proper attitude in stewardship, faithfulness, cooperation, spiritual concern, teachable, desire to improve, loyalty to the church services and Sunday school sessions, completion of a prescribed staff training program and/ or willingness to pursue additional training.

Individuals will be asked to serve who manifest a high degree of Christian maturity, are able to communicate well, and have appropriate teaching skills or interests in learning them.

Ministry Descriptions

A written ministry description will be developed for all staff positions. The Sunday School Leadership Team shall review the ministry descriptions annually for revisions and updating.

Teachers will be encouraged to know and understand the emotional, physical, mental, and social needs of each pupil. This will include such areas as family relationships, activities and involvement inside and outside the church, educational level, employment, and personal data. The teacher should know the spiritual experience and progress of each student.

Recruitment

The Sunday School Leadership Team shall strive to comply with the following steps in their recruiting efforts: (1) a systematic search of the congregation for potential staff members, (2) a personal interview with the prospective staff member discussing the requirements of the assignment, (3) a period of time for the prospective staff member discussing the requirements of the assignment, (4) a period of time for the prospective staff member to observe and pray concerning the ministry position, (5) initial and periodic training made available.

A public installation of all officers and staff members shall be conducted during the church installation of new officers. Retiring staff members shall be recognized for their faithfulness and contributions.

Training

The Sunday School Leadership Team shall devise ongoing and continuous programs of staff training such as Association training, and the One Day Session of Congress of Christian Education, February 2009. Opportunities to attend state conferences, national conventions, and seminars will be given to staff members. Current resource materials such as age-level handbooks and staff training books shall be made available to staff members.

At least six staff conferences shall be conducted and shall include instruction, inspiration, communication, and planning.

A staff achievement program shall be offered to each staff member. Proper recognition shall be given to all staff members who attain the goals of the achievement program.

Goals

The Sunday School Leadership Team shall establish enrollment and attendance goals with at least a ten percent increase.

The Sunday School Leadership Team is responsible to analyze growth patterns, project future growth, develop plans to reach those goals, evaluate growth factors (gains vs. losses, etc.) and take appropriate steps to implement plans.

Enrollment

A prospective member will be enrolled the first Sunday he/she attends and/ or expresses a desire to be enrolled. No person will be removed from the enrollment unless he is deceased, moves away, identifies with another church, or requests it. No person shall be removed from the enrollment without review by the Sunday School Leadership Team.

Evangelism

All records of decisions for Christ will be carefully maintained so that adequate follow-up of new believers can be accomplished.

Special training on classroom evangelism shall be provided at least once a year for all staff members.

Provide at least one training program for new converts.

Conduct at least one outreach campaign annually to reach people of all age groups.

Follow-up

The following steps can be of assistance in establishing proper "follow-up" procedure in the local Sunday school:

1. The Sunday school secretary (class secretary or visitation secretary in larger schools) shall keep accurate records of attendance patterns of each pupil. A list of absentees, visitors and newly enrolled pupils should

Portia Brandon
June 2008
Itinerary

Dates / Purpose

June 7, 2008

Cedar Hill MBC
Rev. Roy Gray
Church Adm Workshop
9:00-11:00 am

June 10, 2008

Baptist Informer
Benson, NC

June 16-29, 2008

National Baptist Congress
of Christian
Education
Louisville, Kentucky

June 23-25, 2008

GBSC Oratorical Contest
Fayetteville, NC

June 28, 2008

Franklin County Sunday
School Convention
Union Grove MBC
Bro George Harris
Youngsville, NC
Sunday School Workshop

June 30-July 2, 2008

(3) Vacation Days

be given weekly to the pastor and superintendent. These lists shall be reviewed (monthly or weekly in the larger school) by Sunday School Leadership Team to note patterns and trends.

2. All visitors shall receive a personal letter or visit from the teacher by the following Wednesday. The purpose of the contact is to express appreciation for the visit and to invite the person to be enrolled in the class. If the visitor is from out of town or attends another Sunday school, he or she will not be invited to enroll.

3. In marking the roll, the teacher and/or class secretary will indicate the reason for the absence, if known. Among these would be vacation, visiting relatives, illness, or pattern absence such as children whose divorced parents have joint custody. Upon a first absence, with known reason, the teacher, class leader, or a class member will send a postcard or personal note with an appropriate message. If the reason for the absence is not known, the teacher will make a phone call or visit with the pupil or parents.

4. A second consecutive absence will require a personal contact, either by

phone. This may be made by the teacher, class leader, or a member of the class.

5. Appropriate forms will be used to report to the Sunday school secretary when contacts have been made and include the results of the visit. The pastor will be informed of situations which require a pastoral visit.

Space and Equipment

The Sunday School Leadership Team shall evaluate the facilities and strive to provide the appropriate space required for each age level.

The church shall strive to provide adequate facilities for both the present and future needs of the Sunday school. Rooms shall be properly maintained, heated, lighted, and identified. Proper teaching aids shall be provided for each teacher.

Every attempt will be made to upgrade all facilities, furnishings, teaching aids, and audiovisual equipment.

Resource Center

Projected and non projected materials and equipment will be stored in a resource center.

The Sunday School Leadership Team will appoint a person to monitor purchases and distribution of equipment.

Curriculum

The Sunday School Leadership

Team will evaluate curriculum needs at least once a year. The secretary shall be responsible for ordering all materials after consulting with each teacher as to the needs for the quarter.

Every teacher and worker shall be expected to use the Bible in the classroom. Proper curriculum materials will be provided for each teacher and student. Specialized studies in harmony with church doctrine may be selected. Such studies must be approved by the Sunday School Leadership Team.

THE PASTOR'S PROMOTION IS AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY

Not only is it important for the pastor to promote Sunday school attendance and soul winning, it is imperative. The pastor must take the leadership in organizing and implementing the Sunday School Ministry.

It will be helpful if the pastor promote Sunday school, mid-week Bible Study, Bus Ministry and Training Union through h/his sermons each and every Sunday. Talk to members one-on-one in enlisting them for the teaching ministries of the church and in getting them to participate in soul winning. We cannot over-emphasize the absolute necessity of the pastor's leadership in every aspect of the church growth ministries for the church.

ENCOURAGE DEACONS AND AUXILIARY LEADERS SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTERS

1. Sunday school Involvement - Leaders must understand that their need for knowledge of CHRIST and HIS work never ends. Members will learn this from seeing leaders in action. Classes for leaders must be required if leaders are to be equipped to lead. Sunday school should be required for all auxiliary leaders.

Do the deacons, auxiliary heads and members attend Sunday school themselves? As leaders, they are to take the lead in every area of church ministry. If the answer to this question is no, these things should be done:

- a. Pastor and Superintendent should speak to each leader individually to encourage support and participation in the Sunday school ministry.
- b. Encourage them to recruit other deacons and auxiliary members to attend Sunday school on a regular basis.
- c. Have them share with the Sunday school staff some suggestions for Sunday school growth in the Sunday school monthly meetings.
- d. Get them involved in the planning and implementation of the Sunday

school Ministry after adequate training.

1. The overall objective JESUS gave to the church is the common objective of its auxiliaries: The Master's mandate to the Church upon HIS departure was to "go", "preach", "teach" and "baptize", (Matthew 28:19,20, Acts 1:8). The main objective and aim of the Christian church is to go "Get'em", "Preach to'em" and "Teach'em" what the Lord commanded.

The church's auxiliaries and individual members must develop their working objectives from overall objectives which the Lord has set for HIS church. Therefore, every auxiliary and each individual must set reaching, preaching and teaching as their primary working objective. The choirs, deacons, trustees, ect., should organize and implement plans for winning and training souls in the WORD (II Timothy 2:15; Matthew 28:19-20). The Sunday School is one of the best ways by which the church and its auxiliaries can achieve these objective.

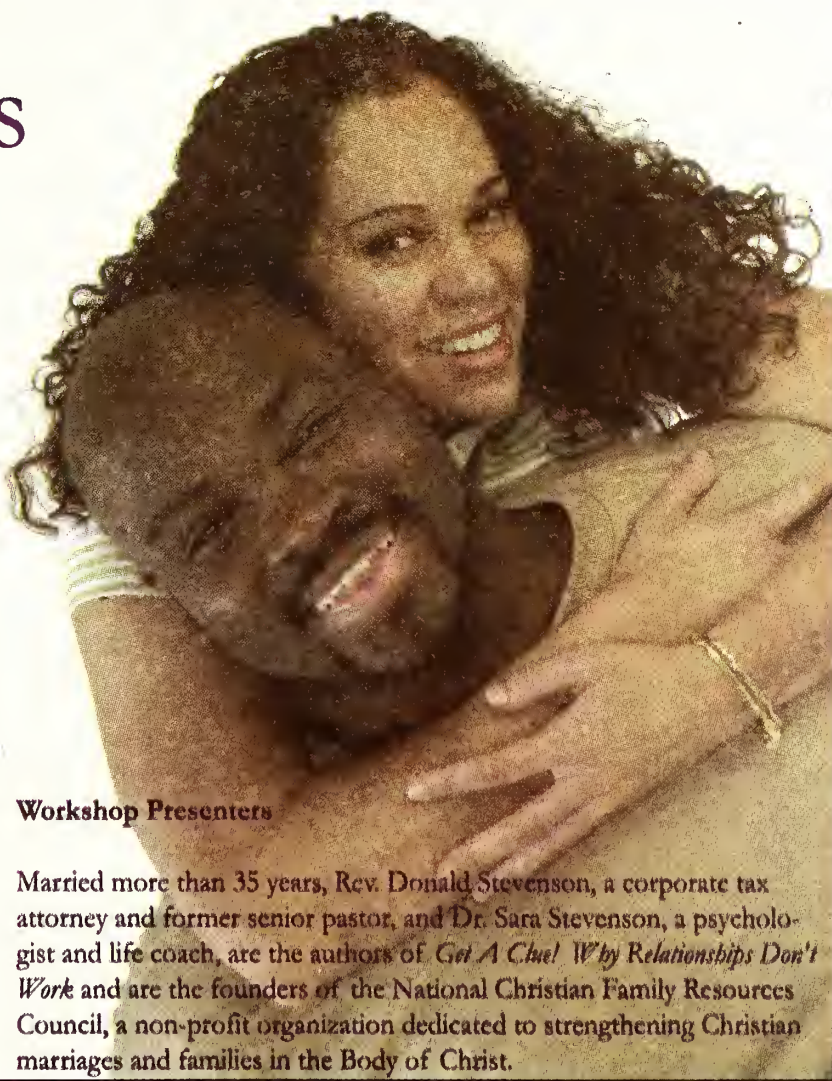
(Black Church Growth Thru Sunday School, Dr. T E Diamond

A New Model for Sunday School by Melissa Armstrong

A Church Using its Sunday School- J N Barnette)

Making Relationships Work . . . God's Way

Pastor, let us bring our exciting, dynamic, Bible-based workshop to your congregation. The workshop is designed for singles, married couples and anyone seeking a fulfilling, Christ-centered marriage. The workshop is absolutely free! You provide the place and participants and we'll do the rest. We provide all materials and we will even help you promote the workshop in your local media. Call us today toll-free at 866-463-1760 or visit us at www.NCFRCministry.org and let us help you enhance marriages and relationships in your congregation.



Workshop Presenters

Married more than 35 years, Rev. Donald Stevenson, a corporate tax attorney and former senior pastor, and Dr. Sara Stevenson, a psychologist and life coach, are the authors of *Get A Clue! Why Relationships Don't Work* and are the founders of the National Christian Family Resources Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Christian marriages and families in the Body of Christ.

GBSC NC Laymen's League

LEADERSHIP

Theodore David, President
 Richmond Turner, First VP
 Gregory Gabriel, Second VP
 James Jeter, Third VP
 William Pointer, Jr., Fourth VP
 Mr. Samuel Greene, Secretary
 Mr. Nathaniel Daniels, Treasurer
 Joseph J. Scott, Youth President
 Tedric Taylor, Youth VP
 James Burt, Youth Secretary
 Darrell Cozart, Asst. Secretary

Calendar of Events

August 23, 2008

Scouting Camporee, Location, TBA

September 13, 2008

Laymen's Men's Retreat
 Nicey Grove Miss. Bapt. Church
 Marshville, NC
 Pastor, Dr. M.L. Kaufman

September 26-28, 2008

Walter Cade Jr., SE Regional
 Laymen's Workshop, Greenville, SC

October 11, 2008

Youth Laymen's Mini Skills
 Temple Memorial Baptist Church
 High Point, NC
 Pastor - Rev. Thomas A. Banister III

December 13, 2008

Study Commission Meeting
 Gethsemane MBC
 Salisbury, NC
 Pastor - Dr. Clary Phelps

Develop Soul Winners

- 1. Get organized.** Implement a structure for reaching the lost and leading people to Christ.
- 2. Create an evangelistic mindset.** Discuss regularly how learners can be more evangelistic. Build evangelistic emphases into your lessons.
- 3. Set an example.** Get involved regularly in outreach and evangelism efforts.
- 4. Maintain a class prospect file.** Identify the names and necessary information of persons who have visited your church recently who could be assigned as prospects to your class.
- 5. Follow up on newcomers.** Someone from your class should visit each newcomer within the first two days after that first visit.
- 6. Plan outreach fellowship activities.** Each fellowship event should be an outreach event as well.
- 7. Make an intentional personal commitment.** Each of us must make a willful decision to become a soul-winner.
- 8. Seek God's help.** Prayer and taking steps of faith will lead to witnessing opportunities

Getting More Men Involved in Sunday School

Mr. Theodore David, President
 N. C. Baptist State Laymen's League
 (919) 508-5468

The Laymen's League is the organization of men in Baptist Church. It is the channel through which laymen make their best and most effective contribution to the life and work of the church which includes the Sunday school. It is an effect by saved men to reach unsaved men for God, for Christ, and for his church.

Men have been accused for many years of abdicating their role as leaders in the Sunday school and church. Certainly there are many men who have accepted - indeed, stood out as - key leaders in their Sunday school. But men cannot avoid the reality: too many of us have not stepped forward as spiritual leaders in our homes or churches.

Laymen have tremendous opportunities to serve their Sunday school, please consider the following:

- **Focus on Christ.** Jesus must be the heart and soul of whatever we do in building our participation in Sunday School. Jesus' command toward spiritual maturity must be the foundation.
- **Focus on prayer.** Seeking God's leadership requires constant, dedicated prayer

that connects us with God. Prayer must be both a source of wisdom and direction.

- **Focus on gifts and skills.** Each Christian man has at least one spiritual gift that God has given him for use in His church. Sunday school training helps him identify, develop, and use their spiritual gifts in Christian service. We also must help men discover opportunities to use their skills and talents to help others in and outside the church.

- **Focus on balance.** Not everyone will be at the same level spiritually, emotionally, biblically, or even in their ability to lead their Sunday school. Identify levels of growth and needs, and then plan ways to address each need as following:

- Evangelizing the lost and bringing men into the church
- Helping men grow toward spiritual maturity
- Equipping men for ministry
- Involving men in missions

- **Focus on communication.** What men are doing should not be a secret. Discover ways to communicate with others in and outside the Sunday school about the role of men in your church and what your church is doing to help men and their families.

- **Focus on evaluation.** No ministry in

any Sunday school should be exempt from periodic evaluation. Evaluation should be constant as well as strategic - ongoing as well as annual. Know what is working well and what needs improvement. Identify strengths and weaknesses.

Laymen's League in the local church strives to discover talent among the men, and lead them to offer themselves to work of the church through:

1. The Sunday school
2. The Baptist Training Union
- 3 The Mid-Week Prayer Service
- 4 The Choirs of the Church
5. Serving on the Official Board
6. The Usher Board
7. Public Forums and Seminars
2. Men's Day Observances
9. Brotherhood Week Observance
10. Father's Day Observance
11. A week of training for Baptist Men in Church
12. Participation in local Civic and Social Issues
13. An active Stewardship Emphasis
14. Participation in the State Laymen's League



Theodore David

The Sunday School and Bible Evangelism



Dr. Robert McGowen,
 GBSC Evangelism Chair

Reaching the Lost

Wherever the Sunday school has been adequately organized and the organization used, lost people have been reached. There are many lost enrolled in the Junior and Intermediate classes of the Sunday schools. In well-organized and properly functioning Sunday schools, the majority of the Junior and Intermediates have been reached.

Boys and girls are easy to reach for the Sunday school, and churches will be wise to see that the Sunday school is organized and functions to reach all the boys and girls in the community for Bible study. If the Juniors and younger Intermediates are brought into the Sunday school, taught the Bible, and led into the preaching service, a church has an opportunity to win them to Christ.

On the other hand, there are very few lost enrolled in the Young People's and Adult classes. At the first glance this would seem to indicate that the Sunday schools are winning the boys and girls to Christ before they leave the Junior and Intermediate classes. True in part, but in part only.

The fact that there are few lost people enrolled in the Young People's and Adult classes is one of the most serious indictments that can be brought against these two groups. The cause for this serious condition is usually a lack of proper administration. Lost Young People and Adults can be reached. Wherever the administrative leaders have organized a sufficient number of classes for Young People and Adults, and then have trained the workers, including the class officers, large numbers of unsaved Young People and Adults have been brought into the Sunday school.

The Sunday school officers and teachers should be led to see that they are responsible for those not enrolled in the Sunday school just as much as for those who are enrolled.

The present churches can reach many lost people through mission Sunday schools. There is a great need for the present churches to foster mission Sunday schools. Baptist churches must accept their responsibility for the people living beyond the church communities. The greatest percentage of lost people are living outside of the areas recognized by churches as their territory. Each church should seek through Sunday schools to reach out to a point halfway to the next Baptist church.

Preaching service as a 'means of winning the lost to Christ.

One of the great needs of Sunday school officers and teachers is to realize the eternal worth of preaching, both for themselves and for their pupils. All of the officers and teachers should have a compassion for the lost and a right evaluation of the preaching service as a place for public confession.

Every individual above Nursery age who attends the Sunday school should hear the Word of God preached. The Beginners and Primaries may sit with their parents for the preaching service. It is of the utmost importance that the Juniors and Intermediates should attend regularly the preaching service. The Young People and the fathers and mothers should have a sense of shame and guilt if they go away just as the preaching service is beginning. When they do go away, by their example they are saying to the lost people and to the boys and girls that they do not feel a need for the preaching service or that they count it of little value.

The Sunday School is the longest arm of the church. This is true because it provides evangelism for all ages. The Sunday School has the evangelistic objective, and the equipment for winning the lost Christ.

Educating the Children

Deacon James Faison
President, Sunday School Convention
Kenansville Eastern Missionary Baptist
Sunday School Convention



James Faison

Teaching, Reaching and Ministering Preschoolers

Do you know the languages of childhood? On the day of Pentecost, the disciples learned the importance of speaking the languages of those we desire to teach. Preschoolers speak the language of fantasy. They like to play superhero, listen to make-believe stories, and they want to believe in Santa Claus no matter what you tell them. They cannot distinguish truth from "just pretend." When they tell you they did not break the lamp, they are not really lying. They are telling you what they wish to be true. "Very young preschoolers will believe that a hand puppet is alive even if you show them your hand inside the puppet.

Preschoolers are learning to recognize colors and can identify broad categories of skin color; although they do not yet understand the concept of race. When Black preschoolers comment on skin color speak positively about their color. Explain that God made all colors of skin and He loves each one.

We can speak the fantasy language of preschoolers when we tell them Bible stories. They will believe all the wonderful, miraculous stories of our all-powerful God, His Son Jesus, and all

that Jesus did. "We can tell preschoolers that Jesus is always with them, even though they cannot see Him. Jesus is there, but He is invisible. He is so big and so strong that He created everything of beauty in our world just by saying the words. We tell preschoolers make-believe stories, and they hear too many untrue things on TV. But they will soon learn to tell the difference between our fantastic God and the world of fantasy. They can tell what things are true by sensing our faith in what cannot be seen but is the absolute truth. On the Day of Pentecost, people of many languages were astonished to hear the disciples declaring the wonders of God in their own tongues (Acts 2:11). God is able to help us speak the language of preschoolers to communicate God's wonders to them.

Teaching, Reaching and Ministering Primaries

Primaries are learning a new language. They are very interested in categorizing what is real and what is just pretend. When they discover that Santa Claus is make-believe, they want to know if the Easter Bunny and the Tooth

Fairy are make believe as well. The language of primaries is the language of laws. Primaries know that there are rules to games, even if they do not want to follow them. They know that when Mama and Daddy are not with them, they must obey their rules. They realize that disobedience must be punished. Primaries are learning that God has rules and we must not break them. They can be sorry when they disobey God's laws. And so they can be introduced to God's provision for our salvation. We tell primaries that God is so holy and so wonderful that

He cannot stand to have anyone with sin in His presence. All of us have sinned. Maybe we have talked back to our mothers or hurt a friend or taken something that did not belong to us. All of these things are sin and God cannot let anyone who has sinned into His heaven. But God loves us! And so He sent His Son Jesus to die on the Cross to take the punishment for our sins. God wants us to believe that Jesus took the punishment for our sins. All we have to do is believe and receive the Lord Jesus John 1:12).

Is this too simplistic an explanation of salvation? Perhaps it is. But not for primaries. They are children of God's grace. The connection between salvation by faith and the need for commitment is not clear to primaries, although they can surely understand that God demands our obedience. At the Day of Pentecost, Peter quoted the prophet Joel as saying, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Acts 2:21). We can learn to speak the language of the primary child to bring him or her to faith in Christ.

Primaries cannot understand the language of symbolism. That is for the next stage of childhood. Primaries understand everything in a realistic sense. If we tell primaries to ask Jesus into their hearts, they will wonder how He can be so little as to fit inside of them and if Jesus is inside of each one, how many "Jesuses" are there? We do not talk about our sins being washed away by the blood of the Lamb. Primaries do not understand this abstract language. Think very carefully how you express

religious truth to primaries. Their interpretation is often not the same as that of adults.

Teaching, Reaching and Ministering Juniors

Juniors speak the language of the team. Juniors have been known to cry when their favorite professional sports teams lose. This is the age when gangs begin their recruitment. Juniors want to be a part of the team. The unity with their peers that they seek is not unlike the union that Jesus says should be true of believers. Christian educators should be challenged to create the team camaraderie that Scripture describes as the body of Christ. The Bible says that believers are like the hands, feet, eyes, ears, and other body parts of one another. We help one another and need each other. Our unity is supposed to be such that when unbelievers see our interaction will come to believe in Jesus Christ.

The members of the team are committed to one another. Sunday School teachers and other leaders of the Christian education ministry need to provide an atmosphere of trust and community within their classrooms that extends beyond one hour on Sundays to the lives of juniors.

Juniors are beginning to understand the concept of skin color as forming the bond of race. They can appreciate the heroes and heroines of their own people. African American juniors are part of {the race of proud Black people created by God. This, too, is a team commitment. They can take pride in their own heritage and at the same time learn to appreciate the achievements of other people.

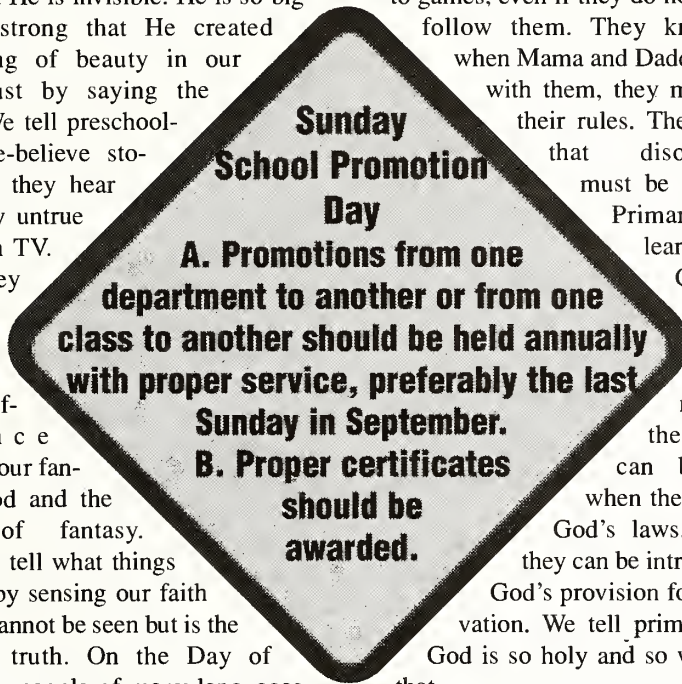
Reaching the Hip Hop Generation


Teenagers want teachers who are not boring, not condescending, not preachy and not judgmental. They want teachers who are open, honest and willing to listen and discuss. They want teachers who have a faith to share and who recognize the talents, abilities and uncertainties of youth.

The effective teacher of teenagers is patient, tolerant and understanding. He or she gives guidance and support without holding the reins too tightly and without relinquishing leadership completely.

A good teacher guides students and leaves room for them to debate and discover things for themselves. He or she encourages and enables learners to think, seek, ponder, try, and grow.

The Organization & Administration of the Sunday School, H. E. Goodloe





Adequate Equipment

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to provide the officers, teachers, and pupils with the best equipment obtainable. Anything that will enable the officers and teachers to do better work should if possible be secured. The superintendent should see that every class and department in the school has the necessary equipment. It will be necessary for h/him to hold personal conferences from time to time with each officer and teacher and find out his needs and then lead the church to supply these needs. In the monthly meeting of the officers and teachers the need of each department and of each class should be presented so that all of the officers and teachers understand the needs of the whole school.

Many Sunday schools must meet in a one-room building and have all of the classes in the main auditorium. With very little expense and effort the building could be curtained so as to provide a room for each class. Many Sunday schools have done this and have thus increased the effectiveness of the teaching.

2008 James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest Winners



Ms. Lula Gainey
President
(910) 728-8718

Ms. Lula Gainey

Road
Sherrills Ford, NC 28673
Association: Mountain & Catawba Missionary
Moderator: Reverend Sterling Howard
Church: New Prospect Missionary Baptist
Pastor: Rev. Jarvis Saner
"Let the Lord build your house"

Second Place \$300.00
Shannon Frink
10610 Roxbury Court
Charlotte, North Carolina 28214
Gaston County Missionary Baptist
Moderator: Rev. W. P. Easter
Church: Mt. Pisgah Missionary

SENIOR DIVISION
First Place \$500.00
Gavin Joshua Gabriel
8751 Sherrills Ford



Baptist
Pastor: Rev. R. O. Setzer
"How to be a hero"

Third Place \$200.00
Lakisha Super
Post Office Box 30281
Raleigh, NC 27622
Association: Bear Creek Missionary Baptist
Moderator: Rev. Michael Johnson
Church: Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor: Reverend Larry M. Johnson



JUNIOR DIVISION
First Place \$200.00
Justin Marlow Mitchell Simmons
438 Sellers Road NW
Supply, North Carolina 28462
Association: Brunswick Waccamaw Missionary Baptist
Moderator: Reverend Leo Stephenson
Church: Big Macedonia Missionary Baptist
Pastor: Reverend Leo Stephenson

"Just keep walking"

Second Place \$150.00
Kiera Brian Whitaker
538 Linville Road
Kernersville, North Carolina 27284
Association: Rowan Missionary Baptist
Moderator: Reverend Freeman Church: St. Stephens Missionary Baptist
Pastor: Rev. James Cook
"Tell me who I am"

Third Place \$100.00
Joselyn Turner
2023 John B. Carter Road
Fayetteville, North Carolina
Association: Middle District Missionary Baptist
Moderator: Reverend Terry Henry
Church: Falling Run Missionary Baptist
Pastor: Dr. Leonard Faison
"What Being A Christian Means To Me"



PREPARATORY DIVISION
First Place \$100.00
Brenderia Cameron
12101 Queensbridge Court
Raleigh, North Carolina 27613
Association: New Hope Baptist
Moderator: Rev. Dr. Wesley Elam, Sr.
Church: North East Missionary Baptist
Pastor: Dr. Wesley Elam, Sr.
"Where would you be without God"

Congress Officers (2006-2010)

Lula Gainey, President
Frank Byrd, 1st VP
M. L. Kaufman, 2nd VP
Betty Adams, 3rd VP
Roosevelt Baxter, 4th VP
Janifer Campbell, Dean
Jamale Johnson, Asst. Dean
Alberta Moore, Secretary
Antiono Scott, Asst. Secretary
C. Trumillia McDowell, Oratorical Director
Debbie Moore, Asst. Oratorical Director
David Eggeston, Musician

Second Place \$75.00
Steven "Oshe" Pittman
Post Office Box 1052
Kenansville, NC 28349
Association: KEMBA
Moderator: Rev. Sampson Lemon
Church: Rainbow Missionary Baptist
Pastor: Rev. Alonso Williamson
"Do you hear what I hear"
Third Place \$50.00
Kaela McDonald
2536 Paintersmill Drive
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28304
Association: Union Missionary Baptist Association
Moderator: Dr. Robert Kelly
Church: Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist
Pastor: Dr. John D. Fuller
"Jesus Is"

Visitations

- Each Sunday School regardless as to size, should have a Department of Visitation.
- The Visitation Department should have regular meetings whether they be weekly or monthly.
- It shall be under the direction of the superintendent or pastor.
- All staff members as well as interested members of the church shall be encouraged to participate in the visitation program.

Re-thinking Christian Education for the 21st Century

By Rev. Perry B. Irby

If Christian Education under girds every other ministry for the Church, then it must be revisited from time to time. Life is an ever changing story filled with such glory and a great deal of agony. Christian Education isn't one size fits all for all eternity, but it must be relevant for the times in which we live. Therefore, it must reinvent itself over time.

As we mature as a church, we are faced with getting on board of the technological and sociological train. In case you haven't noticed, the world is getting smaller everyday. Satellite, television and video teleconferences make the world our pulpit and our neighbor. We must teach Christian to love thy neighbors as we love ourselves. Christianity must survive and thrive along side of our multicultural neighbors, which

includes Muslims, Jews, and Hindu brothers. The way we choose to embrace or accept these religious groups that aren't like us must be re-thought through Christian Education.

Now, the world is different from the one us Baby Boomers came from. We have integration and little segregation. Many blacks and whites do live together in perfect harmony. Our teachings must reflect the changing folkways and recognize the need for religious tolerance in a global world.

Further, Christian Education must develop a curriculum that will address and answer the question for the African American male as an endangered specie. Because of historical racism that enslaved and stiffened the brother

of darker clay, he has not learned to love and respect himself. We must move with a sense of urgency to break down barriers that are used as excuses for committing horrifying crimes against humanity.

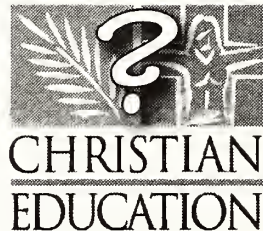
As a community, it is no longer acceptable to excuse the criminal behavior of our own. Our churches need to start at the cradle teaching moral and physical responsibility. Our brothers must realize that jails and prisons "are hell to pay". We can no longer blame the "white man" for all of our ills. They are merely excuses conjured up for us by us in order to shift the blame from us to them.

Character education is crucial and it's the glue that will unite the world. The 21st century Christian Education program must remain grounded in God

and be an imitator of Christ in words and deeds. Always operating under the anointing of the same spirit that blessed, kept and sustained our ancestors.

As we rethink Christian Education for the 21st Century, our message will remain the same: Jesus is Lord. God loves us and gave his son for us. And though the issues have changed, the essence of the Gospel remains unchanged.

We must honestly address human rights, women rights, children of light, blended families, gay and straight in worship together, HIV is our STD, but you can't remember VD being addressed from the pulpit, in Vacation Bible School, or Sunday School. Our Christian Education staff has an obligation to be relevant. And the way we do this is by re-thinking Christian Education for the people of God.





Mrs. Lena Johnson
President, Ministers
Wives
WBH & FMC

Mrs. Lena
Johnson

Answers to
Questions Asked by
Ministers' Wives
Dr. Weptanomah W.
Carter

Ministers Wives Part II

plans for "this day." Get on with your life and your true friends who loved you before your husband's death will love and stand with you now. Meanwhile, the church is like a river and must continue to flow.

Q. What should be the response to questions that you do not wish to answer?

A. Simply do not respond. If the same question is repeated, just say I will not answer or simply stare at the person. Your stare will be sufficient.

Q. Should I permit the church to have a designated seat for me whether or not I am present?

A. Yes, you should have a designated seat. It is up to you to advise if another is to sit there if you are not present.

Q. I am under the burden to preach but my husband is not supportive at all. What should I do?

A. The Bible teaches us that God is not a God of confusion. You probably married your husband without any sense of a "preaching call" on your life. At this point, be as supportive as you can to your husband. If, indeed, God's hand is on you to preach, your husband in due time will come to support the same. It does not seem wise to make "your call" a barometer for the success or the failure of your marriage.

Q. My husband and I are having a hard time getting our children to go to church. At what age to you stop forcing them? We have three children and they feel as if they should be able to stay home. My husband and I feel strongly that they should go. However, I don't want to have a hassle about it every weekend.

A. This is an age old predicament. Some parents have thought that if you force a

child to go to church, then the child will rebel from the church in adulthood. However, if you are responsible for your children's educational and health development, why leave their spiritual development to chance. I can't come up with a good reason. Try to get them involved in church activities, so that they can develop friends and interests. But, if you feel so strongly about them going to church let them know that it is not up for re-negotiation every Sunday.

Q. I am a young minister's wife and I am constantly having to answer phone calls from women members in our church. This bothers me because I know that they are really trying to get to him. My husband tells me that I am being silly and to get over it and that there is nothing wrong with women calling him. Should I believe him?

A. You can believe him if you desire, but if it is proof you want, that is a question that I cannot answer. What concerns me is your husband's disregard for your feelings about these phone calls. Does he know the calls bother you despite his assurances? This is the issue you need to discuss with him. However, before you do this, make certain that you have examined your feelings so that you can let your husband know why the phone calls bother you.

Q. I have just found out that my daughter, who is seventeen, is six months pregnant. I am very shocked by this disclosure and want to still be a loving mother. But, I must say that I am disappointed with this turn of events. My husband is pastor of our church and I know the members will feel that I did not do a good job of mothering.

A. Trust me when I tell you what the members may feel is not the issue. What is most important is the care of your daughter. Her life is changing rapidly and she is in dire need of parenting skills that you have to offer. She needs your love and support. This is where your energy has to be focused and not with the opinion of others. Finally, no one is going to say you did not do a good job of parenting. Expect the best from the members and you may be surprised at the support you receive.

Q. My husband is an associate minister and I feel that he should have higher aspirations. I feel that God can do great things with him but he seems to lack drive. Is there anything I can do to help him?

A. It is wonderful that you have such positive thoughts for your husband. Having a supportive wife has encouraged many men to pursue dreams they may have deferred. In any marriage, there is always room for support and encouragement as long as it does not cross the boundary into

pushing. We all know when that line is crossed. We know what it feels like when others do it to us and we know when we do it to others. Believe me, adults do not like to be pushed any more than children. Bear in mind, and this is a word of support to you, if you are correct in your

assessment of your husband's abilities, others will notice, too. Before long, you will see doors of opportunity open for him. Remember, while you have high hopes for your husband, you want to have faith in him, also.

Q. How do you overcome feelings of insecurity?

A. The first thing you need to remember is the fact that feelings of insecurity are quite normal in all human life. They spring from one condition or another and may tend to be more chronic in one person than in another person. Overcoming this feeling demands belief in yourself and knowing that there is no harm to make mistakes if you are headed in the right direction. Do not become obsessed with feelings of insecurity. Rise to the occasion by overcoming whatever the malady may seem to be. A victory gained today, however small it may seem, will assure greater strength for the feeling of insecurity sure to spring up tomorrow.

Q. I have lost faith in my marriage. I smile on the outside and everyone thinks that my husband and I are happy but I am miserable.

A. Problems in a marriage quite often make us feel alone, especially in the community of church life. Several things need to be noted:

1. It makes sense to do all that is possible to make the marriage survive, if possible.
2. There is no perfect marriage, therefore, some problems will always surface, ever and again.

3. Know that, in the case of marriage, problems we face today become meaningless tomorrow if, indeed, we are growing in grace.

4. A deepening life in Christ has a way of "covering a multitude of sins." That is, you live at a higher level by trusting God to give continuous victory in your life.

(101 Answers to Questions Asked by Ministers' Wives, Weptanomah W. Carter and Weptanomah Carter Davis)

God has
chosen you
to be the special
helpmate
for His
minister of
the gospel.
"He who
finds a wife,
finds a good
thing."

(Proverbs 18:22).

*Syracuse University

Submitted by Wesley Brandon

Syracuse University has 10 Full Rides for African American Men and Women Interested in Studying Architecture

Mark Robbins, Dean of Syracuse University's School of Architecture is desperately seeking young men and women of color interested in pursuing a five year professional degree in Architecture. He says he's deeply committed to bringing diversity to his field and has scholarship money set aside to fully cover education costs for 10 students. He says that Hispanic enrollment in the school has increased substantially, but it's been harder to attract Blacks.

Syracuse University's School of Architecture has a great reputation and this seems like a terrific opportunity. Please pass this on to everyone you know.

Contact: Mark Robbins, Dean, School of Architecture
(315) 443-2255, robbinsm@syr.edu <<mailto:robbinsm@syr.edu>>

By Rev. Dennis Leach Sr.
(dhleach@triad.rr.com)

When Mrs. Portia Brandon; the editor of the Baptist Informer asked me to consider writing an article on the role of the interim pastor, Dr. H. Wesley Wiley's book; The Extended Call came to mind. There is an abundance of scholarly material regarding this vital ministry role to the life of churches in transition. The role of the interim pastor; seems to somewhat be apparent in the very title; "interim pastor." This denotes a temporary period of time; and ministerial functions that should be rightfully set by the congregation. The interim pastor's challenge is to maintain and sustain a churches ministry vitality in the absence of a senior pastor, until which time; one is elected or called. Interim pastors are clergy persons who serve at the behest of a congregation; which is experiencing a transition period related to its pulpit. Perhaps the senior pastor has retired, moved to another ministry field, been called from labor to reward, has been removed by the vote of the majority of the congregation, or has resigned. At any rate; the church finds itself without pastoral leadership; and may seek to fill the void temporarily by employing the services of an interim pastor. My two personal encounters with an interim; and serving as an interim pastor; is limited in scope, but both are very telling experiences. Perhaps the best way to set the table for this discussion; is to take a look at it from a more informed position.

Rev. Dennis Leach, Sr.

In chapter 1 of his book; Dr. Wiley writes: "In order to strengthen the bonds that hold a congregation together, the interim pastor must be prepared to assume multiple roles in his or her ministry to the congregation and be flexible when considering the time of service. Whatever the case and circumstances, interim pastors are "called" to respond with courtesy, compassion, competency, and concern." Depending on the nature of the departure of the senior pastor, congregations may need time to grieve; or heal from the loss of the senior pastor. Dr. Wiley outlines ten key points under the heading "what an interim pastor is not," which may help inform congregations that either have or are considering calling an interim pastor.

1. An interim pastor is not a legislator.
2. An interim pastor is not an initiator of new ministries.

The Role of the Interim Pastor

3. An interim pastor is not one with the position or authority of a full-time pastor who has been elected by the congregation.

4. An interim pastor is not a candidate to become the full-time pastor of the congregation.

5. An interim pastor is not an advocate for the election of a friend as the full-time pastor of the congregation.

6. An interim pastor is not one to limit the power and authority of the official governing board of the church.

7. An interim pastor is not a worship leader who has the responsibility or authority to revise the order of worship.

8. An interim pastor is not a supervisor of the Pulpit-Search Committee.

9. An interim pastor is not a CEO.

10. An interim pastor is not one who has authority to change the Constitution of the church.

Dr. Wiley employs the metaphor of one standing in the gap at a crucial time, for a determined period. That time may vary based on the nature of the vacancy. Congregations, whose beloved senior pastor may have died; may not be prepared to move forward with the search process; therefore the interim pastor can serve as a grief counselor; helping them through the grieving period. On the other hand, Dr. Wiley writes; churches that may be vacant due to the resignation or expulsion of the senior pastor; may be more inclined to move forward quickly. Whether the interim pastor is there to serve as a consoler, because of a heart wrenching loss; or to heal the wounds of an angry split; they must understand their role. Dr. Wiley writes: "I understood my role to be that of the gatekeeper until the under shepherd was chosen and arrived. An interim pastor must be content to "stand in the gap" to guard, guide, and protect the sheep."

Timing can be crucial. In some instances; the longer the church goes without legitimate recognized pastoral leadership; the more vulnerable it becomes. In addition, Dr. Wiley writes that the period of time served by the interim ought to be limited by the church. There is no perfect rules regarding interim pastors; but some suggest that retired ministers are better suited for the role.

A few years ago, I was being considered for a vacant pulpit in Buffalo New York. Twice; I along with my wife were flown to the city by the church, and treated very well. I had a real sense of peace in my spirit about the church, and they seemed to feel the same way.

After the second trip; I did not hear from the church for nearly three months. Finally, I got a call from the chairman of the pulpit committee; who said; "Rev. Leach, the pulpit committee recommended unanimously that the church extend a call to you, but we have a problem." I then asked; what's the problem? He said; "the interim pastor; who signed a contract agreeing not to be considered, has announced from the pulpit that he wants to be considered." I then asked; how long has he been your interim? He replied one and a half years. I said to him; he has now been your pastor for that amount of time. My final suggestion to him; was not to split the church trying to get me there. About five months latter; he called out of respect for the pastoral search process, I could detect the frustration in his voice as he communicated to me that after a second vote; the interim had been elected by one vote. His frustration; and disappointment paled in comparison to mine. I had stood at the doorstep of this pastorate, only to have the door slammed in my face; unceremoniously so, by an interim pastor.

Dr. Wiley writes; that the interim pastor should rightfully not be considered for the position of senior pastor. I agree, however; because of my own experiences during the aforementioned pastoral search process; I would advise that if a church has an interim pastor that it has taken a liking to, or feels the interim pastor matches their ministry needs; they should close the process, notify all those bridegrooms (candidates) in waiting; and consummate the marriage.

In conclusion, I once served as an interim pastor as a prerequisite for being called to serve as the senior pastor. This was done by a few devilish deacons trying to feel me out, and seeking to wrest complete ungodly control of a church in transition. While being considered as a candidate; I watched as they ordained deacons in the absence of pastoral leadership. When they offered me the position; it was conditional; if the feeling out period (interim) worked for them; they would offer me the senior pastor position permanently. In the meantime; they were fast at work writing by-laws, and constitutional amendments, which had even the pastor answering to the deacon board. And if that were not enough, they sought to cover the remaining bases with an air tight contract; which allowed deacons to evaluate the senior pastor.

I accepted the position; knowing that a more desirable pulpit was serious-

ly considering me as a candidate (confession). I honestly believed that the other church was going to call me; prior to the expiration of the interim pastorate term. They did not. And I found myself; sitting in the pastor's study with two deacons offering me the pastorate. I accepted it; thinking eventually the other church would call. All the while; I kept thinking; the next pastor would have their hands full, and have to resolve the churches complex issues. The call from the other church never came, and I turned out to be the next pastor. I was in a war zone, and I knew it. The first six months went and came without a hitch; this can be attributed to my understanding of the role of the interim pastor. I acted in the truest sense of an interim, I did not make any waves by trying to assert any real pastoral authority; I just ministered to the congregation when; and where needed. I was the interim pastor, not the senior elect pastor. They called me, not knowing who they had called in a pastoral sense, a shepherd. If I have learned anything from this experience; it is that shepherds and wolves cannot coexist. To make a long story short, I won out and garnered the support of the congregation by appealing to our unique Baptist niche; "congregational polity."

At the heart of Baptist church allegiances; is that darling principle in our Covenant: "In case of difference of opinion in the church, we will strive to avoid a contentious spirit, and if we cannot unanimously agree, we will cheerfully recognize the right of the majority to govern." This principle helped me to rid myself of by-law, constitutional, and contractual constrains. If you have been called to serve as an interim pastor; do so with the grace, guidance, and help of the Lord, you'll need it. If your church is currently without a senior pastor; a capable interim pastor could help you negotiate the sometimes murky waters of a church vacancy. Good references; and recommendations will help ease the transition. Perhaps Portia should have asked me to write an article on how to survive a difficult assignment!

Rev. Dennis Leach, Sr. is currently serving as senior pastor of First Baptist Church, High Point, NC.



Rev. Joe A. Jackson

BAPTIST Informer

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

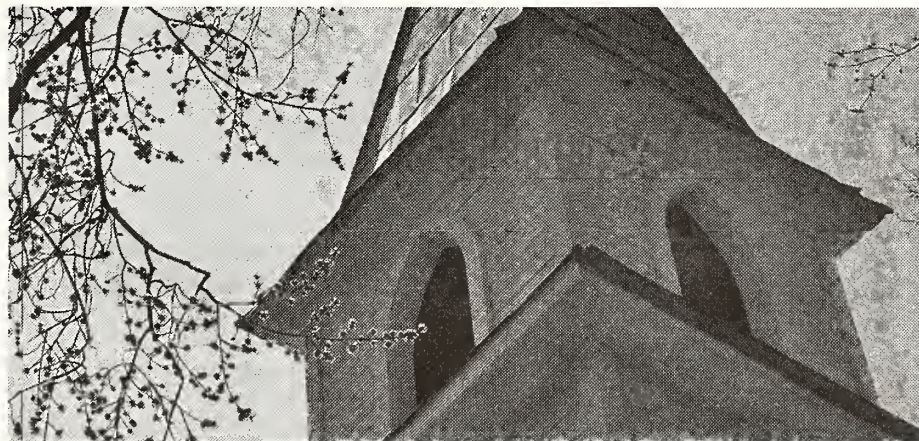
FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiabrandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church salutes Rev. Moses C. Herring

Pastor Herring will celebrate in July 2008, fifty years of preaching the gospel. His first sermon was on July 28, 1958 at the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, East Wilmington, NC, under the leadership of the late Dr. W.H.D. Flowers.

Moses Clyde Herring, son of the late James Clyde and Lucille Williams Herring, born February 16, 1933, in Wilmington, NC. He attended the public schools of New Hanover and Darlington counties. He continued with further studies at Williston Junior College, Shaw University, Raleigh, NC; Brunswick Community College, Supply, NC; and Northeastern Carolina School for Ministries. He has also completed studies at Stratford Career Institute of Funeral Service Education, Washington, D.C.

In the 1960s, Rev. Herring was instrumental in fighting for equal rights for Blacks in New Hanover County. After moving to Brunswick, he became President of the Brunswick County Citizens Association. Rev. Herring also served as Vice President of the

*The Mount Zion Church family will host his
44th Annual Banquet on Friday, August 8, 2008,
at 7 p.m.
at the church in Longwood, NC.*

Cedar Grove Branch of the NAACP.

In 1978, he was awarded the Minister and Man of the Year Award. He helped in the movement of securing compensation for persons who were turned away from employment opportunities just because they were Black. He led a delegation before the Brunswick County Board of Education demanding positions for Black teachers and principals. He served as President of the NAACP until the branches in Brunswick County merged in 2001.

He is currently serving on the Board of Directors of Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation since 1981 and serves in the office of Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Vice Moderator of the Ocean View Baptist

Association since 1969, President of the Ocean View Sunday School Convention since 1991, Advisor to the Ocean View Woman's Auxiliary since 1970, Board member and President of the Aging advisory Committee of the Department of Social Service.

Rev. Herring has also served as a Board Member of the Hope Harbor Home, a member of the Infant Mortality Task Force of Brunswick County. He is a tailor by trade.

In 2001, he initiated an After School Program in the Longwood community where thirty or more students are tutored weekly at the Mount Zion Church. In 1985, he was instrumental in organizing the Longwood Headstart Center. Rev. Herring spearheaded the formation of the Mount Zion Church basketball teams in the year 2000.

He is a member of the Winnabee Masonic Lodge 786, Past Master, Secretary, and Wilmington Consistory 63-33rd degree. Grand Inspector General Habib Temple 159 – Past Potente – Deputy Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Inc, PHA – Member of the Past Patron of May Queen Chapter 599 OES – President of the Cedar Grove Salem Lodge 198, Grand Vice President, Board Member, Past Grand Chaplain and Deputy of the Grand United Order of Salem.

Rev. Herring is the parent of five children (three sons and two daughters); four are college graduates, five grandchildren, and two great grand children. He was married to the late Etha Mae Grissett.

The Mount Zion Church family will host his 44th Annual Banquet on Friday, August 8, 2008, at 7 p.m. at the church in Longwood, NC. The Rev. Jimmy Brockington, pastor of the Marion Baptist Church from Salter, SC will be the speaker for the morning service, culminating Pastor Herring's 44th Anniversary on August 10, 2008.

Ms. Vivian Sansom Cited with honorary Degree by Shaw U.



Ms. Vivian M. Sansom (2nd from right) was honored with the Doctor of Humane Letters degree by Shaw University at its recent commencement ceremony. Pictured with Ms. Sansom from left to right are: Dr. George Debnam, Dr. Clarence Newsome, Shaw University President, and Attorney Willie Gary. (Contributed Photo)

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

**Mt Level Missionary Baptist Church is seeking
a full-time Youth & Christian Education Minister.**

Qualifications include completion of a Theological Master Degree program with a focus in youth ministry.

The Minister should have a sound knowledge of scripture and Baptist Doctrine and the ability to teach youth and adults. Qualified Candidates should submit a resume to: Youth & Christian Education Minister Committee, Mt. Level Missionary Baptist Church, 316 Hebron Road, Durham, NC 27704 or email:

mtleveleducyouthchild@gmail.com.
Visit our website: www.mtleveimb.org

**Union Baptist Church
Church Musician**

A Devoted Christian, must read and play all types of church/gospel music. Direct Choirs/Praise Team and teach parts.

**Union Baptist Church
110 Lincoln Avenue
Lexington, NC 27292
336-243-1648 • 336-243-1648**

PASTORAL VACANCY

**THE NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1604 White Plains Church Road • Clarkton, NC**

Qualifications:

- A man or woman of God licensed and ordained in the Baptist Denomination.
- Must have at least five (5) years experience as an Ordained Minister
- Pastoral experience.
- Seminary training.

OTHER ATTRIBUTES

- Gifted Teacher • Good leadership ability • Good communication skills
- Ability to counsel • Committed to the needs of the flock

If interested, please send information profile or resume to:

**Bro. Ronnie Blanks, Pastor Search Committee Chairman
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
1604 White Plains Church Road
Clarkton, NC 28433**

Please pray for our committee as we continue our search process.

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

612 Salisbury Street, Wadesboro, NC 28170

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a licensed, ordained Baptist pastor.

- I. Character/ Personality
 - Full of the Holy Spirit, wisdom and knowledge
 - Strong reputation of honesty and integrity
 - Involved in the community, cares about the community and things outside of the church
 - Not over age 55 and preferably married
 - Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
 - Must have good communication, leadership, administrative and counseling ability
 - Must be able to share His vision for the spiritual and intellectual growth of the church
 - Demonstrate a compassionate approach to visiting members (including sick, shut-in and the needy)
- II. Education/Experience
 - Must have knowledge of Baptist doctrines, church policies, and procedures
 - Must have at least three years of Pastoral experience
 - Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
 - Must have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college, university or seminary
 - A master's in Theology or some other religious area or pursuing the same is preferred
- III. Administration/ Professionalism
 - Must understand taxes and financial obligations of the church
 - Should be accessible
 - Should be willing to live within a 30 mile radius of the church
 - Should have office hours
 - Administrator over all salaried personnel
 - Full-time Pastor preferred
 - Must have the ability and desire to work with all age groups in the church with emphasis on spiritual growth and development
 - Must have excellent biblical teaching skills
 - Must represent the church Association, State and National Conventions

The deadline to submit applications and resumes is until the position is filled.

Please submit letters of interest and resumes to:

Deacon Robert Hilliard Jr.
Chairman, Pastor Search Committee
Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church
PO Box 302
Wadesboro, NC 28170

PILGRIM CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

313 Elder Street • New Bern NC 28562 • James City Community

Pilgrim Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor, **Qualifications:**

- Strong reputation of honesty and integrity
- Facilitate unity within the organization
- Must be willing to share vision for spiritual growth of the church
- Family and Community oriented
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administration and counseling ability
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must have the biblical qualities of a Pastor
- Must have Pastoral experience
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Is factual in doing and carrying out the function of the church and has the ability to teach and preach God's word
- Must represent the church at Association, State and National Conventions
- Working experience with all ages in the church
- Supportive of the General Baptist State Convention
- Believe and abide by the Missionary Baptist Doctrine and Church covenant/by-laws

Please submit a resume with references to:

Pilgrim Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
Attn: Deacon Clarence Spellman
313 Elder Street

New Bern NC 28562 *All resumes must be submitted by October 1, 2008*

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists

(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

Upcoming
Events...

BAPTIST Informer

Lott Carey Teaching Live with Transforming Love
Lott Carey 111th Annual Session • Rochester, NY

August 11-15, 2008

Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention Leadership in the GBSC



Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
2nd Vice President



Dr. David Forbes
Vice Chairman of the Board



Dr. Dumas A. Harshaw, Jr.
Mission Study Instructor



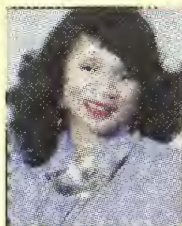
Mrs. Shirley Bullock
Mission Study Instructor



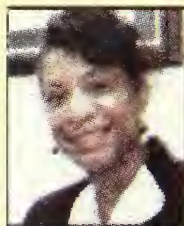
Dr. Cureton Johnson
Mission Study Instructor



Dr. Pricilla Brodie
Mission Study Instructor



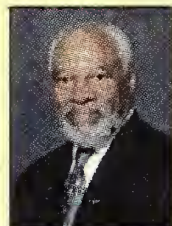
Mrs. Portia Brandon, M.Div.
Mission Study Instructor



Dr. Linda Bryan
Mission Study Instructor



Mrs. Colene Stanley, M. Div.
Former President Women Aux.



Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr.
Former President



Dr. C.R. Edwards
Former President

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



Great Commission SUNDAY SCHOOL

The purpose of Sunday School is to change lives for Jesus Christ by evangelizing the lost and discipling those who respond to the Gospel through our classes. This is the Great Commission.

11/28/2008
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553 520 P17



SEVENTH SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST

Informant



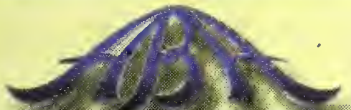
Volume 131, No. 9

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

September 2008

GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20



2008 ALL-BAPTIST ASSEMBLY



By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC
Gmoss1@bellsouth.net
(704) 334-5309

Greetings to you in the marvelous name of Jesus, our Christ.

The All Baptist Assembly held in Winston-Salem was a benchmark of what is to come. Thanks are in order to the host church, First Baptist-High Point and their visionary pastor, Dr. Dennis Leach. They left no stone unturned to accommodate and assist the Baptist family during our sessions.

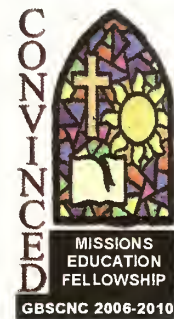
Thanks also to the auxiliaries for their cooperation and participation. The ABA challenges and stretches auxiliaries and staff to ensure the sessions are coordinated with the highest degree of efficiency and effectiveness. Dr. Haywood T. Gray and staff are to be commended for their commitment, dedication and diligence prior to and during the session. In an effort to lead the convention to become more relevant and responsive to the needs of associations and local churches, some changes were made. It was the intent of this administration to provide convention participants with a glimpse of what can be and what is to come. We must become pro-active in addressing issues that challenge and confront our ministries. The convention is uniquely positioned to provide tools to our churches by way of exposure, teaching and training. Post convention evalua-

tions indicate we are headed in the right direction. Our presenters brought their "A" game, greatly enhancing the effectiveness of the programs, seminars and workshops. We enjoyed powerful worship and much needed fellowship. Please stay tuned and engaged, God is not through with us yet.

By the time of this printing, our fiscal year will have ended. And we remind each board member, pastor and church of our financial responsibilities to GBSC. I challenge all leaders and members of the convention to hold one another accountable to do what is right financially by our convention. We need your prayers always, but we also need your participation and support now and for future endeavors in mission and ministry.

General Baptist State Convention Operations include:

Parent Body and Auxiliary Officers Honoraria and Expenses, Staff Salaries and Benefit, Attorneys, Accountants and Consultants Fees, Computer Maintenance, Office Supplies, Office Machines, Postage and Shipping, Property, Workers Comp, and General Liability Insurance, Printing of books, brochures, newspaper, announcements, programs, and flyers; Expenses to operate the Baptist Headquarters including gas, water, electricity, telephones, janitorial, trash disposal, security, and upkeep; Expenses to operate the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly in Laurel Hill including gas, electricity, telephones, custodial



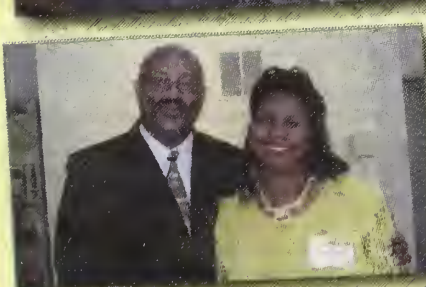
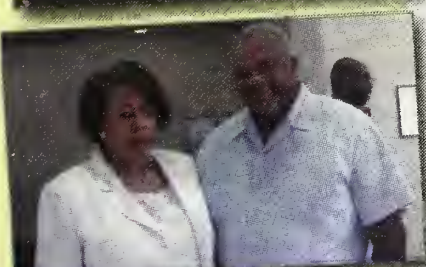
Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

services, lawn upkeep and grass cutting, heating & air conditioning maintenance, plumbing, upkeep of swimming pool, and certified pool operators and life guards.

Expenses for each Session of the Parent Body and Auxiliaries which includes: Rental of facilities like convention centers, printing of materials for Sessions, preparation of registration kits and badges, staff travel to make arrangement for host pastors and host Churches, lodging for staff and special guests. Banquet costs including food, rental of space, service fees, mailings, publicity and advertising, awards and plaques.

ALMOST \$700,000.00 IS NEEDED FOR OPERATIONS EACH YEAR. ALMOST \$160,000.00 IS NEEDED FOR PROGRAMMING EACH YEAR!

May God bless you and the work He has placed in our hands.



128th Annual Session schedule at a glance

128th Annual Session National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Cincinnati, Ohio • September 8 - 12, 2008 • Dr. William J. Shaw, President
 "Jesus Christ Only, Always" • Focus: "The Heavenly Vision and The Morals of the Church"

Sun - Sept. 7	Women's Pre-Registration Musical Rehearsal Ancillary Meetings	4:00pm - 6:00pm 4:00pm - 8:00pm 6:00pm - 9:00 pm	Millennium Hotel - Crossroads Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom Various Hotels
Monday, September 8th	Young People's Dept. Prayer Breakfast Executive Committee Meeting Exhibitors Move-in Registration opens Young People's Dept. General Assembly State Presidents'/At - Large Board Women's Fashion Share Board Member Registration First Lady's Luncheon Parent Body Board of Directors Meeting Exhibits Open Young People's Dept. General Assembly Women's Auxiliary Board Meeting Cincinnati LEC - Musical Late Night Service	7:00am - 9:00am 8:00am - 10:00am 8:00am - 11 am 8:00am - 5:00pm 9:00am - 12:00pm 10:00am - 12:00pm 10:30am - 1:00pm 12:00pm - 5:00pm 12:30pm - 2pm 2:00pm - 5:00pm 12:00pm - 7:00pm 2:00pm - 4:00pm 4:00pm - 6:00pm 7:00pm - 10:00pm 10:00pm - midnight	Millennium Hotel - Bronze Hilton Hotel - Salons B/C Duke Energy Center - Halls B/C Duke Energy Center - East/South Concourses Duke Energy Center - Room 205 Hilton Hotel - Rosewood Union Baptist Church Hilton Hotel Hilton Hotel - Rookwood Hilton Hotel - Hall of Mirrors Duke Energy Center - Halls B/C Duke Energy Center - Room 205 Millennium Hotel - Bronze A/B Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom
Tuesday, September 9th	Women's Auxiliary Breakfast Ushers & Nurses Prayer Breakfast Laymen's Wives' Prayer Breakfast North Pacific Baptist State Conv. Breakfast Foreign Mission Breakfast Home Mission Board Exec. Breakfast Registration Exhibit Hall General Session - Parent Body Local Welcome Program Southwest President's Luncheon Labor Relations Luncheon Parent Body General Session Auxiliaries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Laymen <input type="checkbox"/> Music <input type="checkbox"/> Ushers/ Nurses <input type="checkbox"/> Women <input type="checkbox"/> Young People Moderators General Session Prison Ministry Meeting Housing & Economic Dev. Commission President's Educational Banquet Late Night Service	6:30am - 8:30am 7:00am - 9:00am 7:00am - 9:00am 7:00am - 9:00am 7:30am - 9:00am 8:00am - 10:00am 8:00am - 5:00pm 9:00am - 7:00pm 8:30am - 12:00pm 9:30am - 11:00pm 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm 1:00pm - 3:00pm 2:00pm - 5:00pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm 1:30pm - 5:00pm 2:00pm - 5:00pm 4:00pm - 8:00pm 5:00pm - 7:00pm 7:00pm - 9:00pm 10:00pm - midnight	Hyatt Hotel - Regency A/B Millennium Hotel - Bronze A Millennium Hotel - Bronze B TBD Hilton Hotel - Continental Hyatt Hotel - Board of Governors Duke Energy Center - East/South Concourses Duke Energy Center - Halls B/ C US Bank Arena US Bank Arena Hilton Hotel - Rookwood Hilton Hotel - Pavilion Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom Millennium Hotel - Grand Ballroom Duke Energy Center - Rooms 206 - 208 Duke Energy Center - Jr. Ballroom A/B Duke Energy Center - Hall A Duke Energy Center - Room 205 Duke Energy Center - Jr. Ballroom C/D Hilton Hotel - Mayflower 1&2 Hilton Hotel - Mayflower 3 Hilton Hotel - Pavilion Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom
Wednesday, September 10th	New Jersey Breakfast Health Ministry Breakfast Registration Parent Body /Auxiliaries Meet Exhibit Hall Moderator's President Address Women's Aux. President's Address Ushers/Nurses President's Address Home Mission Luncheon Pennsylvania State Luncheon Empire State Luncheon Connecticut State Luncheon Young People's Department Luncheon Laymen President Annual Address Parent Body /Auxiliaries Meet Foreign Mission Fellowship Dinner Music Dept.'s President Address Ushers & Nurses Awards Banquet Evening Worship Service Late Night Service	6:30am - 8:30am 7:30am - 10:00am 8:00am - 5:00pm 8:30am - 12:00pm 9:00am - 7:00pm 10:00am - 12:00pm 10:00am - 12:00pm 10:00am - 12:00pm 1:00pm - 3:00pm 1:00pm - 3:00pm 1:00pm - 3:00pm 1:00pm - 2:00pm 2:00pm - 4:00pm 2:00pm - 4:30pm 2:00pm - 5:00pm 4:00pm - 7:00pm 7:00pm - 9:00pm 7:00pm - 10:00pm 7:00pm - 10:00pm 10:00pm - midnight	Hilton Hotel - Hall of Mirrors Hilton Hotel - Pavilion Duke Energy Center - East/South Concourses Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom Duke Energy Center - Halls B/ C Duke Energy Center - Jr. Ballroom C/D Duke Energy Center - Hall A Duke Energy Center - Jr. Ballroom A/B Hyatt Hotel - Regency A/B Hyatt Hotel - Regency E/F Hilton Hotel - Pavilion Hilton Hotel - Hall of Mirrors Millennium Hotel - Bronze Millennium Hotel - Grand Ballroom Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom Hilton Hotel - Pavilion Duke Energy Center - Rooms 206 - 208 Millennium Hotel - Bronze A/B Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom
Thursday, September 11th	Florida General Baptist Breakfast Moderator's Fellowship Breakfast South Carolina Breakfast Parent Body /Auxiliaries Meet Registration Exhibit Hall National President's Address Parent Body /Auxiliaries Meet Young People's Annual Address Women's Auxiliary Banquet Congress Board Meeting Music Dept. Banquet Laymen's Royal Court Laymen's J.L. Webb Fellowship Banquet Foreign Mission Night Late Night Service	6:30am - 8:00am 7:00am - 9:00am 7:00am - 9:00am 8:30am - 12:00pm 9:00am - 5:00pm 9:00am - 7:00pm 10:00am - 1:00pm 2:00pm - 5:00pm 2:00pm - 4:00pm 5:00pm - 7:15pm 4:00pm - 6:00 pm 5:00pm - 7:00pm 6:15 pm - 7:30pm 7:40pm - 10:00pm 7:00pm - 10:00pm 10:00pm - midnight	Hilton Hotel - Hall of Mirrors Hilton Hotel -Pavilion Hilton Hotel - Continental US Bank Arena Duke Energy Center - East/South Concourses Duke Energy Center -Halls B/ C US Bank Arena US Bank Arena Duke Energy Center - Room 205 Hyatt Hotel - Regency A/B Westin Hotel - Taft Hyatt Hotel - Regency D-G Millennium Hotel - Bronze Millennium Hotel - Grand Ballroom Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom
Friday, September 12th	Auxiliaries Meet Registration Exhibit Hall Parent Body General Session Laymen - Street Evangelistic Service Baptism & Communion Service	8:00am - 12:30pm 9:00am - 12:00pm 9:00am - 3:00pm 8:30am - 12: 30 pm 3:00pm - 7:00pm 7:00pm - 10:00 pm	Duke Energy Center/Millennium Hotel Duke Energy Center - East/South Concourses Duke Energy Center - Halls B/C Duke Energy Center - Grand Ballroom TBD US Bank Arena

Eight Reasons Why General Baptist Churches Should Support General Baptist Objectives through the Baptist Headquarters

Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Dr. Haywood T. Gray
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

1. In 1867 in Goldsboro, what became known as the General Baptist State Convention was established to collect funds from the Churches to support Shaw University. The Headquarters is set up to handle these donations...that's what we exist to do!

2. If 300 Churches each send a contribution directly to each of the objectives in a month, that's 300 checks to be processed, 300 receipts to be prepared, 300 letters to be mailed. If those same 300 churches sent their funds to the Headquarters, the objective has only one check to process.

3. When funds for the objectives come through the Headquarters, we have the truest picture of how we support missions. We know where the funds are coming from.

4. You are represented on the Boards and decision-making groups of the objectives. It is reasonable to have someone representing the interests of the General Baptist churches when deci-

sions are being made about how to spend the money that Churches give to objectives.

5. All of the funds collected by the Headquarters is sent to the objective intended. No administrative fee is kept by the Convention of your objective dollars. Other agencies (like the Red Cross) keep a percentage of what you send for "overhead." Not so with the GBSC.

The Headquarters reports to the objectives the amounts that the Churches have contributed individually. Therefore, Churches may still receive recognition for their gifts even though they send their funds through the Baptist Headquarters.

7. Most churches operate on a calendar year (January to December). Shaw University's and Lot Carey's fiscal years start July 1 and end June 30. National Baptist Convention's fiscal year begins September 1 and ends August 31. But the GBSC has started to use software that can track contributions through any time period to be helpful to Churches.

8. While \$1,000.00 contribution from one Church is significant, just how much more significant is it when \$1,000,000.00 comes through the Baptist Headquarters.

Please prayerfully and thoughtfully and seriously consider sending your

Church's support for missions (Shaw University, Shaw Divinity School, Central Children's Home and Lott

Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention) through the Baptist Headquarters. ■

The Missionary Baptist Associations Purpose

1. to promote Christian Fellowship and cooperation among the churches affiliated with the Association;
2. to uphold the doctrines and principles of our Baptist faith; to encourage the churches to be loyal to and practice these Biblical doctrines and principles; to promote the preaching and teaching of God's Word and the enlisting and training of all Christian's for service; to promote missions, benevolence, stewardship, Christian Education, and the witness of all persons to Christ to the ends of the earth;
3. to cooperate with the Convention, in a world missions program;
4. to hold and administer such properties and funds that are required by the Association to carry out its stated business.

The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board

Dr. Howard Parker, Jr.
Vice President at Large

GBSCNC Benefits Highlights

You're eligible if you're employed by a General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (GBSCNC) church or related organization. You're also eligible if you're engaged in ministry as a self employed person or with an employer not related to GBSCNS and 1) you are ordained, licensed or commissioned as a minister by an GBSCNC church, or 2) your ordination is recognized by GBSCNC.



Dr. Howard Parker, Jr.

The Benefits for Life program

Benefits for Life provides tax-deferred savings, death and disability income protection during your working years, and a lifetime income in retirement with tax-favored payments for clergy. Your employer pays the first month's premium to enroll you as well as ongoing premiums totaling 12% of your annual compensation. The 12% is put to work this way: 9% goes into your Retirement Plan (RP) account; 1 ¼ % provides special benefits, including disability; 1% pays the administrative fee and ¾% buys group term life insurance.

Three additional resources can really improve your retirement security:

- The Annuity Supplement (TAS) makes saving easy through convenient payroll deductions.

You also cut your current tax bill when you make pre-tax contributions.

- Tax-Deferred Annuity (TDA) gives your employer a flexible way to supplement your retirement income.

- Rollovers. Consolidating your retirement savings makes managing your investments easier for you and increases your MMBB account. Turn over a new leaf and roll your money to MMBB.

If you need access to your money during your working years, you can borrow up to 20% of your RP or TDA account, and you may borrow up to 50% of your TAS account. Loans are subject to the plan minimum of \$1,000 and the IRS

maximum of \$50,000. The percentages available for withdrawal from you RP or TDA accounts are the same. At retirement, you must convert at least 50% of your RP account to a lifetime annuity under a choice of retirement income options. Your retirement income will be adjusted annually based on the Annuity Fund's investment experience, to help you better keep pace with the rate of inflation. Benefits paid to eligible clergy qualify for special tax advantages.

MMBB also makes medical, dental, and long-term care insurance available.

If you have any questions and wish to enroll, please contact either:

Ms. Rose M. Harper
Relationship Manager or
Mr. Dexter Perry, Consultant

Vice Presidents

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President
AveryRevKin@aol.com
(704) 637-0954

To the holy and faithful sisters and brothers in Jesus Christ of the General Baptist family: Grace and peace to you



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

from God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. I thank my God every time I remember you. "Because of your partnership in the gospel and the confidence of knowing that God will finish the good work God has started in you." (Philippians 1:5-6, paraphrased).

Several years ago, songwriter Jimmy Owens wrote a song entitled "Forgive Me, My Friend." He posed a revealing question: Have we failed those around us who look to see a glimpse of the Christ in us? In other words, as Christians who are called to be the "light of the world," have

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

we lit our lamps and put them under a bowl? Does the world around us view us as a city on a hill that cannot be hidden? Are we failing those who look to see a glimpse of the Christ in us?

A glimpse of the Christ...in us? YES! Jesus apparently gave the world permission to expect a glimpse of the Christ in us. Jesus issued this timeless challenge to His disciples of yesterday, for today, and through forever: "Let your light shine (for everyone), that they may see your good deeds and praise (God) in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, NIV).

How awesome and profound! A glimpse of the Christ in us:

- A glimpse of the Christ's COURAGE as displayed by Peter and John who decided to preach in the name of Jesus, anyway, anywhere, and anyhow (Acts 4:18-19).
- A glimpse of the Christ's COMPLETE STEWARDSHIP as displayed by the poor widow who gave all she had to live on (Mark 12:42 & Luke 21:2).

- A glimpse of the Christ's COMPASSION as displayed by Stephen when he prayed for his mockers and murderers (Acts 7:60).

- A glimpse of the Christ's CONSTANT & CONSISTENT PRESENCE as displayed by the women before the cross, at the cross, at the tomb, on Ascension Day, and before, during, and after the Day of Pentecost.

Many lives have been influenced because of the glimpses of the Christ in Christians who have left footprints on the sands of time. My beloved sisters and brothers, has anyone's life been positively influenced because they saw a glimpse of the Christ in us? Has our resistance to temptation and trust in God been a beacon of light to a weary traveler? Have we embraced and exhibited a life-surrendering and will-submitting PASSION FOR GOD...COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE?

The opportunity to provide a glimpse of the Christ in us is here and

now! The beneficiaries of our convention's objectives are watching and waiting to catch a glimpse of the Christ in us. Let us shine our lights and stand tall as a city on a hill for God through Jesus the Christ our Lord and Savior.

Today, this day, I am challenging every General Baptist disciple of Jesus to become a "glimpse-provider" through your prayerful, cheerful, and IMMEDIATE support of State Missions. State Missions is the engine that propels our convention through operations and programming. We need you to become the "fuel" that will equip and empower us all to "convince the unconvinced to be convinced through Education, Missions, and Fellowship."

Thank you in advance for your upcoming generous spiritual and financial support of State Missions and the General Baptist State Convention.

"The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen" (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV).

Second Vice President - Holy Land Tours in 2009

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
2nd Vice President
ldynch@ebccharlotte.org
(704) 598-2219



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

ALL ROADS LEAD TO JERUSALEM !!!
Walk Where Jesus Walked
Mt. Carmel ~ Valley of Armageddon ~ Nazareth ~ Cana ~ Tiberias
Capernaum ~ Sea of Galilee ~ Jordan River ~ Bethlehem ~

Jerusalem
Via Dolorosa ~ Pool of Bethesda ~ The Upper Room ~ Garden of Gethsemane
Calvary ~ Garden Tomb

February 9 - 16, 2009
Ordained Clergy Familiarization Trip
{The Israel Board of Tourism is currently supplementing the travel cost of ordained clergy to tour Israel.
The clergy must agree to return and bring a tour group to Israel within two years.
Now is a great time to take advantage of this offer!}
Ordained Clergy Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 7304
Base Price ~ Ordained Clergy - \$ 1,300.00 ~ Spouse - \$ 1,500.00
Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 {aprox.
We will know exactly 45 days prior to

Come experience the Trip of a LIFETIME
Holy Land Tour 2009
ALL ROADS LEAD TO JERUSALEM !!!

5th Generation Ministries will sponsor two
Holy Land Tours in 2009
Feb. 9 - 16, 2009 & Nov. 9 - 16, 2009

trip. This amount may change.) ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 119.00 ~ Your travel to New York for Departure {we will be informed of which airport - J. F. Kennedy Airport is most likely}
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00}
Tour Package Includes:
Airfare from New York, NY to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} All entrance fees as per itinerary
Farewell dinner

November 9 - 16, 2009
Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 6409
Base Price ~ \$ 2,999.00 ~ Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 ~ {aprox.
We will know exactly 45 days prior to trip. This amount may change.) ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 199.00
Double hotel occupancy

Early Bird Discount: Available for both tours
The discount is as follows:
\$75.00 discount for every passengers that send a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 9 months prior to departure date or \$50.00 discount for every passen-

gers that sent a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 6 months prior to departure date. Passports are required. Please secure your Passport ASAP

Tour Package Includes:
Airfare from Charlotte, NC to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} All entrance fees as per itinerary
Farewell dinner
A Non - Refundable deposit of \$ 250.00 is needed to secure a reservation.
Please make your deposit as soon as possible. Thank You.
Make all checks payable to:
Journey's Unlimited
494 8th Avenue, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10001
800-486-8359
Our travel agent is
Jayne Haynie
1-800-546-4777
Jhaynie22001@aol.com
For more information please visit our website
www.5thgenerationministries.com
You may contact
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
5th Generation Ministries, Inc.
P. O Box 26768
Charlotte, NC 28221-6768
leonzolyinch@yahoo.com

1 Peter 1:3 "A Loving Hope"

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President
pastorrickbanks@yahoo.com
(252) 335-5035

1 Peter 1:3 "A Loving Hope"

Peter's first letter was written to Christians in the northern part of Asia



Rev. Ricky Banks

Minor who were undergoing persecution. Peter wrote to encourage them to endure these persecutions patiently. Their example was Christ. They were to rejoice even in their trails, which they shared with fellow

Christians. This is one of the great passages in the New Testament. Peter's greeting passed into a doxology because the resurrection had changed his life.

Peter wanted his readers to be aware of the value of the gift they had received. He praised God for what he had done. "In accordance with His great mercy He has begotten us anew" (v.3). This new birth bestows an ever living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (v.3). Christian hope is a living reality. It is the product not of man's wishing but of God's action. This living hope can be compared to the birth of a new life. Peter used the word begotten to describe the

experience. It is God's creative work.

Christianity is the religion of Easter. Without the resurrection, we would have no Christian Church. Because Jesus Christ lives, the future is meaningful for all who believe. That is a living hope.

"SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL"
BEAR IN MIND: CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2008

SEPTEMBER 2008

5th-7th- Willie E. Gary Classic Bus Trip, Jacksonville, FL.

11th- Executive Board Meeting

13th- Chapter Meeting

13th- Used Shoe Fundraising Drive Ends

20th- Shaw University vs Lincoln University, Home Game (Durham, N.C.) 4:00PM

20th License Plate Drive, Shaw Alumni Complex

27th- Shaw University vs Bowie State University, Home Game (Durham, N.C.) 4:00PM

27th- License Plate Drive, Shaw Alumni Complex

Shaw University Homecoming 2008 October 16-19, 2008

Hotel Room Blocks are available at the following:

Sheraton Capital Center

421 S. Salisbury Street
\$104/tax \$12/parking
919-834-9900 or 1-800-325-3535 or (919) 834-9900
Ask for the Shaw University Block

Reserve by September 16

Clarion Hotel Downtown

320 Hillsborough Street
(919) 832-0501
\$79/night plus tax (1-2 people)
\$10 for each additional person (up to 4) • Free Parking
Ask for "Shaw University Homecoming" Block

Reserve by September 19, 2008

Hyatt Place

(formerly AmeriSuites Hotel)
1105 Navaho Drive
(919) 877-9997
\$89 night plus tax • Free Parking
Ask for "Shaw University Homecoming" Block

Reserve by September 26, 2008

Residence Inn

1000 Navaho Drive
(919) 878-6100
\$84/Studio Single \$89/Studio Double \$94/Studio King
\$134/Standard Penthouse and \$144/Penthouse Executive Suite
Per night plus tax Free Parking Continental Breakfast
Ask for "Shaw University Homecoming" Block
Reserve by September 29, 2008

65th Annual NAACP STATE CONVENTION October 9 thru 11, 2008

Dr. Vincent Terry
Fourth Vice President
mountpeachbc@aol.com
(919) 807-1194

Convention Planning Chairperson and the Entire NAACP State Executive Committee invite you to attend!

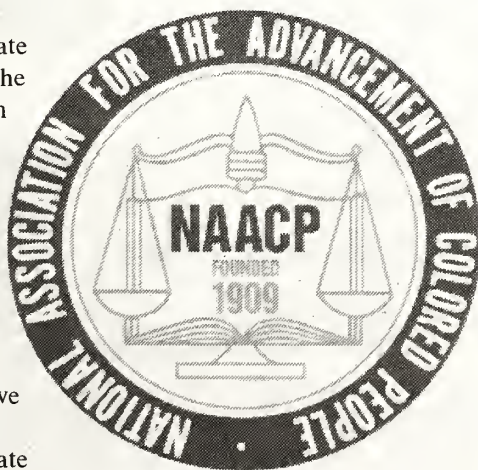


Dr. Vincent J. Terry

Save the date!

NC, NAACP State Convention at the North Raleigh Hilton Hotel, 3415 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27609, October 9 thru 11, 2008.

Rev. William J. Barber, II, State Conference President
Mrs. Amina J. Turner, State Executive Director
Mrs. Joyce H. Johnson, State



ENGAGING THE METHODS OF CHANGE: Power, Justice, Freedom, and the Vote

...Then and Now

MEET

NAACP'S BEN JEALOUS

New President and CEO

12 Noon Membership Luncheon, Friday, October 10, 2008
Call 1 866 NC NAACP OR log onto www.naacpsc.org

For Hotel Reservations Dial 1-800-HILTONS
By Sept. 8 and ask for "North Carolina NAACP" Rates.

Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention

2008 Calendar

SEPTEMBER

8-12 National Baptist Convention
27 Family Missions Conference

OCTOBER

Prayer month for Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School

10 Shaw University Founder's Day convocation
11 WBSA Institute Workers' Workshop, Baptist Headquarters

NOVEMBER

1 Youth Evangelism Conference
3 World Day of Prayer (BWA Woman's Dept)
27 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

25 Christmas Day

Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC Executive Secretary-Treasurer
pbrodie@wbhfmnc.org
(919) 833-4823
Mrs. Bronnie Daniels
(336) 767-6156

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
Thro' eternal ages let His praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living word of God I shall prevail,

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
Bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
Listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Saviour, as my all in all,

Chorus
Standing on the promises of God.
Standing, Standing, Standing
Standing on the promises, standing on the promises,
Standing on the promises of God my Saviour;
Standing, Standing on the promises,
standing standing on the promises,
I'm standing on the promises of God
—R. Kelso Carter

Yes, we need to be His disciples who stand and stand on His promises. Yes, we need to stand and sing and shout to Christ

Standing on the Promise of Christ My King



Bronnie Daniels

our King, praises; yes, we need to stand on His promises, "when the howling storms of doubt and fears assail", for it is by the living word of God" we shall prevail; yes, we need to stand on His promises so that "daily we can overcome with the Spirit's sword"; yes, we need to stand on His promises so that we "cannot fall while listening every moment to the Spirit's call and resting in our Savior as our all in all." For many a year (124) have we the Woman's Convention stood on the promises of Christ Jesus her Lord Who called her into existence and gave her the mission and direction to help GBSC promote "Christ In Every Home." As we begin another year, 125th year, which the Maker and Creator of heaven and earth has given, let us stand on His promises, singing, (rejoicing), praying, thanking, quenching not the Spirit, while we witness about Him (Christ Jesus) God and serve at His command faithfully, devoutly, holy, and patiently. Let us stand on His promises and see the salvation of the Lord to the end that His Will is done for, through, and by His called, sent and enabled handmaiden, along with GBSC. To God Be The Glory, Not to us!

Reminders

1. **National Convention, USA, Inc.**—During the week of September 8-12 2008, will be the 128th Annual Session in Cincinnati, Ohio.

2. **Family Missions Conference**—Reverend Daniel Lilly and Mitchell Baptist Church, Louisburg, NC 27549 will serve as hosts to the Annual Family Mission Conference on Saturday, September 27, 2008 beginning at 9:00 A.M. Concurrent sessions are planned for Seniors, Young Adults, and Youth. A joint workshop session follows the concurrent sessions.

Families who complete the Family Study Guide during August (Family Month) and attend this Conference will receive "The Family Altar" Certificate. All families across the State are invited to attend and share their sacrificial offering. The offering will be credited to the contributions of the family church to the Woman's Convention.

3 **The Youth Evangelism Conference**—The Person County Missionary Union may host the Conference which starts at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, November 1, 2008.

4. **The fiscal year ends in August 2008.** The checks and money orders should be

made payable and sent to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home And Foreign Missionary Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

The new fiscal year begins this month and ends in August 2008. The proposed budget this year will be \$803,325.00, which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable and sent to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home And Foreign Missionary Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. *In order to help us reach the State Missions Budget section, we earnestly suggest that you please give 25% to 50% more than the suggested quota or intended gift, or at least please see to it that 2/3 of the funds which you send, go to State Mission. Out of State Missions come all funds needed for Conventions, Retreats, Conferences, Youth Bible Camp, Leadership Training Conference, Workshops, printing, staff salaries and benefits, rental for facilities, office supplies, office equipment, office operations, postage and other*

unnamed essentials. Without your committed and general support hardly will the Woman's Convention be able to operate and minister in the name of Jesus Christ.



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

5. **Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer** materials may be secured from the office of the Woman's Convention. You may secure as many copies as needed as long as material are available.

As we focus on standing on His promises, let us remember that sacrificial giving is needed.

"Blessed be the Lord, that hath given rest unto His people Israel, according to all that he promised; there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant. The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers: let him not leave us, nor forsake us:"

—I Kings 8:56-57

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

Writers:

Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
Marvin E. Davis
Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
Wheeler L. Jones
T.L. Lewis
Robert L. Malone
Joseph L. Slade
Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-MAILED OR MAILED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ORIGINAL ORDER! FOR PRICING SEE THE WEB SITE!



1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com

Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN



State of the Baptist Association

Rev. Langston D. Logan, Sr.
GBSC Moderator of Moderators

One of Webster's dictionaries points out that "association" means companionship; fellowship; partnership. An organization of persons or groups of persons having common interests, purposes; similar or affiliated ideas; a group of persons organized for a common purpose.

If this meaning is true, then pastors and church members need to ask themselves a few gut wrenching questions. Such as: Are we as Christian living out the meaning of Christianity as Missionary Baptists? Secondly, have we as Christians received such great blessings to the point that we don't need to fellowship for the greater common good of Christianity and mission purpose? Thirdly, if we can't work together down here, how do we expect to be together in Heaven (a commonly asked question)?

I've listened to Moderators from around our great state. I've listened to pastors around the state. I've heard church members in my association and from around the state. The Moderators express a growing concern for pastors who feel they no longer need the Association or to participate in it any longer. Pastors receive negative feedback from the membership that are either not interested in attending, don't want to attend or fail to see the real purpose in attending associational sessions.

You don't need to look too closely at the contemporary Baptist church today, whether it be Missionary Baptist or otherwise. You find pastors with the title of

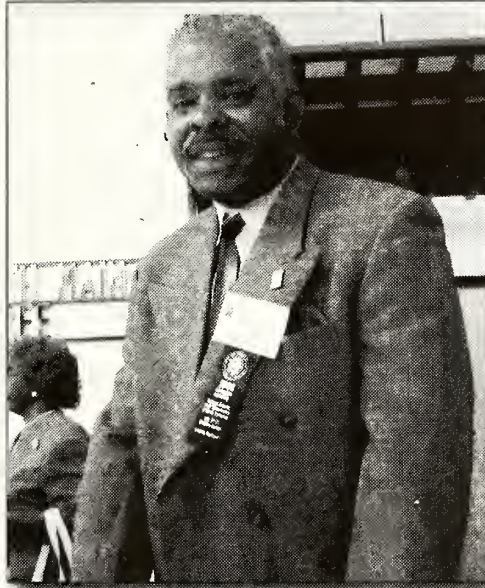
Bishop, "Reverend?" In my thirty plus years of ministry, I remember that at most conventions or religious gatherings most ministers that had pastured beyond five years were called "Reverend Doctor" whether they had theological training or not.

Nevertheless, the great fall away of pastors from associations must be taken seriously and prayerfully considered. One area that churches must seriously consider is a minister's religious background when in the search process. A minister outside of your denomination, if called to pastor your church, can often spell disaster. Today, many Baptist churches are extending the call to ministers outside the Baptist faith which often ends up in splitting the church. The Search Committee should be sure that the new minister has knowledge of and support the Association and the Convention on the state level.

With many obstacles often facing the pastor elect, if the membership is not in support of the association, the new pastor feels no need for additional confrontations especially if the new minister

has no background knowledge or knows no real purpose of the association. These are a few of the many reasons the pastor and membership fall short.

The knowledge, purpose of, and the importance of the association is vital for the following reasons: It is important that the membership have knowledge of the local association. The church should stress the importance of knowledge of the association and its function relative to the local church. This should be used as part of the criteria for the Search Committee to address prospective candidates for pastor. If the membership or Search Committee has



Rev. Langston D. Logan, Sr.
GBSC Moderator of Moderators

little or no knowledge of the local association and the pastor elect has little knowledge of the association, then the blind can't lead the blind. Every church and pastor should desire, even mandate some type of affiliation or connection on the local, state, and national levels.

When electing a pastor, it should be of the utmost importance to the church that the pastor has at least some knowledge of and orientation into the local association. It has also been expressed that churches must be very prayerful

and careful because once preachers are accepted as pastor, they often take the church out of the association, which is usually entirely contrary to what they stated to the Search Committee prior to being elected.

Secondly, Baptist Associations possess a historical legacy that its churches should have in their possession and pass on through teaching. It is important for member churches to know the history and purpose of their association. Much of the association's purpose can be found in its history. It is good for associations to have classes or workshops about their history and purpose of their association.

Today the association may have lost its purpose and importance to the contemporary pastor and the busy member for many reasons to be addressed at a later date. A growing number of pastors feel he/she does not need any part of the association. The repercussion is felt throughout GBSC as it reverberates through associations from pastor to church member as both are asking "What can I do for my association and my state convention?"

It is devastating lost and a tragic blow resulting in lost shepherds and lost sheep going astray.

These are just a few of the many reasons that have recently surfaced as to the fall away of pastors and churches from associations. Moderator, pastors, and church leaders, the question is: What shall we do and how shall we unite in fellowship for a stronger association and an even stronger General Baptist State Convention? The answer lies within each of us, individually and collectively. ■

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

SAVE THE DATE

November 15 - 17, 2008



of our beloved pastor

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr., and
First Lady C. Brenda Jones and their family

All events will be at 3400 Beatties Ford Road.

More details will follow...

Dr. James W. Smith
 Consultant Missionary Baptist Churches
 Pastor, Mt. Calvary MBC

A month or so ago I was looking at the television and saw a very disturbing scene. The Rev. Jesse Jackson who is an admired and respected individual was sitting at an interview table; supposedly after giving an interview to a Fox TV reporter. Frankly, I was watching MSNBC when they showed the Rev. Jackson's remarks made on a hot microphone. I will not attempt to quote his remarks but I literally cringed because I knew the media would try to make hey out of it. I was right.

I try not to involve myself in very controversial issues in this column but I must admit that what Rev. Jesse Jackson did was, in my opinion, very dumb. And frankly it had nothing to do with whether I agree or disagree with what he said. I happened to be from the Rev. Jesse Jackson's era and I too believe that government has a role in the private sector; that the poor and underprivileged need a helping hand and that affirmative action has been a positive impact for not only African Americans but for America.

"Don't Give Them A Mike"

After all, where would African Americans be if it had not been for the Civil Rights Act; the Voting Rights Act, etc. But by the same token Blacks must begin to take some personal responsibility for our actions. We can no longer use the blame game and the church must begin to address this as a moral and social issue. I, like Senator Obama, believe that men ought to support their children; that able body men and women ought to seek gainful employment and not constantly look for a handout.

It is important for African Americans to not get sidetracked by the positions of Rev. Jackson or Senator Obama for both positions have merit. I have a sense that many persons would like to see a divide within the African American community.

Now having said this, what Rev. Jackson did was, by any stretch of the imagination, "dumb." One would think that he was a political amateur but he is truly a seasoned politician and statesman. He should have known that Fox TV was no friend of his. He should have learned from the Rev. Wright's episode. He should have known that Fox TV would do anything necessary to turn a Black against a Black. He should have known that this is political season and that anything said can be used against you.

As a little boy growing up, I remember attending some events and hearing my mom say, "I hope they don't give him a mike." What I later learned she meant was, 1) he was going to talk to long, 2) he

didn't know what to say or 3) he would say the wrong thing.

This presidential race is too important for missteps and mishaps and if my mom was still living, I believe she would say, "Don't give them a mike."



Dr. James W. Smith

Do You Need... ENCOURAGEMENT... HOPE... UPLIFTING and INSPIRATION?

DEAL BY ME

by James W. Smith

A Must Read

"If you ever need an example of how Christ can transform a life of misplaced valued and hopelessness into a caring and useful servant, then this is the book to read."

Peggy Cardea, Former Volunteer, Prison Fellowship International
 Huntington, West Virginia

"This book is a must read for everyone. In this book, you will find every imaginable emotion that one can possess. The conclusion to this life story is a real victory and to God be the glory."

G. K. Butterfield, United States Congressman
 1st Congressional District, State of North Carolina

After sitting down to read this book, I could not put it down until it was finished. It is now 12:24 a.m. and I am disappointed that I have just read the last page. What a powerful story! Your writing is so vivid that I could feel what you experienced and could plainly see every detail, from the smoky pool halls to the cold, dreary cellblock.

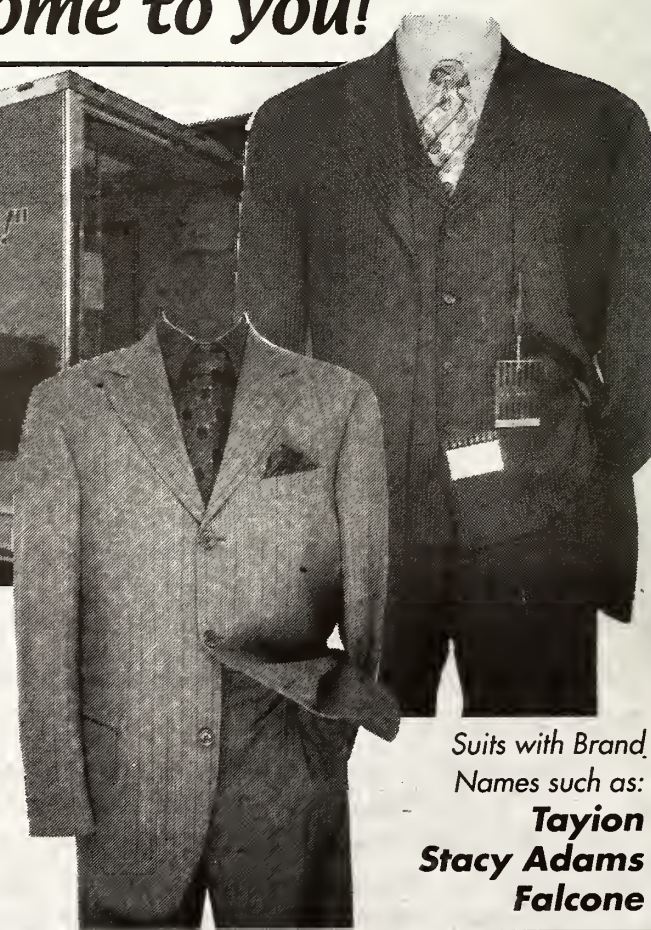
Linda M. Bailey, Cary, North Carolina

Books may be ordered online from www.authorhouse.com
 or www.jwsmithconsultant.com

**When you can't come to us,
 our mobile showroom will come to you!**

**Coordinating
 Group Outfits
 from Head-to-Toe!**
**Suits
 Shirt/Tie Sets
 Shoes**

**On-Site Group
 Fittings!**



**Suit Sizes to 80
 Shirt Sizes to 22**

**Call to Schedule
 a Showing!**

Suits with Brand
 Names such as:
**Tayion
 Stacy Adams
 Falcone**

Since 1952
ROWE'S
 MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
 HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

The Missionary Baptist Association

Portia Brandon

Field Report

Dates / Purpose

- August 2, 2008
Sweet Gum MBC
Church Retreat, Burlington, NC
- August 6, 2008
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church
Raleigh, NC, Workshop 7:30 pm
- August 8, 2008
Baptist Informer - Benson, NC
- August 11-15, 2008
Lott Carey Convention
Rochester, NY
- August 15, 2008
Wake Association Banquet
Raleigh, NC
- August 30, 2008
West Roanoke Association
Workshop

Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor
(919) 821-7466
gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net
portiabrandon@hotmail.com

Benefits of Belonging to the Missionary Baptist Association

1. Historically, Missionary Baptist Churches formally joined together after the examples in Scripture in order to have a forum for providing one another with advice when questions and controversies arose (Acts 15:1,6,24,28; 16:4ff.), for giving and receiving during times of poverty (1 Corinthians 16:3; Romans 15:26), for sending gifted brethren for the edification of the churches in need of the same (Acts 11:22), and for choosing messengers to accomplish work for God (2 Corinthians 8:19). Together they could have associational staff and funds for serving the churches in ongoing, specific ways approved by the churches. The church would be a part of such a present day cooperation among like-minded churches.
2. This organized relationship and fellowship provides a constancy of privileges, responsibilities and accountability for member churches that otherwise cannot be experienced. The Association does not organize only for special occasions or projects, nor is the flow of information to be unplanned or occasional. But as a family that has a continual relationship in Christ.
3. The churches meet annually, one day sessions, and mid-year sessions to enjoy fellowship in a way that enhances relationship, order, and a corporate vision to



Portia H. Brandon

serve the Lord faithfully.

4. Every church may participate in all levels of fellowship and cooperation in the life of the Association. There is no dominating church or groups of churches in the Association. Each church is of equal value in Christ Jesus.
5. By having a Moderator, all of the Association's churches have a contact person upon whom they may call for connecting with the whole. None of the pastors of churches must field all the inquiries and requests, nor are any pastors in a dominant role. The Moderator is chosen by the churches, as were Titus and another unnamed brother (2 Corinthians 8:16-24), and s/he serves the churches as a facilitator. S/He holds no authority over or among the churches and h/his work is guided by the churches on behalf of the Association.
6. Churches may participate in the work of home, foreign missions and ministerial training. This holistic approach for accomplishing the Great Commission serves to cover the major aspects of getting the task done. Committees made up of individuals from the churches focus attention on developing and servicing cooperative efforts in these major ministries. By pooling our resources and efforts, there is less duplication.
7. The Moderator is also able to visit the member churches, presenting informative missionary reports and preaching messages that teach missions. This also connects all the churches and the missionaries in a vital relationship.
8. There is also cooperation in training men for the gospel ministry, a work that is often beyond the abilities of individual churches. The various areas of theological training needed to prepare men for the Gospel ministry require some who have devoted themselves to concentrated study in order to school future pastors and mis-

sionaries in their training.

9. Clearly, the messengers of the Association can have no other authority with a local church than to give advice and offer assistance. But they do have the right to investigate difficult matters and to discuss their findings in the interest of all the churches in Association with one another, for the good of that larger body.
10. The Association can advise churches on proper procedures and beliefs in ecclesiastical matters. The early Associations were often called upon to advise local churches with their questions. The local church could choose to accept or reject the counsel of the Association. However, rejection of the Association's recommendations, especially concerning doctrinal matters, often led to the exclusion of that church from membership in the Association.
11. The Association should not attempt to bypass the pastor in its dealings with a local church. This is generally understood in the Association. The pastor, because of h/his divine appointment, is to be respected.
12. Many of the letters that come from the Moderator and the Clerk are addressed to the pastors. The pastors know their congregations, and they are expected to find ways to mobilize them to support the work. It is unlikely that a church will rise any higher than its pastor. Therefore, the relationship that the Association has with a pastor and vice versa is key to everything else.

The purpose of the Missionary Baptist Association:

1. to promote Christian Fellowship and cooperation among the churches affiliated with the Association;
2. to uphold the doctrines and principles of our Baptist faith: to encourage the

churches to be loyal to and practice these Biblical doctrines and principles; to promote the preaching and teaching of God's Word and the enlisting and training of all Christians for service; to promote missions, benevolence, stewardship, Christian Education, and the witness of all persons to Christ to the ends of the earth;

3. to cooperate with the Convention, in a world missions program;
4. To hold and administer such properties and funds that are required by the Association to carry out its stated business.

Baptist Association Ordination

'Ordination, in its popular sense', according to E.T. Hiscox, in the New Directory for Baptist Churches, 'is that form of service by which men are admitted to the ranks of the Christian ministry, and to the exercise of its functions — while ordination is but one of the avenues by which worthy men and women can be admitted to, and unworthy men and women excluded from, the sacred office, yet it is one, and should be sedulously guarded by watchful churches and conscientious councils — that the ministry be kept pure and true to its high calling. For, while neither churches nor councils can prevent a man or woman from preaching, if s/he desires to do it, and can secure hearers, they can refuse h/him recognition and fellowship in such a course, and ought to do it, if they believe h/him unfit or unworthy'.

Ordination is a matter that must be given seri-

ous and prayerful consideration. It is an act by which men and women are admitted to the rank and functions of religious teachers among our Baptist Family, and pastors of the flock of God in Jesus Christ. The pastor has the awesome responsibility of shepherding the flock which is no easy task. S/He is the custodian as well as the interpreter of the word of God. According to Franklin M. Segler, in his Broadman Minister's Manual, 'the term 'ordain' as it is ordinarily used in the ecclesiastical sense, never occurs in the New Testament. The Greek word translated 'ordain' in the King James Version is better translated 'appoint'. When Jesus said, 'ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you' (John 15:16 KJV), he used a word meaning to 'appoint' or 'lace' or 'set'. Paul and Barnabas 'appointed' elders in churches (Acts 14:23).

In both the Old Testament and the New

Testament leaders were 'set apart' in a special way. The 'laying on of hands' or the 'lifting up of hands' as in invoking a blessing upon someone was a biblical practice. New Testament examples include Acts 6:6, 13:3; I Timothy 4:14 and II Timothy 1:6. In the third Chapter of I Timothy, Paul speaks of the offices of bishops and deacons. He perhaps implies that church leaders were set apart to these offices. The term 'bishop' may be translated pastor or minister in modern terminology.'

Although the New Testament does not teach that ordination is an essential requirement for equipping leaders for their ministry, the ceremony seems in no way a conflict with the New Testament principles.

Missionary Baptist Association

PREPARATION FOR ORDINATION

Following is a list of recommendations that will better prepare a minister for the ordination for pastoral ministry. We recognize the autonomy of the local church and remind you that we can not force anyone to accept the following suggestions:

1. The responsibility of the candidate, pastor or/and home church:
 - a. The pastor and/or church should be honest with the minister and tell h/him if s/he is ready or not to be a pastor. This could save h/him some humiliation, and save a church future conflict.
 - b. The pastor and/or church should mentor the minister in areas of theology, missions, and church ministry.
 - c. The pastor and/or church should supply the minister with a copy of the Baptist Faith and Message, and then go over it with h/him until he understands the theology fully.
 - d. The pastor and/or church should not set a date for the presbyter meeting until the pastor and/or church is convinced that the minister is ready to be a pastor.
 - e. The church should mail invitations to the pastors of sister churches within the Association.
 - f. It is advised that the pastor or church should not plan the ordination service until after the Association Ordination Council has been fully satisfied with the candidate.
2. The responsibility of the candidate before his ordination:
 - a. S/He should spend time in prayer making sure that ordination is God's will.
 - b. S/He needs to be patient knowing that it is not uncommon for one to pastor a church for several months without being ordained if s/he has already accepted a call.
 - c. S/He should study in detail the Baptist Faith and Message and other books relating to Baptist Doctrine, missions, and church ministry

ORDINATION PROCEDURES

1. A candidate for ordination may approach the pastor of h/his church with a request to be ordained. The matter of h/his ordination is then presented to the church for approval.
2. Upon the approval by the church, the ordination council is notified by the pas-

tor of the church to examine the candidate as to h/his fitness for ordination.

3. The ordination council should be given sufficient time to ascertain the qualifications of the candidate. The time for the ordination service should be considered after the report from the ordina-

tion council has been received. The church should never assume that the council will approve the candidate.

4. When the ordination council meets, the procedures for examining should be understood by all members of the council. The council will organize itself by selecting a chairman, secretary, and a person who will lead in the examination of the candidate, with other members participating as they see fit.

SOME GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR ORDINATION

1. Ordination is an act of commitment in the presence of God's people on the part of the individual who feels God has called h/him to minister.
2. Ordination is an acknowledgment that God has bestowed certain gifts and has called the individual to service.
3. Ordination is an endorsement in the sight of the state of a minister's qualifications to function in its behalf. The ordained minister can lawfully solemnize marriage, bury the dead, administer the ordinance which the unordained cannot lawfully and or legally do.
4. The church must not be hasty in ordaining an individual. To 'lay hands hastily on no man or woman' (I Timothy 5:22) is sufficient warrant for a period of waiting between the time special call to the ministry and ordination. The candidate must first prove h/himself to be qualified in character and in gifts for the ministry.
5. Once a person has been ordained, s/he should live an exemplary Christian life and show h/himself to be a maturing leader in service of Christ.
6. The number of questions to be answered by the candidate from the

'Basic Questions for Examination of Ministers' will be determined by the ordination council. (Broadman Minister's Manual, Franklin M. Segle, Baptist Church Manual by J. E. Cobbr)



CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

BASIC QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION OF MINISTERS CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

1. What is your Christian experience?
2. What is your experience of having been called to preach?
3. Is there any way you can be sure that you have been called to preach?
4. What do you understand preaching to be?

BAPTIST DOCTRINES

1. What is your doctrinal views of the Bible as God's revelation?
2. Who wrote the Bible?
3. How many books are in the Bible?
4. How many covenants are in the Bible?
5. Name the following:
 - A. Five books of law
 - B. Twelve books of history
 - C. Five books of poetry
 - D. Five major prophets
 - E. Twelve minor prophets
6. What is the Gospel?
7. Name the four Gospel books.
8. What the Synoptic Gospels, and why are they called Synoptic Gospels?
9. What is the church?
10. Give an interpretation of the Trinity.
11. When does a person receive the Holy Spirit?
12. What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?
13. Give an interpretation of the following terms:
 - A. Conversion
 - B. Faith
 - C. Repentance
 - D. Regeneration
 - E. Sanctification
14. Give, in your own words, a definition of God.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

1. How do you organize a church?
2. What are the requirements for church membership?

3. What form of church government does the Baptist Church have and why?
4. Why is a Baptist church called an autonomous body?
5. What do you understand to be the role of the pastor as the under shepherd of the flock?

CHURCH POLICY

1. What are the three ways into the fellowship of a Baptist church and the three ways out of the fellowship of a Baptist church?
2. How many ordinances are there in a Baptist church and what are they?
3. What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion?
4. What mode of baptism is used in the Baptist Church and why according to the scripture?
5. Name the two spiritual officers in the Baptist church and what are their qualifications?
6. Why does a church have trustees and what are their duties?
7. What are public and private offenses?
8. What are the steps in dealing with public and private offenses?

CHURCH AND DENOMINATIONAL RELATIONSHIP

1. Give your personal attitude toward the practicing of Christian stewardship and the support of mission and Christian education.
2. What is your personal attitude toward pledging your loyalty to your pastor, fellow ministers, local church, association, local and state convention?
3. How many National Baptist Conventions do we have in the U.S.A.?
4. Who is the Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention?
5. Who is the President of the General Baptist State Convention?
6. What are the major objectives of the General Baptist State Convention?

CHURCH-DENOMINATIONAL AND CIVIC RELATIONSHIP

1. Who is the Governor of the State of North Carolina?
2. Name the capital of North Carolina.
3. How many counties are in the State of North Carolina?
4. Name the capital of the U.S.A.
5. How many states are there in the U.S.A.?
6. Who is the President of the U.S.A.?

What Baptist Believe



Ms. Lula Gainey

Ms. Lula Gainey
President
(910) 728-8718

1. **Biblical Authority** – The Bible is the final authority in all matters of belief and practice because the Bible is inspired by God and bears the absolute authority of God Himself. 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:20, 21.

2. **Autonomy of the Local Church** – The local church is an independent body accountable to the Lord Jesus Christ, the head of the church. All human authority for governing the local church resides within the local church itself. Thus the church is autonomous, or self-governing. No religious hierarchy outside the local church may dictate a church's beliefs or practices. Autonomy does not mean isolation. A Baptist church may fellowship with other churches around mutual interests. Colossians 1:18; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5, 19, 23.

3. **Priesthood of the Believer** – Every believer today is a priest of God and may enter into His presence in prayer directly through our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ. No other mediator is needed between God and people. We can study God's Word, pray for others, offer spiritual worship to God. 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 5:9, 10.

4. **Two Ordinances** – The local church should practice two ordinances: (1) baptism of believers by immersion in water, identifying the individual with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection, and (2) the Lord's Supper, commemorating His death for our sins. Matthew 28:19, 20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32.

5. **Individual Soul Liberty** – Every individual, whether a believer or an unbeliever, has the liberty to choose what he believes is right in the religious realm. No one should be forced to assent to any belief against his will. Baptists have always opposed religious persecution. However, this liberty does not exempt one from responsibility to the Word of God or from accountability to God Himself. Romans 14:5, 12; 2 Corinthians 4:2; Titus 1:9.

6. **Baptist Believe in the Justification of Jesus Christ on the cross.** – We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him

is Justification; that Justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done; but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed unto us. Isaiah 53:11; Habakkuk 2:4; Zechariah 13:1; Acts 13:39; Romans 1:17; 4:1; 5:1-9; 8:1; Galatians 3:11; Titus 3:5-7; Hebrews 10:38

7. **The Church Covenant and the 18 Article of faith** – The New National Baptist Hymnal contains the Church Covenant on page 4, and 18-Articles of Faith.

8. **Separation of Church and State** – God established both the church and the civil government, and He gave each its own distinct sphere of operation. The government's purposes are outlined in Romans 13:1-7 and the church's purposes in Matthew 28:19 and 20. Neither

should control the other, nor should there be an alliance between the two. Christians in a free society can properly influence government towards righteousness, which is not the same as a denomination or group of churches controlling the government. Matthew 22:15-22; Acts 15:17-29.

9. **The Lordship of Jesus Christ** – Born of the virgin Mary [Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:26-35], He declared His deity among men [John 1:14, 18; Matthew 9:6], died on the cross as the only sacrifice for sin [Philippians 2:6-11], arose bodily from the grave [Luke 24:6, 7, 24-26; 1 Corinthians 15:3-6], ascended back to the Father [Acts 1:9-11; Mark 16:19]. He is at the right hand of the Father, interceding for believers [Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25] until He returns to rapture them from the world [Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18].

(Baptist Beliefs by E.Y. Mullins)
Basic Baptist Beliefs: by Harold Rawlings



Congress Officers (2006-2010)

- Lula Gainey, President
- Frank Byrd, 1st VP
- M. L. Kaufman, 2nd VP
- Betty Adams, 3rd VP
- Roosevelt Baxter, 4th VP
- Janifer Campbell, Dean
- Jamale Johnson, Asst. Dean
- Alberta Moore, Secretary
- Antiono Scott, Asst. Secretary
- C. Trumillia McDowell, Oratorical Director
- Debbie Moore, Asst. Oratorical Director
- David Eggeston, Musician

Homegoing of Living Legend Dr. C.A.W. Clark

July 30, 2008

The Reverend Dr. Caesar Arthur Walter Clark, Sr., internationally known Baptist pastor who spent 58 years as pastor of The Good Street Baptist Church, one of Dallas, Texas' first mega-churches, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, July 27, 2008, at his Oak Cliff home.

Dr. Clark, 93, was with his family, including wife Carolyn and grandchildren.

According to the Dallas Morning News, services was held on Monday, August 4, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. at Good Street. Viewing was all day Saturday, followed by a celebration of his life Sunday during normal church services.

Dr. Clark was born December 13, 1914 in Shreveport, Louisiana. He gave his life to the Lord at the age of 14 and was called to preach at the age of 15. He was called to pastor his first congregation, Israelite Baptist Church of Longstreet, Louisiana at the age of 19. He subsequently served as the pastor of congregations in Louisiana and Tennessee.

In 1950 he accepted the call to serve as pastor of Good Street Baptist Church. He remained as shepherd of that flock until July 27, 2008 - over 58 years in one pulpit.

He mentored generations of preachers and pastors. There are literally thousands of preachers who either began their ministry at Good Street, sought his counsel and support, or were assisted in some other way by Dr. Clark.

Dr. Clark was an often imitated minister who's preaching cadence would captivate the hearts of those who heard him. There are few ministers to whom you

would give the title "legend," however, Dr. Clark was legendary. If you heard him preach, you would never forget his oratory or his way of "closing" his sermons. He preached classic sermons that resonate today in recordings and on YouTube for this generation and generations to come.



He was a force religiously, politically, and socially in Dallas, Texas, and the nation. He conducted revivals, crusades and annual days across the United States and around the world. He was a leader of conventions serving as a State President, Vice President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., candidate for the Presidency of NBCUSA, Inc., and lecturer for the Ministers' Division of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education.

At Good Street, the congregation numbered in the thousands before the term "mega-church" was popular. He was a benefactor for years of his alma mater, Bishop College, and he gave leadership and direction to the L.K. Williams Ministers Institute and the Dallas City-Wide Revivals. At Good Street he organized many ministries including a day-care center, a credit union, low income housing, and a legal clinic - several ministries were either the first in the area or one of the first.

Politically he opened his pulpit to civil rights leaders from around the nation including his good friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr. and his son, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please pray for Sister Clark and the Clark Family along with the people of Good Street.

All-Baptist Assembly 2008



All-Baptist Assembly 2008



Laymen's League

Leadership of the NC State Laymen's League (2006-2010)

Theodore David, President
 Richmond Turner, First VP
 Gregory Gabriel, Second VP
 James L. Geter, Third VP
 William L. Pointer, Jr., Fourth VP
 Mr. Samuel Greene, Secretary
 Mr. Nathaniel Daniels, Treasurer
 Joseph J. Scott, Youth President
 Tedric Taylor, Youth VP
 James Burt, Youth Secretary
 Darrell Cozard, Asst. Secretary

CALENDAR

September 13, 2008
 Laymen's Men's Retreat
 Nicey Grove MBC
 Marshville, NC
 Pastor, Dr. M.L. Kaufman

September 26-28, 2008
 Walter Cade Jr. SE Regional
 Laymen's Workshop,
 Greenville, SC

Dec. 13, 2008
 Quarterly Study Comm.
 Gethsemane Baptist Ch
 Salisbury, NC
 Dr. Clary Phelps, Pastor

The 12th Annual Walter Cade, Jr. Southeast Laymen's Workshop

"Jesus Christ Only, Always"
 "Walking In The footsteps of
 Jesus"

Matthew 4:29

Greenville, South Carolina
 Carolina First Center
 Walter Cade, Jr. Southeast
 Laymen's Workshop

SCHEDULE

September 26, 2008 Youth Night
 7:40 p.m.

September 27, 2008 Workshops

September 27, 2008 Street
 Evangelistic Service

September 27, 2008 Banquet
 7:00 p.m.

September 27, 2008 Laymen's Wives
 Luncheon - 12:30 p.m.

September 28, 2008 Early Morning
 Service - 6:00 a.m.

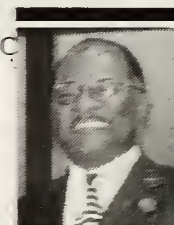
Workshop History

YEAR	CITY	THEME
1997	St. Louis, Missouri	"Men Ordained Unto God Works". Eph. 2:10
1998	Memphis, Tennessee	"Men Trained, Dressed & Prepared For Battle". 2 Tim. 2:2-4
1999	Huntsville, Alabama	"Men Living Christian Lives In A Changing World". Matt. 5:13
2000	St. Louis, Missouri	"Pressing Toward The Mark". Phil 3:14
2001	Atlanta, Georgia	"Men Shining The Light of Jesus".
2002	Spartanburg, SC	"Man Get Up". Gen. 2:1, 3:7-11 & Acts 3:1-6
2003	Memphis, Tennessee	"Men Following God's Purpose"

Phil. 1:3-14, 27-30,
 4:4-20
 2004 St. George, SC

2005 Valdosta,
 Georgia
 "Defeating Satan
 Through Christian
 Education".
 Eph. 4:11-16

2006 Raleigh, NC
 "Striving For The Mark of Christian
 Maturity". Romans 12:2



Theodore
David

2007 Palatka, FL
 "Denying Oneself, Cross Bearing
 & Fellowship". Mathew 16:24



Walter Cade Jr. Southeast Regional Workshop

Greenville, SC

Housing and Registration Form

September 26, 27 and 28, 2008

All packages include two nights stay in the hotel, all meals, and a banquet ticket. Everyone who eats will need a ticket. Meal tickets will be available for children at the meal site (12 years old and under will be half price of the meal cost). There will be no charge for children that stay in rooms with their parents. Everyone will need a banquet ticket. (Banquet tickets are \$25.00)

TYPE OF ROOM:

Single \$200.00

Double Occupancy \$145.00/per person

Extra banquet tickets \$25.00 each

(All children need a banquet ticket)

TOTAL AMOUNT \$

NAMES) ROOM OCCUPANT (PLEASE PRINT COMPLETE NAME)

Address

TYPE OF ROOM: Single Double

Name(s) of Other Room Occupants (Children)

Senior Pastor: Yes No

If yes, would you like to preach at a local Church on Sunday? Yes No

Please return this completed form to

Your State President or His Designee

Your Phone Number Including Area Code

Ministers Wives and Widows Fellowship

*Mrs. Lena Johnson
President, Ministers Wives
WBH & FMC*



Mrs. Lena Johnson

For this edition of the Baptist Informer, I came across an interesting article as I was searching through some of my reading material. The question that prevailed as I reflected on the article was, "What's Under the Hat?" - Are we as Ministers' Wives just sitting pretty with no spiritual substance? I hope as you read this article in your quiet time that you think about your role in the church and as your husband's help mate. Take the time to answer the questions I have included at the end of this article and e-mail me your thoughts at cjohnson035@nc.rr.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

By KARAN MINNIS, a Reporter for Guardian Lifestyles

They wear beautiful hats, they're always sharply dressed, and they always look ... well, perfect every Sunday morning as they sit in the front pew of the church or on the altar. They are the "First Ladies" of the church.

But there is more to these women than what meets the eye, and the first core value of these pastor's wives, is to live and lead by example. Protecting her family and her community are also high on the agenda for these Baptist Church women.

But for many the role of the "first lady" is almost an enigma. Who is she and what is her role? According to some, a first lady is possessed with the responsibility to comfort and support her husband as a man of God. And to others, it is just a title.

But according to 'First Lady' Sheila Brown, wife of Rev. Evertte Brown, the senior pastor of New Bethlehem Baptist Church, there is more to a "first lady's" role than many my think. "My role is to lead by example," said Brown. "It's also basically just to pray for the ministry and pray for my husband. I have to pray for him, so that God will be allowed to lead him in the right direction. In life, we are all faced with so much turmoil and difficult times, but the life of a pastor is no different. And to lead a congregation of 800-1,000 persons, and to deal with all those mixed emotions and different personalities you have to have

God leading you, and my job is to help him, my husband, with that," she said. And Mrs. Brown said that as she goes about her duties, she is always praying - for her husband, the ministries, and the church.

And she said that she sets an example too for their church members. "I do my part. That's my role," said Brown who has been married for 22 years, and who has held the title of "First Lady" for the past six years.

Although she is the "First Lady", she does not attempt to take over. "I have headed a few committees, and I do assist wherever I'm needed but I don't want to seem like I'm taking over. I'm active in my role, but I try not to take on too much at one time."

But according to Minister Sharon Williamson, the current "First Lady" of Trinity Full Gospel Baptist Church, the term tends to mean several things to different people.

"I'm sure you're getting different answers from different people, but there are some "first ladies" who think that their role is just to sit down in the front seat of church looking pretty and they don't do anything," said Williamson. "But on the other hand, my role is much more intense because I'm also the administrator for the church and I am co-pastor, meaning that I assist my husband in ministry."

"I often tell the women in our church that they are all "first ladies" in their own respective places - in your marriage and in your home. And I know that a lot of people may not understand this, but I am just the "First Lady" of Trinity Full Gospel Baptist Church, that's it. To me it doesn't matter how people refer to me, some call me pastor, others call me the "First Lady," but it just doesn't matter," she said.

In her duties to her church family, Williamson prefers to be hands-on. "I'm not the type to sit there and do nothing. I'm simply a woman of God and I enjoy doing God's work. But one of the main roles that we have to realize is that at home the pastor is our husband, but when we get in church he's our pastor as well. So we have to submit to him just like everybody else. You can't be trying to run the show, you have to know your role," she said.

Williamson, who has been married for 15 years, became a "first lady" nine years ago after her husband, Trevor Williamson, was appointed senior pastor of their church, but according to her that wasn't always the plan.

"When I got married I didn't know this would have happened," she said. "It

just happened this way. I believe that God had a plan and this was it. I don't take my role as a joke, but even if I wasn't a "First Lady," I would still be as active as I am now. I see this as my duty and my purpose, which is to be an active woman of God."

"That is my role, and I embrace it," said Williamson, who is just one of many minister's-wives who are held in high regard in churches in the country. After I reflected on the statements of Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Williamson, several questions came to my mind regarding the changing role of the minister's wife. Our answers to these questions require some self-examination. But as we ponder them in our hearts, prayerfully, they will lead us to a better understanding of what it means to be "chosen" to walk beside one who has been "called" to preach the Gospel.

1. What is the minister's wife role to you - is it wearing beautiful hats, always looking sharply dressed, and looking perfect every Sunday morning as you sit in the front pew of the church?
2. What do you feel about the term "First Lady?"
3. Are you a doer or supporter?
4. How do you protect your husband?
5. When the young women of the church approach you, do you feel comfortable sharing scripture that may serve to reprove them for their actions or lack of action?
6. How do you use your spiritual gift in the ministry of the church?
7. How comfortable do you feel in being transparent with ladies of the church as it relates to guiding them through a similar situation?
8. Minister's wives are always trying to do and to be what other people expect from us. Do you feel a need to reshape the "glass slipper" or do you feel if it fits, wear it?
9. Do you sometimes say "yes" when you should have said "no"?
10. Do you feel overburdened or overwhelmed by the responsibilities you have accepted?
11. How do you remain your husband's best supporter in the ministry and at the same time establish your own identity?
12. How do you maintain balance in your life?
13. If your husband dies, do you feel that your duties end?
14. Do you feel that you need friends? If you have a close personal friend, how do you handle that friendship as not to cause other



RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Enlist ministers' wives and widows who are members or affiliated with the Woman's Convention or GBSC.
2. Send a letter from the Chairperson and/or Co-Chairperson to the office by March 31, unless otherwise notified. This letter will be sent to members and other persons whom you suggest. Send with the letter the addresses of persons to be contacted to share in giving.
3. Attend the Retreat.
4. Attend the Luncheon.
5. Give funds for Shaw Divinity School.
6. Support the program/ministry of the Woman's Convention.
7. Plan a program for sharing during the Annual Session.
8. Function at the pleasure of the Woman's Convention and according to its direction.

- members to become jealous or to distance themselves from you?
15. How do you bind up a spirit of self-righteousness or self-importance because your husband is a minister?
 16. How do you make senior citizens feel that they are still vital to the ministry when the young people are saying they won't accept anything new?
 17. Do you encourage women to learn who they are in God, and to build a personal relationship with the Savior?
 18. Do you teach women how to become Proverbs 31 women, by setting an example of how to be a mother, wife, and friend?
 19. How do see your role evolving to meet the needs of a changing congregation?

Ushers' Convention Officers (2006-2010)

Helen M. Thompson, President
(910) 488-5322n

Charles W. Dunn,
1st Vice President

2nd Vice President
Archie T. Lofton, Jr.

3rd Vice President
Norman H. Dorsey, Sr.

4th Vice President
Valerie Singleton

Mary Belle, Recording Secretary

Viola N. Thorton,
Assist Recording Secretary

Martin Clowney, Dean

Charlie Rhodes, Assistant Dean

Youth Supervisors: Felton Davis
Charlie Rhodes

State Coordinator
Nancy High



Helen
Thompso

2008 Calendar of Events

October 18, 2008

Ushers Executive Board
Baptist Headquarters, Raleigh NC

October 28-29, 2008

GBSC Annual Session

November 7-8, 2008

Ushers Retreat Assembly

Piney Wood Chapel MBC celebrates 70th Usher's Anniversary

The Pastor Reverend Matthew Silver, ushers, officers, and the family of Piney Wood Chapel Missionary Baptist Church celebrated their 79th usher's anniversary June 29, 2008. Joining them as guest minister for the 11 am service was Reverend James Freeman of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church Durham, NC. He was accompanied by his Ushers and choir. The theme for the service was "Usher: Service of God" Galatians 5:13, St. John 12: 26, Colossian 3: 23, 24. Rev. Freeman used several other scriptures to render his stirring sermon (1st Corinthians 12: 28, Matthew 25: 21, Corinthians 14:10, Matthew 15:13 and Galatians 5: 22,23).

The stirring sermon focused on the following points to highlight the message.

• Church ushering is a servant of God

• A usher must exercise spiritual gifts and constantly remain his or her self that they are serving the Lord not man.

• The responsibility of a church usher is welcoming the body, visitors and setting atmosphere for worshipping God during and after the service.

• Ushering is not a small task. It is a ministry of helping God's people and implemented with love. He made a point of ushering is a helping ministry and meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the church. A usher will never be effective unless he/she know God. Ushers should attend Bible Study, Sunday School,

Prayer Service and tithe. Deaconess/Usher Clarece Holley stated that the choir and ushers did an outstanding job Rev. James Freeman gave the benediction and offered the blessing prior to the dinner in the Fellowship Hall. It was truly a high spirited day.

MINISTERAL ETHICS

A. The confidential statements made to a minister by h/his parishioners are privileged and should never be divulged without the consent of those making them.

B. It is unethical for a minister to interfere directly or indirectly with the church work of another minister.

C. Except in emergencies, ministerial service should not be rendered to the members of another church without consulting the minister of that church.

D. It is unethical for a minister to make overtures to or consider overtures from a church whose pastor has not resigned unless there is a general understanding among the ministers.

E. It is unethical for a minister to use sermon material prepared by another, without

acknowledging the source from which it came.

F. The minister is not under obligations to marry every couple that comes to h/him to be married. The power of refusal, however, should be exercised with great discretion.

G. It is unethical for a minister to speak ill of the character or work of another minister, especially of h/his predecessor or successor. In case of unethical conduct of serious nature, the matter should be reported to the proper body.

H. As members of the same profession and brothers/sisters in the service of the same God, the relation between ministers should be one of frankness and cooperation. (Ministerial Ethics: Moral Formation for Church Leaders by Joe E. Trull)



Baptist Informer

RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM



Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check) _____ Number of Years: (check one)

New Subscription 1 Year 2 Years

Renewal 3 Years

Address Change (include old address label)

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention

603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601

(919) 821-7466 • www.gbisc.org

Signature _____

Youth For Christ: Q & A

1. How do I know that God will stand with me if I don't join a gang?

Jesus makes a powerful statement in John 10:10 NIV: The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. But then Jesus goes on to say, I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. You won't need a substitute "family" that only leads you into death and destruction. Rely on your heavenly Father, and He will provide you with new friends. He will prosper you by giving you a more satisfying life. Accept the life that He gives. It doesn't matter what the devil tries to do to destroy your youth; God is still able to raise up a generation that seeks Him fully. He the One Who will give you a dream, a vision, a purpose and a reason to get out of bed in the morning.

2. Does the Bible say it's wrong to drink or to smoke marijuana?

The Bible as a whole tells a story about a God Who wants His people to be set free from death and anything that causes death. Marijuana (or pot) and alcohol are two things the world offers us as a temporary escape. God wants you to be free of everything that pollutes your spirit and body, including pot and alcohol. Once you realize that fact, it is easy to wise up to the devil's deception and refuse to fall for it. Don't compromise your freedom for a cheap escape.

3. Why is it important who I hang around with?

One of the hardest things about junior high and high school can be to find friends who aren't going to pressure you to do ungodly things. The best option you have is to make sure that you are hanging around people who respect your values and beliefs.

4. A lot of TV and movies have sexual content. Should I stop watching them altogether?

The Bible says in Psalm 101:3 that we are to set before our eyes no vile thing.

It's true that TV and movies will pollute the way we think or act, especially when the programs and movies we watch are full of worldly junk. Why is that? Because God made us to receive natural information through our eyes and ears. When we turn on the TV and watch that kind of ungodly garbage, we need to draw the line and refuse to watch that junk.

5. Why are so many girls in my school getting pregnant?

There is a lot of compromise in the world, and sometimes it is easy to blur lines and

confuse issues.

When a teenage girl gets pregnant, it is only a symptom of the sin of premarital sex. This happens when teenagers don't fully understand or care about what God's Word says on the subject of waiting until marriage for sex.

6. Everything that comes on the TV is so negative and violent, what can I do about it?

So many people rip into the media, saying how biased and corrupt it is, and there is a lot of truth to that accusation. But how can you as a teenager survive spiritually in a world full of negative media messages? Well, you can't live in a bubble the rest of your life, but you can be careful about what you hear and see, refusing to feed your mind with ungodly programs that grieve your spirit. You can also be a part of the solution by standing up and supporting the kind of television programming you believe in.

7. If I think I have an eating disorder, what should I do?

When somebody develops an eating disorder such as anorexia or bulimia, it stems from a negative view they have of themselves, either physically or emotionally or both. Eating disorders are most common in the lives of teenage girls. That isn't too surprising, especially considering the issues of self-esteem that every single teenager has to face. In addition, today's society puts great pressure on girls in particular to look a certain way.

Don't listen to what the devil has to say about you. Listen to what God and His Word say. If you have been struggling with eating disorders, pray and believe God to heal you on the inside. Then find a good doctor to help you learn how to take care of your body in a way that glorifies God in you.

8. What can the church do to prepare believers to stand strong when being teased?

Christians need to understand that godly behavior is likely to cause a response. Some will respectfully inquire about why a person wants to be a Christian. Others will react with disdain. Young Christians need to be encouraged to take a stand. They must be taught that opposition is to be expected. They need sound instruction in what they believe and in how to present that. They need good models of how to turn an attack into an opportunity to share

Christ.

9. What other promises can we commit to memory that will keep us from losing heart even in the face of the toughest situations? Why are these promises important?

The Bible reminds us that God is full of grace and always supplies what we need. Just when we begin to doubt our ability to hold on any longer, God provides strength and sufficient blessings (Romans 8:26-28; Philippians 4:19). If the Christian felt strong in every situation, he or she would sense no need for God and would soon start praising self and relying on personal strength. When the Christian acknowledges weakness, then he or she is very excited about praising the God who supplies all strength for both the good times and the bad. (See 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.)

10. Hurtful words spoken by those with differences of opinion often are the root cause of many church fights or splits. How can the church develop ways to help resolve disputes and at the same time help bring to maturity those who would use their tongues in destructive ways?

Read Proverbs 6:16-19. Three of the things God hates specifically in this passage involve the improper use of the tongue. Ideally, when one Christian has said something to hurt another, either one of them should be mature enough to approach the other to seek a resolution of the differences (Matthew 5:23, 24; 18:15-17). But often these folks need assistance. Those who intervene must use the principles of Galatians 6:1 and 2 Timothy 4:2 as well as the qualities of James 3:17, 18. The goal is threefold: find a resolution to the dispute between the individuals at odds, protect the integrity of the church as a whole, and help those in the conflict learn a better way to settle differences in the future.

11. There is a growing emphasis today on the need for Christians to become involved in politics and public issues. What are the advantages and dangers of such a policy?

Since we are exhorted to "do good unto all men" (Galatians 6:10), it may be possible to accomplish this better through political action. Also, the same purpose

could be served as that for which Paul recommended prayers for those in authority, namely, "that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty" (1 Timothy 2:2). On the other hand, it may prove increasingly important to enter the political arena to combat objectionable laws regarding abortion, homosexual "rights," suppression of religious freedom, etc. A major danger is that we shall become so enamored of political maneuvering that we shall lose sight of our primary task of proclaiming the gospel. Also, there is a danger of identifying certain political positions as the Christian viewpoint, thus creating division within the church.

12. What causes some persons to be jealous of the success or position of others, and how can this be overcome?

Probably our uncertainties about ourselves, including a lack of a sense of self-worth, cause us to envy the attainments of others. Inside, we have not learned to thank God for what He has given us, to trust Him, and to rejoice with the achievements of others.

We can overcome this sin by recognizing it, repenting of it, accepting God's forgiveness, and rejoicing that He has saved us and that He accepts us. When we realize that only our relationship to Him has ultimate meaning, we will not be so concerned over the fact that others have successes in this life that are denied us.

13. How should we respond to persons who constantly agitate others, criticize, and spread rumors?

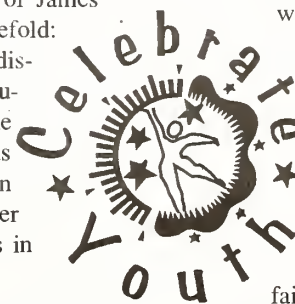
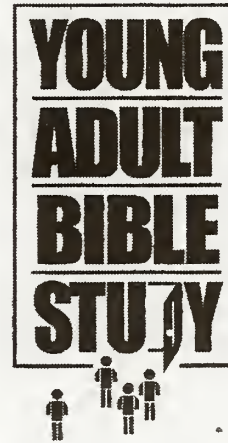
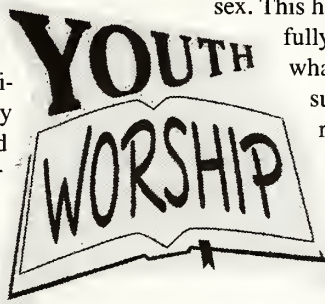
We should always speak with love, but also with firmness. We should tell them that we will not listen to words that are destructive. We should refuse to approve their criticism, not just by remaining silent but by informing them that we do not accept what they are saying. If they are speaking critically of someone else, we can ask them if they are willing to say to that person's face what they are saying behind his back.

14. Why does the temptation to gossip exercise such a powerful influence on us?

Gossip gives one a sense of being superior. Relating the failures of others may suggest to us that we are more moral or more Christian than they. Also, the one who has a juicy bit of news may feel superior because he knows things that others do not know. They get center stage while they tell these things.

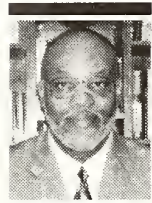
Acknowledgement: KJV

How To Get Your Teenager To Talk To You
Author: Victor Books



“Understanding Prison Ministry from a Christian Worldview”

Romans 12:21



Michael R. Smith, Sr.,
M. Div.

June 2008 ©

Introduction

Michael R.
Smith

Prison ministry is one area of missions the local church must increase its efforts in the 21st century. Presently, the United States of America leads the world in incarcerating our citizens. The 2008 report from The Pew Center on the States reveals “Three decades of growth in America’s prison population has quietly nudged the nation across a sobering threshold: for the first time, more than one in every 100 adults is now confined in an American jail or prison (2,245,189).”¹ This reality means our prison population is the largest mission field in our country. The social ramifications of so many lives impacted by incarceration are staggering when you think about victims of crime, children of inmates, offenders’ families, economic issues, and inmates. Also, the local church is filled with persons affected by crime or incarceration. I believe we are in the midst of a crime and incarceration crisis in our country. Now is the time for churches to become strategic leaders in responding to this crisis by having effective prison ministries.

The question needs to be raised why prison ministry is such a low priority for most local churches? Why don’t church leaders promote and encourage more outreach to lives impacted by crime and incarceration? In the midst of this crime and incarceration crisis, why is this issue still being ignored by the church? Thankfully, over the past several years we have seen a slow increase of attention given to preventive and aftercare issues in responding to youth and persons returning from prison. This reality is encouraging, but the need is so great, it will take church coalitions to address it adequately. Yet each local church is where prison ministry can begin reaching, reconciling, and restoring lives.

Nowhere in our society are we challenged to get more involved than in prison ministry. “Remember those in prison, as if you were there yourself.”²

Definition of Prison Ministry

Defining prison ministry is crucial if church leaders are going to be effective in leading churches to get more involved. The traditional view of prison ministry is a group of volunteers from a local church going to a prison to hold services for the inmates. The success of the

service is determined by how many of the inmates came to Christ at the end of the service. Prison ministry in this context is defined as going to prisons to preach to inmates in order for them to be saved. This surface understanding of prison ministry is prevalent still today. The crime and incarceration crisis is challenging the church to see prison ministry from different angles. This leads to defining prison ministry from a broader perspective. In reality, the prison is only a physical location where a person is incarcerated. The term “prison” ministry only describes where the ministry will take place. The operative word is “ministry”. Thus, defining prison ministry is more concerned about to whom we minister than where. The incarcerated person is to whom the ministry comes. This may seem to be simplistic, but over the years, I have seen too many volunteers who cannot make the distinction. Prison ministry that does not reach the incarcerated person is not prison ministry. This leads us to understand that defining prison ministry begins with understanding the incarcerated person. Who are these individuals?

The second part of defining prison ministry has more to do with the prison context, than its location. Those involved in prison ministry must understand the prison culture.

Lennie Spitale understands, “Prison is another culture. It has its own code of ethics, its own mores and social values. Prisoners have their own language...But prison is more than just a whole new vocabulary; it is an experience filled with different codes of behavior and unwritten laws that define what is acceptable and what is not. It is a mindset, a backdrop that swallows up the inhabitants by degrees and conforms them to twists and weaves of its cold gray fabric...Each mind, alone in its confrontation with this culture, must find its own way to be safe, must find its own way to survive. Prison life is a prevailing and paradoxical encounter with loneliness while living in the midst of a shoe box crammed with other people.”³

The third part of defining prison ministry must address the method of ministry.

Dr. Gardner C. Taylor lecturing on evangelism in the prison setting said, “Our evangelistic efforts must be more than tambourines and drums.”⁴ Dr.

Taylor was alluding to attempts that ministering in prison must not be confined to one method. The primary method many use is preaching. Preaching is always good, but it is not always the best method in reaching an incarcerated person living in a prison culture. Our methods of ministry must utilize diverse means to meet the various needs of inmates. For example, various methods can include letter writing, discipleship training classes, hospice care, aftercare/reentry assistance, helping inmate families, family visitation transportation, mentoring children of inmates, community sponsor to local churches, and one on one visitation. Inmates have various levels of education, different cultural experiences, and various religious traditions. Prison volunteers must be mature and skilled enough to use the best ministry method for the particular needs of inmates.

Therefore, defining prison ministry takes into account the individual inmate, the prison culture, and various methods of ministry. I submit the following definition of prison ministry. Prison ministry is reaching out to incarcerated persons living in a unique environment through various ministries seeking reconciliation with Jesus Christ and restoration with family and society.

A Biblical Perspective toward Prisoners

The prison ministry leader and volunteers in a local church must have a biblical worldview regarding prisons. The question is how does God see persons who are incarcerated? The Bible gives us the answers. Beginning in the Old Testament the first mention of a prison was in Genesis 39:20-23. Joseph was unjustly thrown into prison but the Lord was still with him. The Lord also granted Joseph great favor while in prison and he became the chief executive for the keeper of the prison. These verses teach us just because a persons are incarcerated, it does not stop God from using them according to His will. Prison ministry volunteers soon discover the Lord’s presence is in the prisons because He lives in the hearts of prisoners He has redeemed. A biblical worldview toward prisoners reveals to a prison volunteer that just like Joseph, there are Christians incarcerated. Over the years it has always baffled me how

many Christians don’t have biblical worldview about the church. Many Christians see the physical building as the church instead of themselves. This is why some volunteers who get involved in prison ministry cannot connect with prisoners. They cannot and some will not believe or understand that part of the Body of Christ (the church) is in prison. Charles Colson writes, “One of the basic elements of confusion about the role of the church is apparent in how we use the word church. To both Christians and nonbelievers alike, it means first, a building...The misconception of the church as a building is a symptom of a much deeper problem: a misunderstanding of its character and its biblical purpose and mission.”⁵

Prison ministry suffers greatly from a lack of involvement because many Christians have a false understanding of the identity of the church. A biblical worldview toward prison ministry helps one to understand God has a church inside the prison.

The Letter to Philemon is a biblical account of the Apostle Paul bringing a run away slave and thief named Onesimus to Christ in a Roman prison. How many others may have been converted while in prison? The Apostle Paul disciplined Onesimus in prison before his return back to Philemon. Paul gives us an excellent model for prison ministry outreach and discipleship training. The church in prison is made up of all persons redeemed since coming into prison and persons who were Christians prior to entering prison. In our present day, religious persecution in some countries has led to the incarceration of many Christians who continue to serve Christ behind bars. Yes there are churches inside prison walls. When prison ministry leaders understand this truth, they are freed to join in ministry with what the Lord is already doing inside the prison. Effective prison ministry always embraces a Christian worldview toward prisoners.

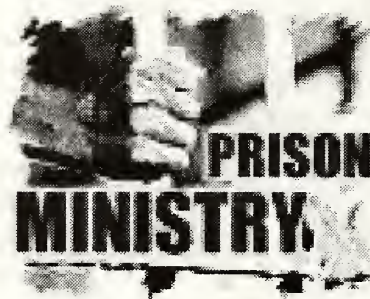
¹The Pew Center on the States, *One in 100: Behind Bars in America 2008*, 3.

²Heb. 13:3 (NLT).

³Lennie Spitale, *Prison Ministry, Understanding Prison Culture In and Out*, (Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2002), preface x-xi.

⁴Gardner C. Taylor, *Question and Answer Period*, General Baptist State Convention of N. C. Evangelism Conference, White Rock Baptist Church, Durham, N.C., March 10, 1990.

⁵Charles Colson and Ellen Vaughn, *Being the Body*, (Nashville, TN: W Publishing Group, 2003), 20-21.



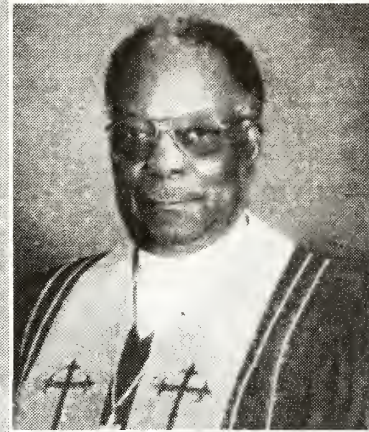
A Celebration of Life for

REV. ROBERT H. LEAK, SR.

(1921-2008)

Rev. Robert H. Leak, 87, of Charlotte departed this earthly life on Wednesday, July 16, 2008 at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte. The funeral service was held on Saturday, July 19, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in the New Saint John Baptist Church with visitation beginning at 11:00 a.m. until the time of the service.

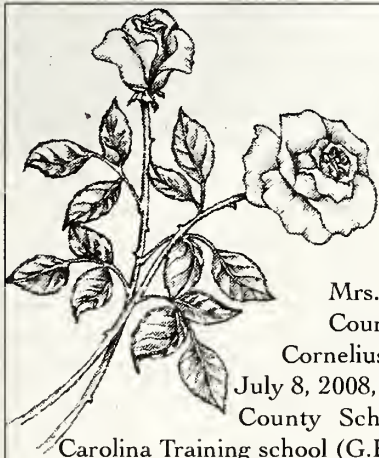
Rev. Leak was the pastor emeritus of New Saint John Baptist Church where he pastored for over forty years. Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Annie Mae Leak of the home; his daughter, Beverly Davis (David); two sons, Bobby and Dozell Leak of Charlotte, NC; five grandchildren, Dana, Sharon and Melissa Davis, Melina and Angel Gaines; three great-grandchildren, Mechael, Melik and Knickel Gaines all Charlotte, NC; and god-daughter, Karen Stewart of Charlotte, NC.



A Celebration of Life For
Pastor Emeritus Wilch H. Caldwell, Sr.
 July 2, 2008

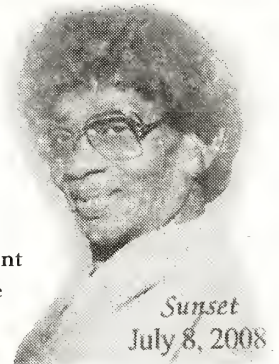
Rev. Caldwell went to his heavenly home on Monday, July 2, 2008. He leaves to cherish his memories, his loving wife of 62 years, Moease Caldwell. Two daughters; Gisele Bryant (John) of Aiden, SC., and Wilhelmina Burton of Charlotte, NC; two sons, Wilch H. Caldwell, Jr., of Charlotte, NC and George E. Caldwell (Rebecca) of Havelock, NC; two sisters, Lilea B. Allen of Pittsubrgh, PA and Ruby Mitchell of Charlotte, NC; nineteen grandchildren, eighteen great-grandchildren, one great-great grandson and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Service was held on Saturday, July 26, 2008 at Faith Memorial Baptist Church. Pastor Dr. Dennis R. Williams officiated, In Lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Scholarship Fund at Faith Memorial Baptist Church.



Homegoing Celebration of Life for Pauline Moore Anderson

Sunrise July 23, 1923 • Sunset July 8, 2008



Mrs. Pauline Moore Anderson, was born in Pitt County on May 23, 1923, to the late Roxanna and Cornelius Moore. She departed this life on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, after a brief illness. Pauline attended the Pitt County Schools and graduated in 1940 from North Carolina Training school (G.R. Whitfield), in Grimesland, North Carolina.

She received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics / Science, from her beloved Alma Matter, Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina. In 1974 after graduating from college, she taught in the Pitt County School systems for over 30 years. They included Roberson Union, in Winterville, H.B. Suggs in Farmville, North Carolina and Farmville Central High School. After retirement, Pauline continued her passion for teaching by substitute teaching through May 2008.

Pauline was a member of the North Carolina Association of Educators of Pitt County Schools and the North Carolina Retired Schools Personnel. She was also affiliated with AARP.

She was an active member of Phillipi Missionary Baptist Church. She served as a chair of the Trustee Ministry, President of the Missionary Ministry, Coordinator of the Senior Citizens Fellowship Ministry, Member of the Mass Choir (Past President), Adult Sunday School Teacher, Coordinator of the Nursing Home Ministry (2nd Mondays), Member of the Pastor's Aide Willie E. Bachelor Scholarship Fund Committee, Old Eastern

Missionary Baptist Association Women's Department (Past President) and the General Baptist State Convention. Other affiliations past and present include Order of Eastern Star Chapter 524, Rofelt Pasha Count 08 Daughter of Isis.

Pauline faithfully served her community for numerous years. She worked for over 20 years for the Pitt County Board of Elections as a poll worker in various capacities. She was a member of the National Alumni Association and Pitt County Chapter of Shaw University Alumni Association, where she served as Treasurer. In addition, she was a representative of the Historically Black College University Alumni Coalition (HBCU's) of Pitt County.

She is preceded in death by her husband George Anderson, and seven siblings, Hattie Smith, Elbert Moore, James Moore, Charlie Moore, Clarence Moore, Lillie Wilson and Ethel Keyes. Those left to cherish her memories; two sisters, Mrs. Viola Boyd of Fayetteville, NC, and Mrs Annie Moye of Kinston, NC. Eight nieces Barbara Phillips, Mildred Frye, Roxanna Little, Joyce Mason, Celestine Bruce, Ethan Keyes (Dalton), Shirley Parker and Louise Moore. Five nephews Lyman Boyd, Dorie Boyd, W.G. Keyes, Donald Moye and Kirk Moye; along with a host of other relatives and friends.

Rev. Joe A Jackson honored at Best Grove MBC

REV. JOE A. JACKSON HONORED AT BEST GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

The scene was purple, lilac and white flowers and ribbons as the members of

message drawn from Luke, Chapter 3, Verses 1-8 entitled "A Prophet in the Midst." He stated, "God's Gift to Best Grove is having Pastor Jackson as their shepherd."

blessed us through Bro. Kornegay's singing. Rev. Rhonda W. Coley recognized the Honoree's Family and Special Guest and Sis. Carrie W. Lewis did the roll call of the Auxillaries.

Merrell Davis, the President of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc. Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr. and many others.



Rev. Joe A. Jackson

The Morning's celebration was brought to a close by the touching remarks and expression of gratitude by Pastor and



Following the morning message, Pastor and Sis. Jackson was showered with gifts and expressions of love. First the Auxillaries of the Church, then by members of the Congregation and even the members of Calvary Baptist Church gave a gift. Deacon Alfonza Edwards and Mother Eula B. Coley presented the gifts from the Church, to the Pastor a Diamond Shaped Plaque and a burgundy/red clerical robe trimmed in gold. Congratulatory letters were received from the following persons and were place in the Sunday Morning Appreciation Booklet. Letters came from Congressman G.K. Butterfield, Congressman Walter B. Jones, Governor Michael F. Easley, Lt. Governor Beverly E. Perdue, Wayne County Commissioner Chairman Robert M. Gray, the Mayor of the City of Goldsboro, Alfonza King, the Mayor of the City of Snow Hill, Don Davis, the President of the Southeast Region Moderator's of the Nation Baptist Convention, USA, Rev.



Sister Jackson. Truly the members of Best Grove made this Appreciation a remarkable and outstanding event in the pastoral life of Rev. Joe A. Jackson. Pastor Jackson surprised his lovely wife with a gift of Diamond Earrings. The love shared by this warmly wonderful couple is like a ray of God's sunshine that warms each brand new day.

Best Grove MB Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, gave honor and recognition to their Pastor and First Lady, the Rev. Joe Anthony Jackson and Sis. Jacqueline T. Jackson and Family as he celebrated his 8th Appreciation, on Sunday July 13, 2008 during the Eleven O'clock Worship Service. The Committee felt that pastoring, teaching and preaching the Word of God to this congregation for eight years was due special praise.

The Theme for this grand occasion was taken from Jeremiah 3:15 "Our Shepherd: Leading God's Flock from Vision to Victory." Special Guest was the Rev. Dr. Arthur Evans, Sr., Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Charleston, South Carolina, along with his choir, ushers and congregation. Rev. Dr. Evans was presented by his wife, Sis. Eunice H. Evans, brought a moving

The Festivities began with Rev. Ralph Johnson doing the Call to Worship by asking the congregation to share what they know about God with each other and those on the outside. Then, Pastor and Sister Jackson were escorted into the Sanctuary by Deacon Napoleon Bell and Mother Grace F. Bell. Powerful songs of praise and worship were sung throughout the service by Calvary Baptist Church Choir. Sis. Vicky Mitchell gave the Welcome from the Church and Bro. Tyrek Shepherd brought greetings from the Youth. Sis. Helen C. Harris read a Tribute to the Pastor. Bro. Vernon Kornegay of Goldsboro Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, accompanied by the Best Grove Church Minister of Music, Dr. Benjamin D. Johnson, brought the house to its knees with the musical solo, "My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord." Tears flowed as the Holy Spirit



After the Benediction, the Pastor, his Wife, his Family, Guest and Congregation went into the New Fellowship Hall where gorgeous arranged flowers decorated each table with elegance for a tasty, plenteous cuisine especially prepared by the Culinary Committee with the Pastor's favorite foods. The meal was prepared with the greatest care and served with an abundance of love.

The Appreciation Committee for this year was headed by Sister Lila B. Robinson, Chairperson and Sister Helen C. Harris, Co-Chairperson.

BAPTIST *Inform*er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiaanderson@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com



From the beginning pulpit committees and churches should understand that God gives certain men the necessary gifts to preach and a divine call to this ministry. Churches are expected to recognize this divine call and seek a man whom God has provided with the necessary gifts to serve their particular church as pastor.

A PULPIT COMMITTEE AT WORK: STEP BY STEP

The pulpit committee's work is outlined below, step by step. Sometimes the order will vary, and some actions overlap in time.

1. Church elects pulpit committee
2. Organize pulpit committee
3. Know what church expects committee to do
4. Inform church members about guidelines committee will follow and how reports will be made
5. Determine to consider only one man at a time
6. Organize church for period without a pastor
7. Gather information about your church
8. Secure suggestions from others about possible prospective pastors
9. Evaluate recommendations received

- a) Ask that all recommendations be written
- b) Keep confidential information confidential
10. Learn New Testament pastor qualifications
11. Use checklist as guide for securing information about prospective pastors
12. Learn where to find information about a pastor
13. Narrow consideration to one man
14. Visit h/his church field
 - a) Use substitute plan if s/he is not a pastor
 - b) Follow good pulpit committee etiquette
 - c) Participate in the worship service
 - d) Meet with the pastor
 - e) Secure information
 - f) Provide information about your church
 - g) Discuss what your church expects of a pastor
 - h) Outline basic working and living conditions
 - i) Ask if he will consider your church
 - j) Use opportunity to talk with church members and others in the community
 - k) Notify promptly if committee decides against further consideration of h/him
15. Have minister visit your church and community
 - a) Tour church facilities, parsonage, community
 - b) Discuss pastor-church relationships frankly
 - c) Work out tentative agreements
 - d) What pastor is to do for church
 - e) What church is to do for pastor
 - f) Determine which agreements need church action

- g) Arrange for prospect to meet informally with various church groups
- h) Have minister preach in your church, if necessary
16. Notify all members when committee is ready to recommend a pastor
17. Present recommendation at a time when most members can participate in the decision
18. Give full information about who committee recommend
19. Outline tentative agreements made
20. Tell why you think Holy Spirit has led thus far
21. Use voting method allowing full participation
22. Report outcome to minister by phone and in writing
 - a) Give exact vote count
 - b) Tell h/him about the spirit of the service
 - c) List agreements
23. Pray with minister as s/he seeks God's will
24. Report minister's answer to church
25. Be sure all is in readiness for h/his arrival
26. Introduce pastor to church and community
27. Complete your committee work
 - a) Destroy or return confidential information
 - b) Give summary report to church clerk
 - c) Account for all expenses
 - d) Be sure all prospective pastors previously contacted are notified they are no longer under consideration
28. Support the new pastor as s/he leads your church

*(Leonard Hill
Broadman Press / Nashville, Tennessee)*

Making Relationships Work . . . God's Way



Pastor, let us bring our exciting, dynamic, Bible-based workshop to your congregation. The workshop is designed for singles, married couples and anyone seeking a fulfilling, Christ-centered marriage. The workshop is absolutely free! You provide the place and participants and we'll do the rest. We provide all materials and we will even help you promote the workshop in your local media. Call us today toll-free at 866-463-1760 or visit us at www.NCFRCministry.org and let us help you enhance marriages and relationships in your congregation.

Workshop Presenters

Married more than 35 years, Rev. Donald Stevenson, a corporate tax attorney and former senior pastor, and Dr. Sara Stevenson, a psychologist and life coach, are the authors of *Get A Clue! Why Relationships Don't Work* and are the founders of the National Christian Family Resources Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Christian marriages and families in the Body of Christ.

PASTORAL VACANCY

First Missionary Baptist Church • Warsaw, NC
 First Missionary Baptist Church, Warsaw, NC
 125 members is Seeking a Pastor with following criteria:

- Ordained Baptist Minister
- Degree from an accredited Seminary or School of Theology
- Five years of pastoral experience

All interested persons should submit a resume to:

First Missionary Baptist Church
 c/o Deacon Jesse C. Williams, Chairman
 Search Committee
 123 Warren Rd
 Warsaw, North Carolina 28398

• Deadline for all submissions is October 31, 2008

PASTORAL VACANCY

Winn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church • Mount Olive, North Carolina
 We are currently accepting applications for position of Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Winn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is a small historic church located in eastern North Carolina. Services are held each second and fourth Sunday. Please send your resume to:

Winn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
 Pastor's Search Committee
 Deacon Sherman Miles
 P.O. Box 1164
 Mount Olive, NC 28365 (919) 658-0234

Mt Level Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Youth & Christian Education Minister.

Qualifications include completion of a Theological Master Degree program with a focus in youth ministry.

The Minister should have a sound knowledge of scripture and Baptist Doctrine and the ability to teach youth and adults. Qualified Candidates should submit a resume to: Youth & Christian Education Minister Committee, Mt. Level Missionary Baptist Church, 316 Hebron Road, Durham, NC 27704 or email: mtleveleducyouthchild@gmail.com. Visit our website: www.mtlevelembc.org

PASTORAL VACANCY

THE NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 1604 White Plains Church Road • Clarkton, NC

Qualifications:

- A man or woman of God licensed and ordained in the Baptist Denomination.
- Must have at least five (5) years experience as an Ordained Minister
- Pastoral experience. • Seminary training.

OTHER ATTRIBUTES

- Gifted Teacher • Good leadership ability • Good communication skills
- Ability to counsel • Committed to the needs of the flock

If interested, please send information profile or resume to:

Bro. Ronnie Blanks, Pastor Search Committee Chairman
 New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
 1604 White Plains Church Road
 Clarkton, NC 28433

Please pray for our committee as we continue our search process.

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
 Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
 Thomas L. Jones

PILGRIM CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

313 Elder Street • New Bern NC 28562 • James City Community

Pilgrim Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is currently seeking a Pastor, **Qualifications:**

- Strong reputation of honesty and integrity
- Facilitate unity within the organization
- Must be willing to share vision for spiritual growth of the church
- Family and Community oriented
- Must exemplify good communication, leadership, administration and counseling ability
- Must be willing to submit to a criminal background check and furnish a credit report
- Must have the biblical qualities of a Pastor
- Must have Pastoral experience
- Must be licensed and ordained as a Baptist Minister
- Is factual in doing and carrying out the function of the church and has the ability to teach and preach God's word
- Must represent the church at Association, State and National Conventions
- Working experience with all ages in the church
- Supportive of the General Baptist State Convention
- Believe and abide by the Missionary Baptist Doctrine and Church covenant/by-laws

Please submit a resume with references to:

Pilgrim Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
 Attn: Deacon Clarence Spellman
 313 Elder Street
 New Bern NC 28562

All resumes must be submitted by October 1, 2008

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
 Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
 and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
 for publication and inquiry to
 Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
 Voice of 500,000 Baptists
 (USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
 Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

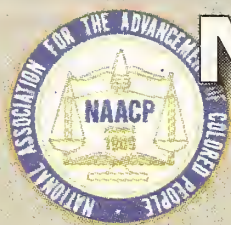
Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
 Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
 919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

*Upcoming
Events...*

BAPTIST *Inform*er



NAACP *News*

October 9 - 11, 2008
NAACP State Convention



SHAW UNIVERSITY
HOME COMING
October 16 - 19, 2008

GBSC
Annual Session
October 28 - 29, 2008



GBSC - Central Children's Home
American Legion Pilgrimage Day
October 26, 2008



BAPTIST *Inform*er

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

THE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

An "association" is a group of local Baptist churches in close proximity to each other and bound together by voluntary commitment to Jesus Christ and His mission. This union is for mutual cooperation, inspiration, and development. Each association is headed by a "moderator." The association is a basic and primary unit of the State Convention.

4/1/2008
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553
520 P17



General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Informer

Volume 131, No. 10

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

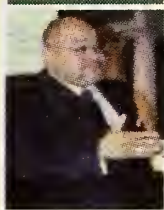
October 2008

EVENTS

October 11, 2008
WBSC Institute Workers' Workshop
Baptist Headquarters

October 11, 2008
Youth Laymen's Mini Skills
Temple Memorial Baptist Church
High Point, NC
Pastor, Rev. Thomas A. Bannister III

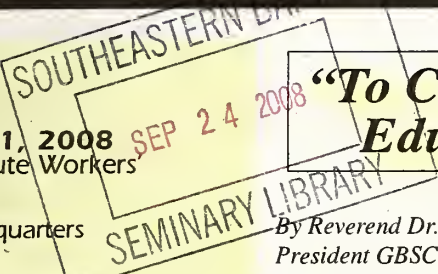
October 18, 2008
Ushers Executive Board



Dr. Haywood T. Gray

Baptist Headquarters
Raleigh, NC

October 28-29, 2008
GBSC ANNUAL SESSION



GBSC THEME **"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20**

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC
Gmoss1@bellsouth.net
(704) 334-5309

Greetings to you in the marvelous name of our Lord, Jesus the Christ.

Recently I had the good fortune of conversing with a friend who was newly installed in a member church. During the conversation, out of love and concern, he offered what I consider a bit of constructive criticism. He reads this publication monthly and in particular my article. He reminded me we operate in a WIIFM (what's in it for me) and WHUDFML (what have you done for me lately) culture and climate. People, according to my friend and colleague are more apt to respond to our calls for support (financial and otherwise) if they are receiving something also. One could argue and I remember a time when this was not so. Missions and fellowship ruled the day. However, times change and paradigms shift. And it is our intention to position the convention to be a great asset to the ministry of its member churches.

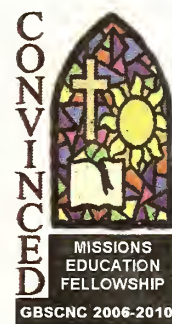
Our sessions provide meaningful

and relevant classes, seminars and workshops with the local church in mind. Attendees' abilities and skills are enhanced and their knowledge expanded in many areas of ministry and mission. We focus on areas of administration, education, collective and personal finance, health and wellness, leadership, mission objectives and projects, music and arts, public policy, social justice and development of our young.

Clergy and other church employees can take advantage of a wonderful retirement, disability and life insurance program through MMBB (Ministers and Missionaries Benefits Board). The Minister's Council ministers to clergy and their families by serving as a conduit and resource for biblical, theological and practical ministry enhancement.

Opportunities abound for involvement in foreign missions through our convention and the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions convention which is an objective of our work. These are but a few of the numerous opportunities for mission, ministry, church and personal enhancement through the work of the General Baptist State Convention.

During our Annual Session held in



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

October, we will have sessions on music, women's role in ministry, focus on marriage and family, financial and physical fitness, associate ministers, new pastors (0 to 3 years), pulpit search strategies, social justice (emphasizing voter empowerment) and the mortgage crisis. In addition to these, there will be opportunities to participate in hands on mission projects and, of course, powerful worship!

Make plans to be with us beginning October 27th through the 29th.

A special thanks to my friend for your insight and encouragement. Perhaps others will come and see what great things God is doing through our convention's work. God bless you on your journey.

From life to everlasting life: Dr. Matthew R. Silver (1924 - 2008)

With sympathy and prayers, we announce the death of The Reverend Dr. Matthew R. Silver, Sr. Funeral services were held at 11:00 am on Monday, Sept. 8, 2008 in Piney Wood Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Ahoskie, NC.

Reverend Dr. Matthew Revondus Silver, Sr. was born in Halifax County, NC on December 3, 1924, to the late Reverend Joseph Silver and the late Alice Carter Silver.

He was licensed in 1947 and ordained in 1951 at the First Baptist Church, Weldon, NC. He has served as

pastor at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Newton, NC; First Baptist Church, Wilkesboro, NC; First Baptist Church, Fuquay-Varina, NC; Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC; Concord Baptist Church, Baltimore, MCD (25 years); St. John Baptist Church, Garysburg, NC and finally Piney Wood Chapel Baptist Church for the past nineteen years. He



served as Moderator of the West Roanoke Missionary Baptist association, Inc. for eight years. He was president of the United Baptist Missionary Convention of Maryland for four years, the Board of Directors of the National Baptist Convention USA for two years, including serving as its Statistician, Dean of Theology for the Virginia Seminary and

College in Lynchburg, VA. He also served as Chaplain for the NC Prison System for five years. He graduated from Eastman High School, Enfield, NC. He was a graduate of Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School, Raleigh, NC and Howard University Divinity School, Washington, DC. He has earned several degrees including Bachelor of Divinity, and Master of Divinity. He received two honorary doctorate degrees from the Virginia Seminary and College and Shaw Divinity School. He was a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity at Shaw University.

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President
AveryRevKin@aol.com
(704) 637-0954

"To all in (the General Baptist Family) who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7, NIV). As we press on with the awesome God-ordained assignment "to convince the unconvinced to be convinced through Education, Missions, and Fellowship," I continually pause to thank God for all of you, "because your faith is being reported all over the world" (Romans 1:8b).



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

Our storied convention does indeed stand on the threshold of abundant blessings through the power of God and divine provisions through God's people. Our mountaintop view of promised-land possessions must not result in a stagnant spirituality. God has promised empowerment for those who are faithful. General Baptists, we can experience and express the power that is ours in Jesus the Christ.

Power is a word that is used often in our world. We are familiar with "power plays," "power dunks," and "power formations" in athletics. We eat "power

bars" for energy while on the go. We install power locks, power brakes, power windows, power engines, etc. in our automobiles. We use "power points" in professional presentations. Our churches apply the word power to add punch to our ecclesiastical gatherings.

How does the word power apply to our spiritual lives? In the New Testament, there are two forms of the word power:

- **Dunamis:** the ability, the force, the energy to do or act. It literally means powered by power, transforming power. The focus of this word is the transformation (change) that comes in order to glow, grow, and go when this power is present! (see Acts 1:8)
- **Kratos:** the power that is able to overcome resistance (see Hebrews 2:14). This also refers to overcoming the power of death. This word indicates that God's glorious might is needed for growth as a result of the many challenges that confront our spiritual advancement.

In others words, Christ's power must become tangible and visible in our lives in order for us to glow, grow, and go in the will, witness, and work of Almighty God!

God provides us with Power to Know (Ephesians 1:17-20; 3:18-19),

Power to Walk (Colossians 1:11), and Power to Serve (2 Thessalonians 1:11). We are called to be fruit-bearers of God through Jesus the Christ. True fruit-bearers possess inward divine power that transforms lives and overcomes obstacles to ministry.

Our opportunity to be witnesses of God's transforming power is available through our convention's objectives, specifically State Missions. Without State Missions, our ability to be agents of transformation is limited. Without your support, there is no State Missions! Your constant prayers and financial support are tangible proof that God's power transforms lives and overcomes obstacles. My beloved General Baptist family, we are in position to impact our world like never before. Accept the challenge today.

I am asking all Pastors, Laity, Churches, Moderators, Associations, and those who love God to prayerfully and generously build up State Missions by fulfilling the following Power Points:

- (1) Increase your financial support of State Missions monthly;
- (2) Subscribe, renew subscriptions, and enlist others to subscribe to the Baptist Informer
- (3) Pledge to participate in the "750" plan instituted by our Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Haywood T. Gray under the leadership of our President, Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

Next month's article will expand

Luke 14:28-30

For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he may have enough to finish it; lest perhaps, after he has laid the foundation and is not able to finish, all those seeing begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build and was not able to finish.

upon these three Power Points.

Send your prayers tip and your financial support in for State Missions today! I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you soon. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you all. Amen.

Luke 12:33-34

Sell your possessions and give to charity; make yourselves money belts which do not wear out, and unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near nor moth destroys. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 21:12 describes event when Christ ran the moneychangers out of the temple. Why did He do that when obviously they were meeting a need of the people who were coming to the temple to worship? The law gave the Jews the right to sell an animal designated for sacrifice if they had a long journey, then they could use the money to buy another animal for sacrifice. The moneychangers served this need and most of the people seemed satisfied. So why did He get so upset when both sides benefited? Because Christ knew that the motive of the moneychangers was to "fleece the flock." Why do you suppose this event was reported in the Scriptures? One reason may well be that Jesus wanted His disciples to understand exactly how He felt about fleecing the flock.

A business sells a product and makes a profit. A ministry serves a function that cannot be done at a profit. One of

the keys to detecting a business being disguised as a ministry is to see how the funds are generated. If this group uses "buzz words" to gain an entry, beware. The following are some of the buzz words.

1. "I would like to come by and share our ministry." This is a common phrase of buzz words. If the business offers a legitimate product or service, it ought to stand on its own merit. It should not require a spiritual endorsement to get in the door.
2. "Pastor, we have something that will help your people." When a group orients its sales pitch to pastors, be on guard. If it's a product for pastors or a program for the local church, pastors are the group to call on. However, if it's a product, diet plan, insurance, wills/trusts, or gold mines, and it is directed toward pastors, be aware that the group is try-

ing to ride in on his credibility. Unfortunately, since many pastors are not well paid, they also fall into the finder's-fee trap. Often the group will offer the pastor a fee for anyone he recommends who buys the products. There are many pastors who have lost their personal credibility by recommending a company to their people.

3. "You can help other Christians." Without a doubt this is the real clincher in fleecing the flock. If a person can convince its salespeople that the end result of their efforts is to help others, the methods can be justified. It's the old "the end justifies the means" syndrome. In other words, you're not really hurting them; after all, it's for their own good.

Crown Financial Ministries



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
2nd Vice President
ldynch@ebccharlotte.org
(704) 598-2219

Deuteronomy 15:6
For the LORD your God will bless you as He has promised you, and you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; and you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.

Come experience the Trip of LIFETIME!
Holy Land Tour - 2009

Walk Where Jesus Walked

Mt. Carmel ~ Valley of Armageddon ~ Nazareth ~ Cana ~ Tiberias
Capernaum ~ Sea of Galilee ~ Jordan River ~ Bethlehem ~ Jerusalem
Via Dolorosa ~ Pool of Bethesda ~ The Upper Room ~ Garden of Gethsemane
Calvary ~ Garden Tomb

February 9 - 16, 2009

Ordained Clergy Familiarization Trip

{The Israel Board of Tourism is currently supplementing the travel cost of ordained clergy to tour Israel. The clergy must agree to return and bring a tour group to Israel within two years. Now is a great time to take advantage of this offer!}

Ordained Clergy Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 7304

Base Price ~ Ordained Clergy - \$ 1,300.00 ~ Spouse - \$ 1,500.00
Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 {aprox. We will know exactly 45 days prior to trip. This amount may change.} ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 119.00 ~ Your travel to New York for Departure {we will be informed of which airport – J. F. Kennedy Airport is most likely}
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00}

Tour Package Includes:

Airfare from New York, NY to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} All entrance fees as per itinerary
Farewell dinner

November 9 - 16, 2009

Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 6409

Base Price ~ \$ 2,999.00 ~ Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 ~ {aprox. We will know exactly 45 days prior to trip. This amount may change.} ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 199
Double hotel occupancy

Early Bird Discount: Available for both tours

The discount is as follows:

\$75.00 discount for every passengers that send a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 9 months prior to departure date or \$50.00 discount for every passengers that sent a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 6 months prior to departure date
Passports are required. Please secure your Passport ASAP

Tour Package Includes:

Airfare from Charlotte, NC to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} All entrance fees as per itinerary
Farewell dinner

A Non – Refundable deposit of \$ 250.00 is needed to secure a reservation.
Please make your deposit as soon as possible. Thank You.

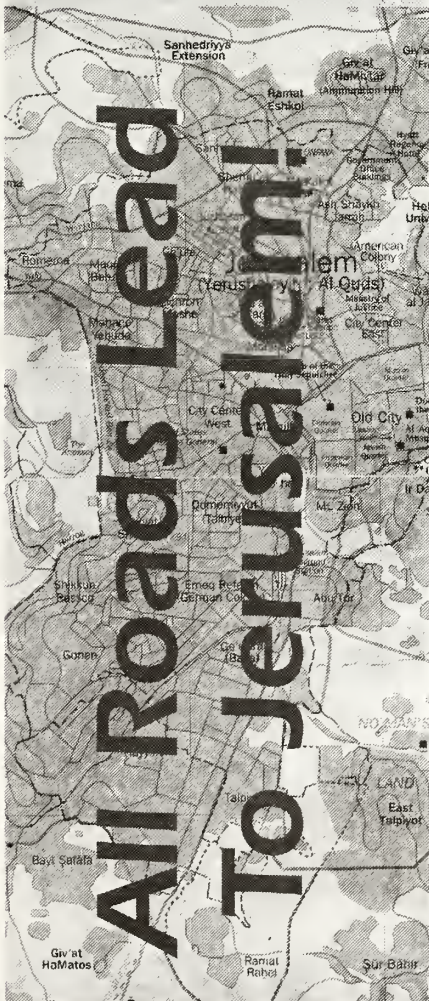
Make all checks payable to:

Journey's Unlimited
494 8th Avenue, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10001
800-486-8359

Our travel agent is
Jayne Haynie
1-800-546-4777
Jhaynie22001@aol.com

www.5thgenerationministries.com

You may contact
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
5th Generation Ministries, Inc.
P. O Box 26768
Charlotte, NC 28221-6768



Abraham is Faithful

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President
pastorrickbanks@yahoo.com
(252) 335-5035

By faith Abraham... went out, not knowing whither he went: Hebrews 11:8

Abraham was called to pull up stakes, leave his familiar surroundings, and to travel through new territory. Obediently, he started out, not knowing what lay ahead but confident that God was leading him, guiding him, and directing him. It was all he needed to take him to the promised land of Canaan.

Many times in our Christian experience, we are called upon to travel through unfamiliar territory. New experiences come to us all. Throughout a lifetime, one faces many strange and perplexing situations. There is sorrow. There are disappointments. There are adjustments to make and new fields to endeavor to conquer. All of these experiences call for faith. Without it, we have nothing to hold us steady and keep us on the right path. Faith keeps our eyes on the goal. It is our "road map" to our final destination.

Schedule of Events – October 8 -19, 2008 • Homecoming Activities
Wednesday, October 8, 2008
Crowning of Mr. & Miss Homecoming
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Estey Hall Auditorium
Thursday, October 9, 2008

Miss Shaw Coronation (Formal Attire)
Time: 8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Location: Spaulding Gymnasium
Saturday, October 11, 2008
Student Appreciation Pre-Homecoming Cookout
Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Location: The Quad
Gym Jam Pre-Dawn (Beach Theme)
Time: 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.
Location: Spaulding Gymnasium

Sunday, October 12, 2008
Greek Sunday
Time: 11:00 a.m. – Noon
Location: The Thomas J. Boyd Chapel
Shaw Football vs. Fayetteville State University
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Durham County Memorial Stadium

Monday, October 13, 2008
Ping Pong Tournament
Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Location: Bear's Den
Midnight Poetry Jam
Time: Midnight – 1:30 a.m.
Location: Student Union Ballroom

Tuesday, October 14, 2008
2008 Bear Fanatics Pep Rally
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: The Quad

Represent Your City
Time: 8:30 p.m. – Midnight
Location: The Quad

Fashion Show (Pre-Show Promotions)
Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Location: The Quad

Wednesday, October 15, 2008
Fashion Show (Blast from the Past)
Phil Fuller Sponsor
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Location: Spaulding Gymnasium

Alumni & Friends Hospitality
Time: 7:00 p.m. – Midnight
Location: Shaw Farm
Thursday, October 16, 2008

Alumni Ticket Pickup
Time: Noon – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Ennis Room

Building on a Legacy of Greatness:
Alumni & Student Meet & Greet
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Estey Hall

Alumni & Friends Hospitality
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Shaw Farm

Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Sheraton Capital Center (Downtown)

2008 Homecoming Formal
Time: 8:00 p.m. – Midnight
Location: The Lighthouse Convention Center

Hall of Fame Reception
Time: 10:00 p.m. – Until
Location: Shaw Farm
Friday, October 17, 2008
50th Reunion Breakfast
Time: 8:15 a.m.
Location: Estey Hall Auditorium

Alumni Ticket Pickup
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Ennis Room
Memorial Service
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Student Union Ballroom

Alumni Ticket Pickup
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Ennis Room

Memorial Service
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Student Union Ballroom

Founder's Day Convocation
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Progress Energy Center

Greek Appreciation Day Featuring K97.5
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Location: The Quad

Unfinished Business:
The Takeover Greek Step Show
Phil Fuller Sponsor

Time: 8:00 p.m. (Doors open @ 7p.m.)
Location: The Lighthouse Convention Center

Homecoming Alumni Banquet
Time: 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Location: Sheraton Capital Center
All Class Reunion Dance
Time: 10:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m.
Location: Sheraton Capital Center
Alumni Social
Time: 9:00 – Until
Location: Shaw Farm

Saturday, October 18, 2008
National Alumni Association Body Meeting
Time: 7:30 a.m.
Location: Estey Hall Auditorium
Willie E. Gary Alumni Reception
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Sheraton Capital Center
Alumni Hospitality Luncheon/Golf Tournament/Table Tennis Tournament /Activities
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Shaw Farm

HOMECOMING GAME
Shaw U vs. Chowan University
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Durham County Memorial Stadium
National Alumni Association Raleigh/Wake Dance
Time: 10:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m.
Location: Sheraton Capital Center

Student Main Event
Time: 10:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m.
Location: Spaulding Gymnasium
Alumni Breakfast & Social
Time: 10:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m.
Location: Shaw Farm

Sunday, October 19, 2008
Homecoming Worship Service
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: Thomas J. Boyd Chapel
Homecoming Tea
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Location: Estey Hall Auditorium
2008 Gospel Mix (Gospel Talent Show)
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Location: Spaulding Gymnasium

By Rev. Dr. Cureton L. Johnson

Forty-five years after the famous civil rights March on Washington, Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) has called for a 'March on the Ballot Box' to elect a new U.S. president in November.

Take Advantage of Early Voting!
Urge all church members and friends to vote early. There may be long lines November 4th at some polling places. Some people will need rides and assistance.

These tasks will be easier if congregations take advantage of early voting from October 16 to November 1. Call your county board of elections for early voting locations, dates and times. Insert this information in Sunday church bulletins.

March to the Ballot Box

One or more Sundays have been designated for early voting in some counties. These days are in addition to early voting operating hours on weekdays and Saturdays. Churches can demonstrate the importance of Christian citizenship and responsibility by taking dozens of people to register and vote after a Sunday morning service. Invite members to bring a friend or unchurched person to worship and get them to the polls after the service.

Remember, a person can register and vote at the same time on the same day during the early voting period!

Wake and Forsyth counties offered Sunday voting during the 2005 May primary early voting period. Data shows that the number of voters per hour was highest on Sunday compared to Friday and Saturday. These counties offered Sunday voting after church for about four to five hours.

On Saturday, October 25, during the early voting period, First Baptist Church in Fayetteville will cooperate with Common Cause of North Carolina and with Fayetteville State University to target a neighborhood where many people have not registered. The church will provide vans, drivers, volunteers and meeting space for the effort. Earlier in the same month, the church will register voters in its immediate neighborhood during an outdoor cookout. So, team up with churches, colleges, local NAACP chapters and other civic organizations to register voters.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has a national "voter registration blitz" under-

way now. Ask AKAs in your congregation to partner with your church in this blitz.

"...He who promised is faithful"
In closing his historic presidential nomination acceptance speech in the shadow of the "snow-covered mountains of Colorado" last August, Barack Obama quoted Hebrews 10:23 saying, "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful" (NKJV)

So, do not waver in your convictions, in your persistence, in your tireless efforts to see Dr. King's dream reach the next level of reality in American political life. "March to the ballot box" en masse and punctuate the old motto that we are a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people!"

2008 National General Election Calendar

State	General Election Date	Voter Registration Deadline	Early Voting In Person Begins	Early Voting In Person Ends	Mailed Application for an Absentee Ballot Due	Completed Absentee Ballot Due
North Carolina	11/04/2008	10/10/2008	10/18/2008	11/1/2008	10/28/2008	11/3/2008

Church Financial Principles Worth Knowing

Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
 Christian Education Coordinator/
 Managing Editor
 (919) 821-7466
 gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net
 portiabrandon@hotmail.com

Put it in Writing - DEVELOP a comprehensive written policy governing the handling of your ministry's finances. This policy should clearly spell out the procedures for handling church finances, making deposits and withdrawals from church accounts, accessing financial records, and conducting other financial business. Written guidelines let everyone know what's expected of them. And, they discourage dishonest members from using ignorance of proper procedures as a defense of their criminal actions.



Portia H. Brandon

Written Ministry Descriptions - In addition to a written policy for handling finances, it's helpful to have written ministry descriptions for all employees and volunteers. Ministry descriptions can eliminate confusion over who has access to certain financial documents and who's authorized to perform certain financial functions.

Biblical basis - "Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet." Acts 4:37 (KJV) The church is accountable to its membership to make sure the resources of the church are managed with the highest level of trust and integrity as possible. Ultimately, the church is responsible to God for the stewardship of its funds. If a financial conflict arises, the instruction in Matthew 18 should be followed as a guiding principle.

People of Integrity - For too long, churches have placed people over the financial matters of the church, based simply upon their ability to handle money. However, if this is the only qualifying prerequisite that determines whether a man or woman is selected to manage the finances of the church, the church is greatly lacking in its qualification standards. Anyone who is considered for a position in which he or she handles church finances should demonstrate his or her faithfulness to previously assigned tasks and duties and exhibit the leadership qualities detailed in 1 Timothy 3:2-7, 12.

In short, if a person wants to be seriously considered as a candidate for a position of financial management in the church, he or she must "be above reproach as God's steward" (Titus 1:7). A person who does it all - "If you have the same person counting the money, recording it and depositing it—you've got a problem," said Denise Phillips, a certified public accountant and vice president

of Michiana Accounting Solutions, Inc., a consulting firm for not-for-profit organizations.

Provide Checks & Balances - The person who opens the mail should differ from the one who makes bank deposits. The person making payments from a fund shouldn't balance that fund.

Inadequate Oversight

Tales of embezzlement often share common elements: a charismatic person in a position of trust who convinces the church leadership that all is well; the church leadership assumes the person speaks truthfully and performs s/his duties honestly; then regular checks are not performed. As a consequence the crime goes unnoticed.

Figures don't lie, but Liers do figure

Here's the proof:

1. Using church donations for private use
2. The improper use of donations
3. Tax exemptions when property and assets are used for activities other than church
4. Unreasonable benefits or deductions taken by clergy

Officers and committees - In order to develop and ensure a financial accounting system that is above reproach, churches need to distribute the financial responsibilities to a variety of individuals and committees. Usually this selection becomes the responsibility of the pastor (or at least in consultation with the pastor). The number of employees will generally be determined by the size of the church congregation.

Regardless of the size of the congregation, the following are necessary to ensure a smoothly running accounting system. Note that each individual should occupy only one position. To combine offices (such as financial secretary and treasurer) would destroy the basic concept of a beyond-reproach accounting system. Also note that the church leadership are not listed. The church leadership is a separate administrative entity.

Treasurer. This officer is in charge of the care and disbursement of funds.

Financial secretary. This person receives all contributions, records them, issues giving receipts, and sends donation reports.

Finance committee. This committee is responsible to oversee the fiscal affairs of the church. Many times the chairperson of this committee serves as a business administrator—primarily the one who serves as the tiebreaker in financial matters. This committee will always include the financial secretary and the treasurer.

Budget committee. This is a temporary committee that develops the church's fiscal budget.

Counting committee. It is the responsibility of this committee to receive, count, and deposit church offerings and donations. In many churches, trustees and ushers compose of this committee.

Audit committee. This committee ensures and oversees the annual departmental and general church audits.

Guard Against Internal Threats.

DOCUMENT all financial transactions clearly and immediately. Record deposits; withdrawals, loan payments, payroll, and any other financial transactions. Keep these records (and duplicates, if necessary) in a safe place. By documenting all financial procedures, your church can detect discrepancies quickly, protect honest employees from unwarranted accusations, and gather necessary evidence to identify criminals in the event of a financial crime.

IMPLEMENT a program for documenting suspicious financial incidents. In many cases, at least one other employee or volunteer is aware of—or at least suspicious of—fraud or embezzlement. Making it easy and safe for employees and volunteers to report suspicious financial activity will make it more likely that they'll come forward with helpful information.

DEVELOP a program for handling church finances in which the receipt, deposit, distribution, and documentation of church money is carried out by different people. Require dual signatures for financial transactions like withdrawals or for endorsing and cashing church checks for more than a certain dollar amount. If control over financial operations is divided among several people, it will be extremely difficult for discrepancies to go undetected.

Benevolence fund - The church, in exercise of its religious and charitable purposes, should established a benevolence fund to assist persons in financial need. Benevolence disbursements can be made to individuals, tax free if a "need" has been clearly documented and there is no repayment from the recipient. There are eight reasons based on the IRS definitions of "charitable" and "needy," why monies can be disbursed as tax-free missions: Food, Utilities, Clothing, Shelter, rent, or mortgage, emergency medical assistance, types of transportation, and natural and civil disasters or victims of violent crimes.

Love offering fund - The purpose of the love offering fund is to honor laborers in the field with a financial gift. Churches may call it gifts, love offerings, token of love, anniversary gifts, etc., but the IRS refers to it as "taxable income" that must be reported to the ministers and other employees on their W-2 form. This would include such things as clothing, cars, vacations, etc.

Church Budget - Some months before the beginning of a church's fiscal year, ministry leaders should submit their projected budget needs for the coming year. These written proposals should be submitted

ITINERARY

Dates	Purpose
September 5, 2008	Baptist Informer, Benson, NC
September 8-12, 2008	National Baptist Convention Cincinnati, Ohio
September 16-17, 2008	Bright Hope MBC Laurinburg, NC Rev. Garland Pierce Church Leadership Workshop
September 18, 2008	Mt. Olive MBC 7:00 pm Sunday School Workshop Kitrell First Baptist, Kitrell, NC
September 20, 2008	New Bethel MBC Rev. Harvey Bigelow Danville, NC 5:00 pm
September 26-27, 2008	Laymen League Walter Cade Workshop Theodore David, Greenville, NC Speaker: Role of the Laymen's Wife

ted to a budget committee or a committee appointed by the pastor.

The budget committee should meet with each ministry leader and question any part of the budget project that seems to be excessive or unexplainable. If there is an area of disagreement regarding what was proposed and what the budget committee recommends that cannot be resolved between the ministry leader and the budget committee, it should be noted for consideration by the church leadership.

After going over all ministry proposed budgets and interviewing the various leaders, the budget committee should draft an overall proposed church budget for the upcoming year and present it to the leadership for its approval, making special reference to disputed budgetary items.

The leadership should then study the budget committee's recommendation carefully and analyze any disputed budget items. After much prayer and discussion, the budget committee will draw up a proposed budget and recommend that the budget be presented to the congregation for their approval.

Budgeting Process - Traditionally, churches have borrowed two budgeting processes from the secular world:

- The zero-based budget is similar to what's used by the executive branch of the U.S. government. The government annually reduces all budgets to zero, making it necessary for every department to justify all financial needs for the coming year.

(MONEY, cont. page 7)

The Family Standing On His Promise

Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC Executive Secretary-
Treasurer
pbrodie@wbhfm.org
(919) 833-4823
Mrs. Bronnie Daniels
(336) 767-6156

"And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life." ~I John 2:25

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;
Our helper He amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe- His craft and
Pow'r are great, And, armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.
Did we in our own strength confide Our striving would be losing,
Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He- Lord Sabaoth His name,
From age to age the same- And He must win the battle.
---Martin Luther

We are thankful to God and all of you who shared with the Woman's Convention during the immediate past fiscal year.

We are also grateful to God and Pastor Lilly and Mitchell Baptist Church, Louisburg, who served as hosts to the Family Missions Conference, on Saturday, September 27, 2008.

2008 YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

On Saturday, November 1, 2008, at 9:00 A.M., the Annual Youth Evangelism Conference of the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention will convene at the Caswell County Civic Center, Yanceyville, hosted by Person County Missionary Union. (See announcement in this issue.)

Youth and others, pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit; bring your Bibles and liberal offering.

Youth Supervisor Jewyl Dunn and the Youth Department anticipate a great experience in Christ Jesus. Singing, praying, speaking, preaching, teaching, witnessing, confessing, worshipping, fellowshiping will occur. Please come and share in this experience of evangelism.

INSTITUTES

It is now time to begin Christian missionary studies for the new year's institutes. The books recommended for this year's study are: Understanding Christian Ethics (Seniors and Young Adults); The Covering (Youth, 12-20); Fill In The

Blank Bible Fun (Youth, 9-11); Baby Jesus Visits (Youth, 6-8); God Helps Me To Obey (Youth, Birth-5). Persons/organizations interested in having these studies may contact the Woman's Convention for these books and also for certified persons as instructors for the institute. In order for seniors to receive credit through the office of the Woman's Convention they must utilize instructors certified by the Woman's Convention.



Bronnie Daniels

INSTITUTE WORKERS' CLINIC
On Saturday, October 11, 2008, at 10:00 A.M., will be the annual workshop session for and with the corps of WBH&FMC certified institute workers. All of the certified persons are requested to come and share in this event.

PRAYER MONTH FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

October is the month set aside to emphasize prayer for the Shaw Divinity School and Shaw University.

BAPTIST WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Monday, November 3, 2008, the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer is observed. Usually on this day women from Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Europe, Latin America, North America, and South West Pacific meet at 11:00 A.M., different locations on their respective continent. You are invited to share in this global prayer meeting in your local churches. Secure now free copies of the program from the Office so that you can prepare for the prayer session in November. Please indicate the number of copies you will need.

WBH&FMC WESTERN ASSEMBLY

In November member of Districts 1, 2 & 3 are asked to meet for this assembly. Please participate in this experience for missions (See Announcement on page 9).

MISSIONS BUDGET

The new fiscal year began September 1, 2008 and ends in August 31, 2009. The proposed budget this year will be near \$802,200, which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable and sent to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home And Foreign Missionary Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602.

Plan to attend the

27th Annual Youth Evangelism Conference Saturday, November 1, 2008
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Caswell County Civic Center
536 Main Street East
Yanceyville, North Carolina 27379
Hosted by Person County Union
Reverend Mildred Chambers, President
Ms. Jewyl Dunn, Youth Supervisor, WBH&FMC
Mrs. Bronnie Harris Daniels, President, WBH&FMC
Dr. Priscilla A. Brodie, Exec. Sec.- Treasurer, WBH&FMC



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

WBH & FMC books for certified persons as instructors for the institute

- Seniors and Young Adults: UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN ETHICS: An Interpretive Approach
- Youth 12-20: THE COVERING
- Youth 9-11: GOD HELPS ME TO OBEY

POSITION OPEN: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Because the present Executive Secretary-Treasurer retires December 31, 2008, the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, now is accepting applications for an Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Nature of Work: Serve as the principal administrative officer of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to General Baptist State Convention

Qualifications

- Must be a Christian and a member of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Must possess at least a college degree or higher, preferably in Christian Education
- Must have adequate knowledge of: Christian missions, stewardship, evangelism, worship and doctrine; Baptist polity and doctrine
- Must have leadership, communicative and administrative skills

Major Responsibilities

- Serve under the general supervision of President in implementing the By-Laws of the Convention (WBH & FMC)
- Work with the President in promoting and developing the Convention's program
- Serve as one of the Convention's spiritual leaders
- Serve as one of the Convention's instructors for workshops and institutes
- Coordinate and manage the Convention's finances
- Make reports to the Executive Committee, Executive Board, and Convention
- Provide leadership in the financial development of the Woman's Convention
- Provide leadership in implementing Board policies
- Serve as ex-officio members on all committees
- Coordinate, develop, prepare conventional materials
- Prepare articles for and edit all articles for the Woman's Convention's page in the "Baptist Informer"
- Serve as general manager of The Missionary Helper operation
- Assign and coordinate work and provide appropriate supervision for daily office operation by the staff
- Work usually with GBSC Executive Secretary-Treasurer in implementing GBSC'S Personnel Policies, relating to the WBH & FMC'S staff and other mutual administrative and conventional efforts as directed by GBSC and WBH & FMC
- Represent the staff of the Woman's Convention to the GBSC Personnel Committee, along with the President
- Attend designated local, state, national, and global meetings

The salary is negotiable; good benefits.

For further information and application, please contact:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
WBH & FMC, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone (919) 833-4823 OR Fax (919) 833-7599
E-Mail: wbhfm@wbhfm.org

Please mail the completed application and a resume no later than November 15, 2008, to:
Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, President
WBH & FMC, Auxiliary to GBSC
3911 Tony Drive, NE
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

CHURCH FINANCE: "Managing The Master's Money"

(MONEY, from page 5)

• The line-item budget is what the legislative branch of the U.S. government uses. It retains line-item expenditures from year to year, making modifications as needs increase or decrease.

Protect Your Finances with Internal Cash Controls

In handling money, your church has to do more than just collecting the offering and taking it to the bank. You should be tracking how much comes in, who it comes from, what it's used for, and how much each individual gives during a year.

This requires substantial record keeping and an effective internal control structure to ensure that the information is accurate. This involves many people who don't think of themselves as having any accounting or control responsibilities—for example, the trustees who collect tithes and offerings during the service.

To help your church, here are some procedures for strengthening control of your cash receipts and disbursements.

Cash Receipts

1. For your offerings, enlist money counters who aren't related by family and don't work at the same place during the week.
2. Avoid selecting someone experiencing a financial crisis. This kind of responsibility

Luke 6:38 -

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

may expose such a person to temptation.

3. Rotate counters periodically. Try using teams.

4. Designate a counter to the money received. Ask another to review and initial the record.

5. On a regular basis, have someone other than the counter reconcile the bank account and list of money received (to the bank deposit, donor records, and general ledger).

6. Immediately stamp all checks "for deposit only" and place the funds received in a lockable canvas cash bag. Use a bag with only two keys—one you keep at the bank, the other at the church.

7. Deposit cash daily in your bank account. Never keep cash on the premises unless you use a lock box.

8. Compare deposits from the regular services to previous services, noting the consistency of amounts. The amount of money received during morning worship services usually doesn't vary greatly from week to week.

Cash Disbursements

1. Make all disbursements, except from petty cash, by check or draft.

2. Require two signatures on all checks over a stated dollar amount.

3. Prepare cash disbursements only when someone has approved and documented payment.

4. Mark supporting documents "paid" to prevent resubmission.

5. Lock up all blank checks.

6. On a regular basis, have someone other than the individual preparing disbursements reconcile check registers to the bank statements.

Computer Controls - If your church is using computers in record keeping and financial record processing, you need to safeguard your computer data. This can be done by saving data frequently, protecting important programs from erasure, and storing diskettes in protected areas.

In addition, because of the sensitive information maintained on the computer, consider using password.

The church bills

1. Bills and obligations should be approved for payment. This approval should be indicated in writing by the person responsible. A purchase/approval form may be used to approve payment and identify the account to be charged. In all cases, expenditures should be supported by original invoices and/or receipts, not photocopies.

2. Checks are signed by persons authorized under the bank account agreement. Dual signatures are recommended. The pastor should not be an authorized signer.
3. Blank checks should never be signed in advance, under any circumstance.

4. Check number are written on invoice/support document to prevent duplicate payment, and checks are mailed.

5. At least three persons should be involved in the above four steps, even in a

simple system.

6. After offerings have been counted and reconciled, the funds should be deposited in the bank as soon as possible—preferably in a night depository after services. At least two people should drive to the bank and deposit the funds.

7. Collections should not be kept in the church unless it cannot be prevented. If a collection must be kept for a limited amount of time in the church, it should be locked in a safe, not in a file cabinet or desk drawer.

Financial Reports - An annual summary financial report should be prepared for the congregation.

Church Usage Fees - Church members and nonmembers can reserve the church facilities for personal use if the reservation is not in conflict with the church's schedule. The finance committee will be responsible for determining the fees for the usage.

Church Bank Accounts - The church treasurer in consultation with the finance committee will be authorized to open and close church bank accounts under the control and authority of the church. Only bank accounts controlled by the church may be allowed to use the church's federal identification number.

Turning a financially troubled church around

Control cash flow - The first priority should be payroll, followed by utilities, and rent or mortgage. After these obligations have been satisfied, partial payments can be made to vendors that fit into the following categories:

- Vendors who provide vital goods and services
- Vendors who are aggressively threatening to pursue collection procedures
- Vendors whose survival is being threatened because of payments owed them by the church.

A difficult but sometimes necessary decision that must be made if cash flow continues to be lacking is to eliminate or restrict money from being allocated to church ministries that consume a lot of cash but produce very little.

Hiring freeze - Another necessary step is to add no new staff and not to replace those who leave. That could mean that some employees might end up with dual positions and multiple responsibilities.

Evaluate - Evaluate each ministry. Determine whether the ministry is an integral part needed to fulfill the ministry goals of the church. Look at the spending practices of each ministry. Does it have the overall good of the church as a primary concern, or is it self-consumed? Evaluate each aspect of the ministry, which includes the attitude and dedication of the leadership.

Communicate - Whenever the church or ministry is facing a financial crisis, the leaders, staff, and department heads need to be informed of the situation and should

be updated regularly.

Tell them the state of the finances first. Then suggest ways in which the situation can be improved and the positive consequences if the situation does improve. Finally, allow them to voice their opinions and give suggestions on how to better the situation.

Develop a plan - After all suggestions have been received, evaluated, prayed about, and discussed, a plan of action should be developed, implemented, rigidly followed, and strictly monitored.

Generate new cash - This may be the most difficult thing to do. Generating new cash may include selling assets such as vehicles, equipment, computers, buildings, and so on. It also could include reducing inventories like paper goods, supplies, and children's church materials. Eliminate all trips, retreats, outings, cook-outs, or any other activity in which the church has or would have a financial obligation.

What kind of information does an auditor need to look at?

The auditing firm must obtain access to the following information and materials:

- 1 Copies of all church policies and procedures related to finance and treasury functions and copies of minute approving those policies.

- 2 Copies of all the minutes from the finance committee, the trustees, the administrative board, the previous charge conference(s), and any other entity listed on the prior page.

- 3 Listing of all bank and investment accounts, including the person authorized to sign on each, and including any special use accounts under the control of the pastor(s) and in the name of the church.

- 4 All financial statements for each month of the year.

- 5 Bank and investment account statements for the same period.

- 6 Bank reconciliations for that same period.

- 7 Original books of entry, which will be the general and subsidiary journals; for those books that are computerized, a print-out of all transactions by account for the entire year.

- 8 All paid invoices, payroll data and files (including 941's, year-end W-2's, 1099's and transmittal forms), income transmittals and deposit records for the fourteen month period.

- 9 The Financial Secretary's records and other income records for the same period.

RESOURCES

Church and Clergy Tax Guide 2004 edition, by Richard Hammar, J.D., L.L.L., C.P.A., Updated each year.

The Church Guide to Employment Law, by Julie L. Bloss, J.D., CEBS, 2d ed..

Risk Management for Churches, by Richard Hammar, J.D., L.L.L., C.P.A.

Internal Revenue Service Publications, 1-800-TAX-FORM or www.irs.gov

Church and Clergy Tax Guide, by Richard R. Hammar Crown Financial Ministries

Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company

Payroll Tax Procedures for Churched and Clergy, Manfred Holck, Jr

Matthew-21 -

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**HIV spreading in New York City
At About Three Times The National Rate, Study Finds**

Article Date: 29 Aug 2008 - 6:00 PDT
Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report

HIV is spreading in New York City at about three times the national rate, with an incidence of 72 new HIV infections per 100,000 people, compared with 23 new infections per 100,000 people nationwide, according to a study released Wednesday by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the New York Times reports (Chan, New York Times, 8/28).

According to the study, men accounted for 76% of new HIV infections while women accounted for 25%. Blacks accounted for 46% of new infections, Hispanics for 32% and whites for 21%. Whites living in the city contracted HIV at four times the national rate, Hispanics at three times the national rate, and blacks in the city contracted the virus at almost twice the national rate. The study found that 4% of new infections were among people



younger than age 20, while people ages 20 to 29 accounted for 24% of new infections. People ages 30 to 39 and

those ages 40 to 49 each accounted for 29% of new infections, while people older than age 50 accounted for 15%. People younger than age 30 accounted for 28% of new infections in New York City, compared with 41% nationwide.

The primary mode of HIV transmission was sex between men, which accounted for 50% of new infections. High-risk heterosexual sex accounted for 22% of new infections, and injection drug use accounted for 8%. The mode of transmission was unknown in 18% of new cases, the study found (New York Times, 8/28).

*Do You Need... ENCOURAGEMENT...
HOPE... UPLIFTING and INSPIRATION?*

DEAL BY ME

by James W. Smith

A Must Read

"If you ever need an example of how Christ can transform a life of misplaced valued and hopelessness into a caring and useful servant, then this is the book to read."

*Peggy Cardea, Former Volunteer, Prison Fellowship International
Huntington, West Virginia*

"This book is a must read for everyone. In this book, you will find every imaginable emotion that one can possess. The conclusion to this life story is a real victory and to God be the glory."

*G. K. Butterfield, United States Congressman
1st Congressional District, State of North Carolina*

After sitting down to read this book, I could not put it down until it was finished. It is now 12:24 a.m. and I am disappointed that I have just read the last page. What a powerful story! Your writing is so vivid that I could feel what you experienced and could plainly see every detail, from the smoky pool halls to the cold, dreary cellblock.

Linda M. Bailey, Cary, North Carolina

Books may be ordered online from www.authorhouse.com
or www.jwsmithconsultant.com

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

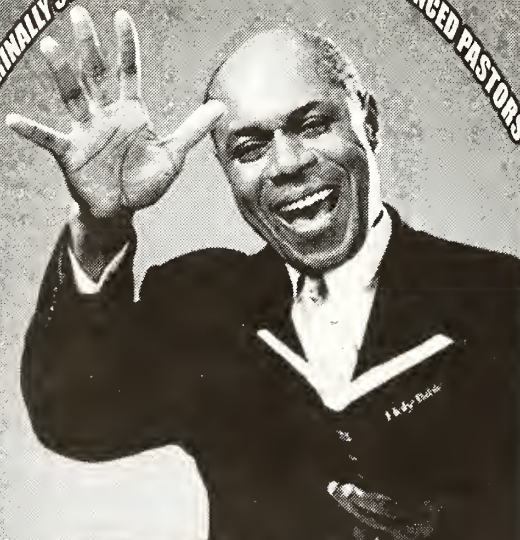
Writers:

- Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
- Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
- Marvin E. Davis
- Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
- Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
- Wheeler L. Jones
- T.L. Lewis
- Robert L. Malone
- Joseph L. Slade
- Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-MAILED OR MAILED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ORIGINAL ORDER! FOR PRICING SEE THE WEB SITE!



DOCTRINALLY SOUND EXPOSITORY SERMONS EXPERIENCED PASTORS



1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com
Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN

Free Robes (with minimum order)

- ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
- CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
- EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
- PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

**JAMES' HOUSE OF
ROBES & UNIFORMS**

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070
Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB)

Ms. Rose M. Harper
MMBB Relationship Manager for
GBSC

New Clergy

When you receive your first call to a church, there are important issues to consider:



Rose M. Harper

What is the recommended way to handle the financial arrangements provided for you by the church?

What process is in place to deal with pastor/congregation

relations?

What is your responsibility for income and Social Security taxes?

Pastoral Ministry Budget

Agreements regarding compensation, benefits, reimbursement of your ministry-related expenses, vacation time, etc., are all important considera-

tions in your call to a church. Misunderstandings at the beginning of your first pastorate can be avoided if you and the church carefully spell out the agreements and put them in writing.

MMBB recommends that churches follow a thorough process in determining a pastoral ministry budget. It is recommended that the pastoral ministry budget be arranged so that reimbursement for ministry-related expenses, compensation and benefits are each clearly identified and separated in the church budget. Ministry-related expenses include automobile reimbursement, convention expenses, continuing education, Ministers Council dues, hospitality funds, books, periodicals and other resources.

How to Pay the Pastor

"Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching; for the scripture

says, '... the laborer deserves to be paid'" -

Timothy 5:17-18

Fair compensation for those in ministry is often viewed as a puzzle with disparate pieces. Making decisions about pastoral compensation requires careful review of many facts. The church's financial resources and unique circumstances play a major role in determining cash salary and housing, but there are many pieces that need to be examined before a fair solution can be found.

First the minister should be evaluated regarding:

- Responsibilities
- Experience
- Education
- Expertise
- Effectiveness
- Years of Service

Then the following factors should be researched and documented:

1. The cost of living and salaries of professionals with similar education, experience and responsibilities.
2. A review of pastoral compensation for similar size churches based on average Sunday worship attendance, membership and budget can be obtained from your regional office.

What do we need to know about complying with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules?

The church is required to comply with IRS rules regarding the employer-employee relationship.

Do we have to complete a W-2 for all our staff members?

Yes. The church reports each employee's wages and other income on this form even though ministers may elect not to have tax withholding.

Do we have to complete a W-2 for all our staff members?

Yes. The church reports each employee's wages and other income on this form even though ministers may elect not to have tax withholding.

Why does the church prepare a W-2 for the minister and not a 1099?

IRS instructions indicate that Form W-2, not Form 1099-MISC, is the appropriate way to report a minister's taxable income paid as a regular salary by the church. If the church provides the minister with Form 1099-MISC rather than Form W-2, premiums paid by the employer for benefits, such as for bene-

fit plans administered by MMBB and for health insurance, must be included as taxable income. In addition, the chances for an audit for the minister are increased dramatically if Form 1099-MISC is used.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is considered taxable income for a minister?

Taxable income includes:

- cash salary minus voluntary tax-deferred annuity contributions, such as TAS, made by the church on behalf of the minister, and amounts for flexible spending accounts;
 - Social Security/Medicare tax offset;
 - allowances and reimbursements for ministry-related expenses if an accountable plan for the expenses has not been established;
 - automobile reimbursement in excess of the standard IRS mileage or per diem rates allowed by the IRS, even if an accountable plan is established;
 - personal use by the minister of a church-owned automobile;
 - 'imputed income' equal to the annual cost of employer-provided group term life insurance in excess of \$50,000;
 - travel expense payment for a minister's spouse to attend a denominational meeting unless the spouse is an employee of the church and attending for business reasons;
 - moving expenses paid or reimbursed by the church to a minister but not substantiated; and
 - any dependent care benefit provided by the employer for the minister in excess of \$5,000.
- What can a minister exclude from taxable income?
- housing and utilities allowances;
 - the fair market rental value of the parsonage;
 - allowances and reimbursements for ministry-related expenses not exceeding the IRS standard amount, if an accountable plan is established;
 - Benefits for Life premiums;
 - Tax-Deferred Annuity (TDA) contributions;
 - The Annuity Supplement (TAS) contributions;
 - amounts withheld for flexible spending accounts (FSAs); and
 - substantiated moving expenses that could have been deducted by the minister but were reimbursed or paid directly by the church.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT !!!!

The WBH&FMC WESTERN ASSEMBY

(All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts I, II, & III)

"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand."

II Corinthians 1:24

Introductory Statement: For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state.

Purpose(s): To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings across the state (one setting per quarter)

To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through with the Woman's Convention

Date: November 15, 2008 **Time:** 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Place: To Be Announced

Suggested Format: (TO BE PREPARED BY WBH&FMC)

- Inspirational Period (local participants)
- Greetings (local participants)
- Presentation (WBH&FMC officials/representatives)
- Congregation Interaction
- Sermon (a local pastor)
- Altar Call (a local pastor)
- Benediction

Attendees: All above named persons in Districts I, II, & III

District Chairpersons:	District	Group	Chairperson
	1	1	Vacant
	1	2	Vacant
	2	1	Vacant
	2	2	Mrs. Edna Long
	3	1	Ms. Rebecca Brown
	3	2	Mrs. Virginia Russell

Unified Fellowship Banquet

CHURCH
"Managing"

*The Wake Missionary
and its Auxiliaries
celebrate the 21st
Unified Fellowship*

*The Jane S. McKimmon
Raleigh, NC
Friday, April 11, 2008*



Moderator
Rev. Ronald Avery

4th
Rev. Doc
Banquet



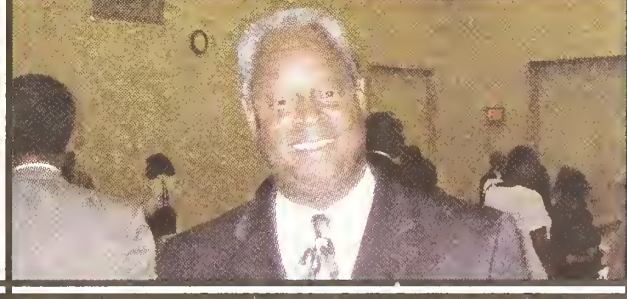
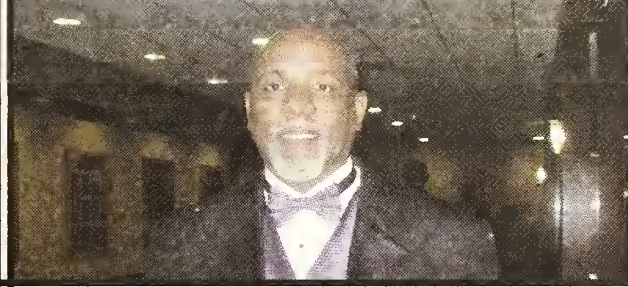
Baptist Association, Inc.
Seminaries sponsored
21st Annual
Worship Banquet
Conference Center - NCSU
North Carolina
August 15, 2008



President
Nathaniel Wood
Chairman



Dr. Howard Parker
Vice President at Large, GBSC
Banquet Keynote Speaker



Wake Missionary Baptist Association Woman's Auxiliary

Rev. Shirley A. Jones, President
(919) 427-9785
sajjones@mindspring.com

It has been an exciting year for the Wake Missionary Baptist Association Woman's Auxiliary, along with the officers, thank you for your support.



Rev. Shirley Jones

We have creative a program that we are calling the traveling trophies, the church who has the most youth participation at each session will receive 1st, 2nd or 3rd place trophy and they will keep the trophy until our next session. For those churches that do not receive a trophy, they will receive a ribbon for their participation. We have been having a lot of fun with the traveling trophies.

We also have a great curriculum for our youth. In May we start the year off with our spring session and it was an exciting session that included the history of the Woman's Auxiliary, workshops for all ages and the preached word (by

Rev. Sir Walter Mack).

Our Semi Annual Breakfast meeting was held in July for all Missionary Leaders, the purpose of this meeting was to share ideas for the direction of the auxiliary. From this meeting we are currently working on a project that we hope, will be ready for presentation at our October session.

On the August 7-8, 2008, the Woman's Auxiliary Celebrated its 88th year, our host Church was Oberlin Baptist. On Thursday & Friday dinner was prepared by Olive Branch BC, New Bethel BC Rolesville, from the Northern District, Wakefield BC the Eastern District, Juniper Level BC Southern District, Wake Baptist Grove South Central District, and Oberlin BC Western District. There was a Lecture, a Liturgical Dance by Sister Morgan Poole; she danced to Amazing Grace Flows Down and a concert by our youth choirs from Churches of the WBA.

On Friday evening, we had a fish fry, followed by a recognition ceremony where a plaque was given to our 1st Junior President Dr. Pennie Perry,

In addition, plaques of appreciation were given to our past presidents and

pastors of the association were asked to submit a name of a faithful disciple from their church, a certificate of recognition was given to those disciples. A presentation on the state of our children in Wake County, Songs of praise to the Lord by Mill Branch BC Choir & the Preached Word by Rev Dr. Gentle Everett.

December 6, 2008, we are planning a fundraiser for the Oakford Children Home & Homeless Women; we need your help in this effort. Also, we need your assistance in helping our sisters who are Experiencing Hair Loss Due To Cancer Chemotherapy.

They need wigs to help build their self-esteem and your help will let them know that someone cares. To help support this effort contact your missionary ministries or me.

We are creating an email distribution list as well as address and phone number so we can keep you abreast of all the activities I have a sign up sheet for those of you who would like to be added to the list.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, for your help and Your continued prayers!

1 Timothy 6:7-10

For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

When you can't come to us, our mobile showroom will come to you!

Coordinating
Group Outfits
from Head-to-Toe!
Suits
Shirt/Tie Sets
Shoes

On-Site Group Fittings!



Suit Sizes to 80
Shirt Sizes to 22

Call to Schedule a Showing!

Suits with Brand
Names such as:
Tayion
Stacy Adams
Falcone

Since 1932
ROWE'S
MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

Back to School Savings Tips

Malachi 3:10

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."



Back-to-School Savings Tips

For back-to-school, families should consider the following cost-saving tips: Take inventory. Begin with a list of all back-to-school needs and expenses including supplies, equipment, clothing, and fees for sports, music, and science labs. Next, check around the house for what the family already owns. Last year's book bag and supplies may be just what is needed to start the new school year. Most students will not need entirely new wardrobes. Clothes, shoes, and coats are recyclable and can look like new outfits with inexpensive accessories.

Buy demos and display products. For big-ticket items like computers, accessories, and other equipment, a store's display merchandise with small cosmetic blemishes offer great consumer savings and often come with warranties. According to The New York Times, almost \$80 billion of excess or returned inventory piles up each year. American retailers and manufacturers realize they can recoup some of their costs by selling these products at a discount to consumers. Simply inquire to a store manager about the availability of these items for purchase.

Invest in smart plastics. Instead of paying for cell phone plans, consider

phone cards. Also, consider pre-paid credit cards that allow an increase in credit limits as often as needed. Instead of paying for a car and insurance for college students far from home, it may be smart to establish a frequent flyer membership so they can earn points for traveling home.

Eat wisely on campus. Generally, it is both cheaper and healthier to pack a lunch than to eat at school food counters and off-campus fast-food restaurants. Deli wraps, cold cuts, cheese and veggie snack trays, and salads with grilled meat are easy to make and will keep in lockers or cars for a few hours.

Comparison shop. Sunday circulars and direct-mail coupons provide great updates on sales of trusted, name-brand items. Pay particular attention to sales expiration dates. If an item is not already on the shopping list of necessities, don't buy it, even if it is a great deal. Shop online. Several national office supply stores are offering good online prices for school supplies. Look for free

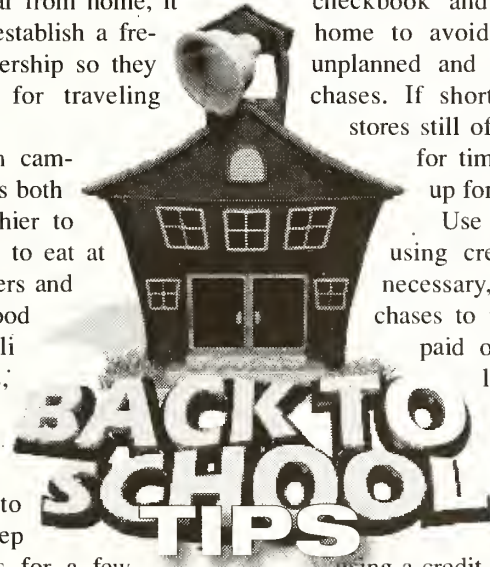
or inexpensive delivery.

Pay with cash, if possible. Set a spending amount and stick with it. Pay with cash when possible and leave the checkbook and credit cards at home to avoid temptations for unplanned and unnecessary purchases. If short on cash, some stores still offer layaway plans for time needed to save up for purchases.

Use credit wisely. If using credit is absolutely necessary, then limit purchases to items that can be paid off in 90 days or less. Use a credit card with the lowest interest rate.

Consumers should always remember that using a credit card is like taking out a short-term loan. If care is not taken to minimize charges and make payments on time, this loan could become a long-term financial and credit disaster.

Prepare for next year. Start budgeting now for next year. Set aside money that is designated for back-to-school shopping. This way, the family will not be overwhelmed by unexpected costs that could lead to a financial crisis. (Crown Financial Ministries)



A Different Drug Problem.....

Submitted by Rev. Joe Jackson

The other day, someone at a store in our town read that a Methamphetamine lab had been found in an old farmhouse in the adjoining county and he asked me a rhetorical question, "Why didn't we have a drug problem when you and I were growing up?"

I replied, I had a drug problem when I was young: I was drug to church on Sunday morning. I was drug to church for weddings and funerals. I was drug to family reunions and community socials no matter the weather.

I was drug by my ears when I was disrespectful to adults. I was also drug to the woodshed when I disobeyed my parents, told a lie, brought home a bad report card, did not speak with respect, spoke ill of the teacher or the preacher, or if I didn't put forth my best effort in everything that was asked of me.



I was drug to the kitchen sink to have my mouth washed out with soap if I uttered a profanity. I was drug out to pull weeds in mom's garden and flower beds and cockleburrs out of dad's fields. I was drug to the homes of family, friends and neighbors to help out some poor soul who had no one to mow the yard, repair the clothesline, or chop some firewood, and, if my mother had ever known that I took a single dime as a tip for this kindness, she would have drug me back to the woodshed.

Those drugs are still in my veins and they affect my behavior in every-thing I do, say, or think. They are stronger than cocaine, crack, or heroin; and, if today's children had this kind of drug problem. America would be a better place.

God bless the parents who drugged us.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention 2007 - 2008 North Carolina Financial Report

Dr. David E. Goatley, Executive Secretary - Treasurer

NORTH CAROLINA

ABBOTT, BETTY J.		100.00	FIRST EBENEZER, REIDSVILLE, NC	500.00
ALSTON, MILDRED T.		10.00	FLYTHE, WILLIAM C.	250.00
ASKEW, AUDREY		40.00	FORBES SR., DAVID C	245.00
BAPTIST UNION, HOPE MILLS, NC	MAURICE HAYES	1,000.00	FORBES, HAZEL B.	665.00
BASS, MARY H.		25.00	FOSTER, INEZ W.	250.00
BAZEMORE, FLORIDA B.		50.00	FOUST, MARTHA W.	150.00
BAZZEL CREEK CHURCH		75.00	FREEMAN, JOHN A.	200.00
BLACKSTOCK, VIVIAN W.		30.00	FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, CHARLOTTE	CLIFFORD JONES 8,790.00
BLACKWELL, YANCEYVILLE, NC	EVERETT DICKERSON	1,000.00	FRIENDSHIP, FAYETTEVILLE, NC	110.00
BLUE WING, OXFORD, NC		1,000.00	FRIENDSHIP, SOUTHPORT, NC	ANNA CLEMMONS 250.00
BLUESTONE, PELHAN, NC	JOHN DOE, SR.	500.00	FRIENDSHIP WINSTON-SALEM, NC	S.E. TYNDALL 1,640.00
BOWMAN-HOPSON, LINDA		110.00	GABRIEL, SHEILA H.R.	335.00
BRODIE, PRISCILLA A.		25.00	GABRIEL, WEDDIE L.	100.00
BRODIE, ROSA A.		160.00	GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	225.00
BRONSON, HELEN		1,300.00	GALILEE, WINSTON-SALEM, NC	REV. ROBERT MCGOWENS 600.00
BROWN, CAROL L.		582.00	GARNER, DABBLE E.	300.00
BROWN, DAVID L.		25.00	GARNER, DEBRA	150.00
BROWN, HELEN B.		135.00	GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION, RALEIGH, NC.	75,302.44
BRUNSWICK WACCAMAW ASSN., WHITEVILLE, NC	HENRY JONES, JR., MODERATOR	3,480.00	GILLIAM, JANET	135.00
BULLOCK, CHARLES T.		35.00	GOLDEN, FLORA E.	70.00
BULLOCK, SHIRLEY		60.00	GOOD HOPE, FAYETTEVILLE, NC	SAMUEL MCDONALD 1,400.00
BULLOCK, SHIRLEY W.		295.00	GORE, ROGER	125.00
BULLOCK, VELMA J.		275.00	GREATER CLEGG'S CHAPEL, TIMBERLAKE, NC	200.00
BUMGARDNER, NANCY B.		120.00	GREATER FIRST, FAYETTEVILLE, NC	1,000.00
CALDWELL, MATTIE P.		100.00	GREATER PROVIDENCE, CHARLOTTE, NC	1,100.00
CARTER, FAYE C.		400.00	GREATER ST. PAUL MISSIONARY, DURHAM, NC	3,000.00
CARTER, MAXINE		10.00	GREEN BETHEL, BOILING SPRINGS, NC	30.00
CEDAR GROVE, SUPPLY, NC	FREEMAN GAUSE	10,000.00	GRIER, JEAN F.	20.00
CHESTNUT, BRENDA M.		50.00	GUNTER, JOYCE B.	10.00
CHRISTIAN CHAPEL #2, WILMINGTON, NC	C/O MS. MARY STARKS	500.00	HACKETT, LOUIS W.	220.00
CHRISTIAN FAITH, RALEIGH, NC	DAVID FORBES, SR.	7,000.00	HAIRSTON, MICHELLE	145.00
CLAYBORN, EVELENA R.		270.00	HARRIS, BARBARA M.	250.00
COLLINS, MOLLIE		75.00	HARRIS, HELEN L.	110.00
COMBS, ANDREA		100.00	HARRIS, SHIRLEY	30.00
CONYERS, AUDREY		20.00	HARRISON, BOBBIE B.	350.00
COOPER, ANNIE		75.00	HARRISON, ERNESTINE	50.00
COOPER, WILLIA CHARLOTTE		235.00	HEWITT, BARBARA	15.00
COUNT ON ME, ASHEVILLE		50.00	HIGH POINT ED. & MBA, OAK RIDGE, NC	2,000.00
COUNTY LINE, OXFORD, NC		350.00	HILL, JEANETTE	160.00
COZART, BETTY H.		15.00	HILL, WILLIAM G.	180.00
CRAWFORD, MARY W.		270.00	HILL, WILLIAM R.	80.00
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, LELAND, NC		150.00	HOLLEY, CLARECE	10.00
DANIELS, HELEN A.		100.00	HOLSTON, ALFRED	60.00
DAVIE COUNTY UNION, MOCKSVILLE, NC		200.00	HOOPER'S CHAPEL, LELAND, NC	12,544.38
DAVIS, PRISCILLA C.		100.00	INGOLD FIRST, CLINTON, NC	1,155.25
DAVIS, WILEY M.		300.00	JACKSON CHAPEL, WILSON, NC	DARRYL CANADY 120.00
DISTRICT 1 NEW HOPE ASSOC., MEBANE, NC		100.00	JAMES, AUSTIN	640.00
DUNTON, VIOLA		50.00	JENNINGS, WILLIE J.	95.00
EAST CUMBERLAND CO. UNION, AUTRYVILLE, NC	ADDIE SIMS	1,000.00	JOHNSON, AARON	25.00
EAST WHITE OAK, GREENSBORO, NC		650.00	JOHNSON, CLARENCE	200.00
EASTERN UNION, KINGSTON, NC		150.00	JOHNSON, COMAR A.	10.00
EBENEZER, CHARLOTTE, NC		3,000.00	JOHNSON, CONNIE G.	50.00
EBENEZER, WILMINGTON, NC		1,550.00	JONES, JOSEPHINE H.	220.00
EDWARDS, CHANCY R.		1,250.00	JONES, MARIAN W.	60.00
ELM GROVE, REIDSVILLE, NC		2,630.00	JONES, OPHELIA D.	50.00
EMMANUEL, WINSTON-SALEM, NC	JOHN MENDEZ	1,220.00	JONES, PONNIE	25.00
FARROW, MARY B.		25.00	JONES, SR., REV. DR. CLIFFORD A.	1,100.00
FELTON, ANNIE V.		50.00	KEATHERN BAPTIST CHURCH	100.00
FIRST BAPTIST, ELIZABETHTOWN, NC		100.00	KEMBA, INC.	500.00
FIRST BAPTIST, FAYETTEVILLE, NC	CURETON JOHNSON	34,000.00	KINGDOM HARVEST CHURCH, RALEIGH, NC	320.00
FIRST BAPTIST, HOLLY SPRINGS, NC		220.00	LASSITER, BETTIE W.	115.00
FIRST BAPTIST, LUMBERTON, NC		500.00	LAWSON, CAROL	80.00
FIRST BAPTIST, OXFORD, NC	LACY JOYNER	1,074.73	LAYMAN'S LEAGUE UNION BAPTIST ASSOC.,	VANCE RAYE 377.25
FIRST BAPTIST, PARKTON, NC	JAMES RAYE, SR.	200.00	LEAK, DORETHA L.	30.00
FIRST BAPTIST, RALEIGH, NC	DUMAS A. HARSHAW, SR.	11,219.00	LENNON, EVA BURNEY	100.00
FIRST BAPTIST, STEDMAN, NC		950.00	LEWIS CHAPEL, FAYETTEVILLE, NC	26,500.00
FIRST CALVARY, DURHAM, NC	FREDRICK DAVIS	1,550.00	LEWIS, FRANCES	135.00
FIRST CALVARY, SALISBURY, NC		1,250.00	LITTLE, MARY D.	25.00
			LOTT CAREY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.	2,000.00
			MARS HILL, WINSTON-SALEM, NC	C/O SUSIE NANCE 370.00
			MARTIN STREET, RALEIGH, NC	CHARLES BULLOCK 1,375.00
			MCCORMICK, LUCILLE F.	360.00

MCDONALD, LACY E.		60.00	SNEAD, EVELYN M.		70.00
MCDONALD, MARY H.		70.00	SPEIGHT, T.R.		50.00
MCELVINE, MOSES AND JOSEPHINE		140.00	SPENCE, LENORA		170.00
MC GEE, EVANGELIST B.		100.00	SPRING HILL, WHITEVILLE,		50.00
MCIVER, FRANCES H.		50.00	ST. JOHN MISSIONARY, RED OAK, NC	REV. HERBERT SCOTT	473.40
MCCLEAN, EDITHE B.		125.00	ST. JOHN'S, MAPLE HILL, NC		7,200.00
METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH, ROCKY MOUNT, NC		800.00	ST. JUDE BAPTIST CHURCH, RAEFORD, NC		300.00
MICHAEL CREEK, STOVALL, NC		420.00	ST. LUKE, DURHAM, NC		5,000.00
MIDDLE DISTRICT ASSN., BURGAW, NC	ANDRE CARR	11,635.39	ST. MATTHEW, RALEIGH, NC		7,800.48
MILLER, BEATRICE S.		25.00	ST. PAUL, CHARLOTTE, NC	GREGORY MOSS	27,000.00
MILLER, LINDA FAYE		135.00	ST. PETER, RAEFORD, NC		1,000.00
MOORE, MINNIE G.		135.00	ST. PETERS, WELDON, NC		75.00
MOREHEAD AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH		185.00	STANLEY, COLENE B.		250.00
MORNING STAR FIRST, HICKORY, NC		2,750.00	STEELE, DEBORAH W.		220.00
MOSS, SR., GREGORY AND JACKIE		1,000.00	STINSON, HAZEL J.		270.00
MOTLEY, CLARA Y. ESTATE		20,000.00	STOKES, G. PATRICIA		200.00
MOY, INEZ		100.00	STOKES, JOHN D.		200.00
MT. GILEAD, DURHAM, NC		740.00	SUNNYSIDE BAPTIST ASSOC., ROXBORO, NC		500.00
MT. LEVEL, DURHAM, NC	W. TURNER	600.00	SYCAMORE HILL, GREENVILLE, NC		825.00
MT. PLEASANT M.B. CHURCH		200.00	TEASLEY, FRANCES J.		70.00
MT. PLEASANT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, WINSTON-SALEM, NC		500.00	TEMPLE MEMORIAL, HIGH POINT, NC		5,125.00
MT. PLEASANT, RALEIGH, NC		300.00	THOMPSON, CAROLYN		220.00
MT. VERNON, DURHAM, NC	PERCY HIGH	3,115.08	THOMPSON, HELEN M.		150.00
MT. ZION, ASHEVILLE, NC		2,200.00	TRIEDSTONE, ASHVEVILLE, NC		1,000.00
MT. ZION, LONGWOOD, NC		500.00	TUCKER, ERMA J.		135.00
NANCE, SUSIE B.		510.00	TURNER, M. FRANCES		50.00
NEUSE RIVER ASSN., WELDON, NC	DR. W. BURSTON, MODERATOR	1,925.00	UNION ASSOC. WOMEN'S AUX., FAYETTEVILLE, NC		4,287.00
NEW BEGINNING, LUMBERTON, NC		500.00	UNION BAPT. ASSOC., FAYETTEVILLE, NC		500.00
NEW CHRISTIAN, ROSEHILL, NC		1,200.00	UNION CHAPEL, WINSTON-SALEM, NC		1,100.00
NEW HOPE, GATESVILLE, NC	J. BROWN	100.00	UNION GROVE, HURDLE MILLS, NC	C/O ELEANOR VANHOOKE	500.00
NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN, CHERRYVILLE, NC		1,372.00	UNION MISS. BAPTIST CHURCH, DURHAM, NC		10,500.00
NEW LIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH, OXFORD, NC		150.00	UNITED CORNERSTONE MBC, WINSTON-SALEM, NC		370.00
NEW PROSPECT, SHERRILLES FORD, NC	JARVIS SANER	500.00	UNITED METROPOLITAN, WINSTON-SALEM, NC		3,350.00
NEW ST. PAUL, EDEN, NC	ERICH WILLIAMS	120.00	UNITED SHILOH BAPT ASSOC., HENDERSON, NC		600.00
NEW ZION, CHARLOTTE, NC	HENRY WILLIAMS	2,965.00	VANHOOK, LINDA B		200.00
NORRIS, MARY		110.00	VILLINES, HILTON W.		200.00
OAKES, DEBORAH T.		60.00	WARREN, DIMPLE C.		20.00
OCEAN VIEW ASSN, SHALOTTE, NC		5,000.00	WATTS CHAPEL, RALEIGH, NC	JAMES RICHARDSON	3,000.00
OLIVE GROVE, OXFORD, NC		1,650.00	WEBSTER, BRENDA E.		60.00
PEACE MISSIONARY, DURHAM, NC		700.00	WEDDIE'S AUTO PAINT SHOP		300.00
PEARSON, C. ARVETTE		200.00	WESTERN UNION ASSN., CLINTON, NC		364.75
PENN AVENUE, OXFORD, NC		150.00	WHITE, ROGERLINE P.		100.00
PERRY, LILLIE C.		50.00	WHITT, MARY A.		100.00
PERRY, NANCY W.		410.00	WILSON, CHARLOTTE		80.00
PINE GROVE, ASHEVILLE, NC	LESLIE HINES	1,500.00	WILSON, VIRGINIA N.		110.00
PINEY GROVE, WINGATE, NC	C. C. CRAIG	1,100.00	WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME & FOR., RALEIGH, NC		38,732.52
PLEASANT GROVE, SAINT PAULS, NC		60.00	WOMAN'S LOTT CAREY DAY, LEWISTON, NC		3,460.00
PLEASANT GROVE-CALABASH, ASH, NC	ARVELLA MARLOW	300.00	WORTHY, MARGIE C.		220.00
PLEASANT HILL, SHALLOTTE, NC		5,000.00	WRIGHT, SWANNIE P.		25.00
POINTER, JR., WILLIAM L.		1,000.00	ZION PLAIN, NAKINA, NC		200.00
PROVIDENCE, KERNERSVILLE, NC		1,375.00			
QUINN, LOIS D.		200.00			
REDEEMED MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	GARY B. WALKER	1,000.00			
REED, ORLANDO G.		20.00			
REEDER MEMORIAL, CHARLOTTE, NC	MARY GRIER	5,732.50			
RIDDICK, MELVIN		710.00			
ROCKY RIDGE, REIDSVILLE, NC		200.00			
ROGERS, JONATHAN M. AND KENYA D.		2,000.00			
ROWAN BAPTIST CHURCH		1,000.00			
ROYAL CHAPEL, IVANHOE, NC		1,000.00			
SAMUEL CHAPEL, ELIZABETH CITY, NC	C. TURNER	720.00			
SAMUEL, VIVIAN C.		250.00			
SANDERS, JOHNNIE Y.		150.00			
SCOTT, CATHERINE J.		135.00			
SCOTT, GERTRUDE		40.00			
SECOND NEW LIGHT, ST. PAULS, NC		200.00			
SESSOMS, PATRICIA A.		75.00			
SESSOMS, JANICE R.		10.00			
SHILOH, WILMINGTON, NC		5,000.00			
SHOULDERS BRANCH MISS. BAPTIST CHURCH		250.00			
SKINNER, LINDA		50.00			
SMITH, BARBARA		110.00			
SMITH, HORACE		220.00			
SMITH, MICHAEL R. AND RENEE J.		100.00			



Modern spin on church giving

A new Web site based in Charlotte will steer money to houses of worship in the Carolinas as many pastors worry that the faltering economy is sinking their budgets.

FaithRewards.com, will give online shoppers and business owners a chance to funnel a percentage of their spending and advertising dollars to their church, synagogue, mosque or temple. Still in the startup phase, FaithRewards was launched in May by Mitch Gibson, a former Bank of America executive who attends Friendship Baptist



FaithRewards is Gibson's venture. The Charlotte Observer

Church in Charlotte. The for-profit FaithRewards is the latest company to use online shopping to benefit a cause.

Web sites such as GoodShop.com, GiftsForMyChurch.com and now FaithRewards.com are portals with "online malls" that can transport e-visitors to hundreds of national retailers. Target, Home Depot and other retailers donate an average of 3 percent of each sale to the buyer's designated house of worship and give the Web site a finder's fee.

"We're focused on what people do every day -- shopping online -- and turn that into doing good," said J.J. Ramberg, co-founder of GoodShop.com of Los Angeles, which began in September 2007, and search engine GoodSearch.com. Together, they send money to 63,000 religious organizations, nonprofit groups and schools.

"We get a lot of thanks from groups for enabling their members to offer support without

actually making a donation," Ramberg said.

Shoppers on FaithRewards can choose from more than 2,000 churches in the Charlotte area and a handful in the Triangle -- including Wake Chapel Church in Raleigh and Reality Ministries in Durham. The site's slogan: "Giving through everyday living." What appears to make the Charlotte site unique is that it is also building an online business directory that lets

members of congregations advertise their services or businesses for \$35 per month -- with 25 percent of that amount going to their house of worship.

Also, visitors to the site who want to patronize members of their congregations can find them by clicking on the name and logo of their church.

"It's a way to let [church] members know what other members are doing," Gibson said. "And the church gets a percentage of the advertising revenue."

So far only one paid advertiser is on board. Gibson is hoping churches will put the word out to members this fall with posters and bulletin inserts -- even mentions from the pulpit.

Tough times for most

FaithRewards is starting out as leaders of churches and other nonprofit entities are wary about the economy.

"It's tough times for everybody, and churches are not exempt," said the Rev. Casey Kimbrough, pastor at Charlotte's 1,600-member Mount Carmel Baptist, which is considering becoming part of the FaithRewards business directory.

"When you have times like these, people have to make difficult giving choices. And the greater need causes the church's resources to be stretched."

A study released in June by Lifeway Research found that 72 percent of

other aspects of the sour economy.

In such an environment, charitable operations are looking for diverse funding sources, said Doug Hartjes, development officer at Charlotte's Crisis Assistance Ministry and an officer in the local Association of Fundraising Professionals chapter.

Getting money from sites such as FaithRewards, he said, "is a great idea ... and congregants will embrace it as long as they feel confident their gifts are going to be utilized efficiently and effectively."

Gibson and business partner Lori Spangard, a marketing professional, have pitched their Web site to more than a dozen churches, outlining its features in PowerPoint presentations. Joining FaithRewards costs churches nothing; the site provides bulletin inserts and posters. But for FaithRewards to work, lots of church members must use the site to shop and advertise.

"We understand that this is not something that happens right away," said Spangard. "Churches will have to promote it, make it part of their culture." If 50 percent of the congregation uses the site to shop (at \$250 per person) and if 10 percent of the members use it to advertise, Gibson and Spangard said, a 5,000-member church could pick up almost \$27,000 a month.

The pastors' reaction

Some leaders at houses of worship like the idea and may roll it out this fall. "It has some appeal, and we're definitely going to look at it," said Sara Shreibman, executive director at Charlotte's Temple Beth El. "New

opportunities to raise money come our way frequently. We look for things that are good for the congregation and good for the community."

The Rev. Clifford Jones Sr., Gibson's pastor at 6,000-member Friendship Missionary Baptist -- the first church to sign up for FaithRewards -- sent a letter to other pastors plugging it as a way to raise money that "has integrity and is doable."

Philippians 4:11-13

For I have learned to be content, whatever the circumstances may be. I know now how to live when things are difficult and I know how to live when things are prosperous. In general and in particular I have learned the secret of eating well or going hungry of facing either plenty of poverty. I am ready for anything through the strength of the One who lives within ...



Southern Baptist pastors said their churches were getting hit by the downturn in the U.S. economy, and 27 percent said they wouldn't meet their budgets unless conditions got much better.

Also in June, a Dallas company that specializes in fundraising for Christian ministries released a study saying that nearly half of Christian adults had reduced their charitable giving because of high gas prices, job worries and

BAPTIST **Inform***er*

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portia Brandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

General Instructions for the Pastoral Search Committee

Reverend Dr. Alvin Love, Pastor
Lilydale First Baptist Church, Chicago
Illinois
Member of the National Baptist Convention,
USA, Board of Directors



The primary purpose of the pastor search committee is to find and recommend someone to serve as pastor. Remember, you are not simply searching for a Preacher, but for a Pastor who can preach!

A. Establish Guidelines for the Work

1. Survey Church to ascertain it's needs regarding a Pastor.
2. Compilation of Church Information Packet.
3. Determine how the committee will consider recommendations.
4. Develop and distribute to each potential candidate, a "Pastoral Request for Information" form. This form will include the candidates personal testimony, experience, education, family, philosophy of ministry, doctrinal beliefs, ordination, denominational preferences, viewpoints on current theological issues, names & addresses of (5) personal references.
5. Develop Voting Procedures.

B. Evaluate Potential Candidates

1. Receive all resumes and information responses.
2. Verify information supplied.
3. Conduct interviews of prospective candidates.
4. Reduce list of potential candidates.
5. Arrange for Church visit of serious candidates.

C. Recommend Possible Pastor

1. Make recommendation to Church in writing. This recommendation should include the potential Pastor's qualifications, experience, Church expectations and Church commitment (salary and benefits package).
2. Ask Joint Board to call Church Meeting for purpose of voting.
3. Notify Pastor of Church's decision. This should be done by certified mail.

D. Orient the New Pastor

1. Handle moving arrangements, if necessary.
2. Finalize housing issues.
3. Provide a welcoming reception.
4. Make introductions to the community.
5. Plan and implement Installation Services.

Making Relationships Work . . . God's Way



Pastor, let us bring our exciting, dynamic, Bible-based workshop to your congregation. The workshop is designed for singles, married couples and anyone seeking a fulfilling, Christ-centered marriage. The workshop is absolutely free! You provide the place and participants and we'll do the rest. We provide all materials and we will even help you promote the workshop in your local media. Call us today toll-free at 866-463-1760 or visit us at www.NCFRCministry.org and let us help you enhance marriages and relationships in your congregation.

Workshop Presenters

Married more than 35 years, Rev. Donald Stevenson, a corporate tax attorney and former senior pastor, and Dr. Sara Stevenson, a psychologist and life coach, are the authors of *Get A Clue! Why Relationships Don't Work* and are the founders of the National Christian Family Resources Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Christian marriages and families in the Body of Christ.

PASTORAL VACANCY

First Missionary Baptist Church • Warsaw, NC
 First Missionary Baptist Church, Warsaw, NC
 125 members is Seeking a Pastor with following criteria:

- Ordained Baptist Minister
- Degree from an accredited Seminary or School of Theology
- Five years of pastoral experience

All interested persons should submit a resume to:

First Missionary Baptist Church
 c/o Deacon Jesse C. Williams, Chairman
 Search Committee
 123 Warren Rd
 Warsaw, North Carolina 28398

• Deadline for all submissions is October 31, 2008

PASTORAL VACANCY

THE NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 1604 White Plains Church Road • Clarkton, NC

Qualifications:

- A man or woman of God licensed and ordained in the Baptist Denomination.
- Must have at least five (5) years experience as an Ordained Minister
- Pastoral experience. • Seminary training.

OTHER ATTRIBUTES

- Gifted Teacher • Good leadership ability • Good communication skills
- Ability to counsel • Committed to the needs of the flock

If interested, please send information profile or resume to:

Bro. Ronnie Blanks, Pastor Search Committee Chairman
 New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
 1604 White Plains Church Road
 Clarkton, NC 28433

Please pray for our committee as we continue our search process.

PASTORAL VACANCY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ROXBORO, NC

First Baptist Church of Roxboro, North Carolina, is a church with approximately 200 members, seeking a pastor who meets the following criteria:

- LICENSED BAPTIST MINISTER
- HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/GED WITH SEMINARY STUDIES FROM AN ACCREDITED SEMINARY SCHOOL
- POSSESS AT LEAST (3)) YEARS OF PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Interested persons should send resume to:

First Baptist Church
 Attention: Pastoral Search Committee
 14 Main Circle
 Roxboro, North Carolina 27573

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
 Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
 and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
 for publication and inquiry to
 Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

PASTORAL VACANCY

Winn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church • Mount Olive, North Carolina
 We are currently accepting applications for position of Pastor from licensed and ordained Missionary Baptist Ministers. Winn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is a small historic church located in eastern North Carolina. Services are held each second and fourth Sunday. Please send your resume to:

Winn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
 Pastor's Search Committee
 Deacon Sherman Miles
 P.O. Box 1164
 Mount Olive, NC 28365 (919) 658-0234

**Mt Level Missionary Baptist Church is seeking
 a full-time Youth & Christian Education Minister.**

Qualifications include completion of a Theological Master Degree program with a focus in youth ministry.

The Ministee should have a sound knowledge of scripture and Baptist Doctrine and the ability to teach youth and adults. Qualified Candidates should submit a resume to: Youth & Christian Education Minister Committee, Mt. Level Missionary Baptist Church, 316 Hebron Road, Durham, NC 27704 or email: mtleveleducyouthchild@gmail.com.

Visit our website: www.mtlevelembc.org

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

*To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
 Dear Christian Leader and Friends,*

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

*At Your Service
 Thomas L. Jones*

The Baptist Informer

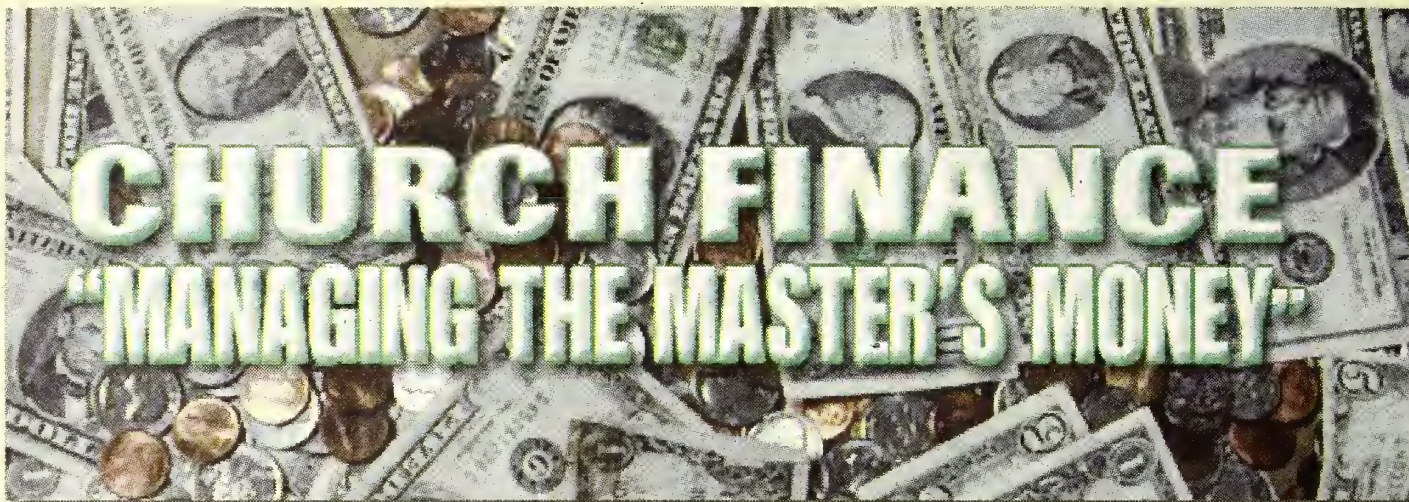
Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
 Voice of 500,000 Baptists
 (USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
 Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor
 Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
 Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
 919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: *"By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)*

BAPTIST Informer



Jesus talked a lot about money. Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables were concerned with how to manage money and possessions. In the Gospel, an amazing one out of ten verses deals directly with the subject of money. The Bible offers 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but more than 2,000 verses on money and possessions.

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



GBSC Annual Session October 27 - 29, 2008

During our Annual Session held in October, we will have sessions on music, women's role in ministry, focus on marriage and family, financial and physical fitness, associate ministers, new pastors (0 to 3 years), pulpit search strategies, social justice (emphasizing voter empowerment) and the mortgage crisis. In addition to these, there will be opportunities to participate in hands on mission projects and, of course, powerful worship!

Make plans to be with us beginning October 27th through the 29th.

4/1/2008
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27567-2550 520 P17



BAPTIST Informer

Volume 131, No. 11

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

November 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1, 2008
WBH & FMC
Youth Evangelism Conference
Person County Union



November 4, 2008
Voting Day

November 8, 2008
YBC & LTC Meeting
Baptist Headquarters
Raleigh, NC

November 7-8, 2008
Ushers Retreat Assembly
Mt Pisgah Baptist Church
Fayetteville, NC

November 26, 2008
Central Children's Home
American Legion Pilgrimage
Day

November 27, 2008
Thanksgiving
Day



January 9, 2009
GBSC MLK Banquet
Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord
Concord, NC

January 10, 2009
WBH & FMC
One Day Session
Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord
Concord, NC

GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC
Gmoss1@bellsouth.net
(704) 334-5309



A Celebration of Life & Homegoing OF The Twenty-fourth President of the GBSC of NC Inc. (1982 - 1986)

REVEREND DR. E. B. TURNER

The Rev. Dr. E.B. Turner, one of Robeson County's most influential leaders, died Sunday, October 5, 2008, after a long illness. He was 84.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Georgia, two daughters Rosalind Turner Bell and Andrea Turner of Washington, D.C., two sisters, Inease Wicker of Goldston and Thelma Turner of Washington, D.C.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was pastor of First Baptist Church in Lumberton for 57 years before retiring in November 2005. Former President GBSC of NC, Inc. (1982-1986).

Dr. Turner served on the Robeson County Board of Commissioners for 12 years. Before that, he served nearly 30 years on the Lumberton City Council. He retired from the county Board of Commissioners in January 2006, citing medical and family reasons. He had two years left on his term. "I leave to the historians the full measure of this venture," he wrote of his political career when he resigned in 2006. Dr. Turner had an opinion about everything and didn't mind speaking his mind.

In an interview with The Robesonian for a story published Jan. 8, 2006, Turner said he neither planned to make Robeson County his home or to become a politician when he came to Lumberton in 1948, fresh from divinity school at Shaw University, to be pastor of First Baptist Church in South Lumberton. "I went there to stay for two years and get a little experience, then I was going to go on to Baltimore,

Washington or New York and get me a big church," Turner said during the interview at his Goldston farm, where he retired to tend goats and spend time with his wife. "But I got down there and the conditions were such ... man. Over there in South Lumberton there were no paved streets, no water ... no nothin'. The city limits came to the railroad tracks. My church wasn't even in the city limits." Turner said he initially balked when given the chance to join "the back room boys" of the Lumberton City Council in 1962, but said he realized it was the best way he could help his people.

There he learned about emerging federal programs, through which he helped secure money for housing and infrastructure. Turner Terrace, a public housing complex off Martin Luther King Drive in South Lumberton, was named in his honor.

"My eyes were opened when I got back there," Turner said of the "back room" where deals were hammered out. "I learned that if I voted with them some of the time, they would have to vote with me. It was a game, but a game that could help people."

Bo Biggs, an observer of the Robeson County political landscape, summed up Turner's political savvy. "E.B. mastered



Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

the art of Robeson County politics," he said. "He was an aggressive advocate for what he believed in, and he might ruffle a feather or two, but he could always compromise."

Dr. Turner left Robeson County after his retirement and moved to Goldston, near Siler City. He died at Chatham Hospital in Siler City.

In honor of Dr. Turner's service and in respect of his memory, The Baptist Headquarters was closed for business on Friday and Saturday, October 10 and 11, 2008. Matching wreaths were mark the entrances of Baptist Headquarters and the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel on the campus of Shaw University on Friday and Saturday. The University chimes sounded at 11:00 a.m. on both days to commemorate his contributions to both institutions.

Congratulations! Dr. Audrey Price Battle

On September 10, 2008, Audrey Price Battle earned her Doctor of Religious Education degree from Anderson Theological Seminary, Camilla, Georgia. She graduated Cum Laude. She serves as First Vice-President of The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Incorporated. She accomplished this goal while maintaining a home, and actively participating as a member of Long's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Hobgood,



North Carolina. In addition, Dr. Battle serves in the following roles: WBH & FMC Institute Instructor, President of the Halifax County Missionary Union, President of North Carolina Minister's Wives & Minister's Union, Chief Judge of Martin County Board of Election, President of the Tar River Minister's Deacons and Layman's Union Choir.

She is married to Rev. George Battle, Sr. They are the proud parents of seven children, twelve grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren.

According to the IRS Tax Guide for Churches, Revenue Ruling, Internal Revenue News Release, and the FSA, the following campaign activities are permitted or prohibited for churches wishing to be politically active within their community.

CHURCH PERMITTED ACTIVITIES

- 1) Providing a forum for all candidates to address the church.
- 2) Public comments made by ministers and other church employees in connection with political campaigns, not made at church facilities or in church publications and accompanied by statement that the comments are strictly personal and are not intended to represent the church.
- 3) A church invites all candidates for a political office to address the congregation, and informs the congregation before each candidate's speech that the views expressed are those of the candidate and not the church and that the church does not endorse any candidate.
- 4) The church provides an opportunity for a candidate to speak in a non-candidate capacity (for example, as a member of the church, public figure, or expert in a non-political field), without providing equal access to all political candidates for the same office. The church ensures that the candidate speaks in a non-candidate capacity; no reference is made to the person's candidacy; the church mentions the capacity in which the candidate is appearing (without mentioning the person's political candidacy); and no campaign activity occurs.
- 5) A church distributes a compilation of voting records of all members of Congress on major legislative issues involving a wide range of subjects; the publication contains no editorial opinion and its contents and structure do not imply approval or disapproval of any members or their voting records.
- 6) Neutral voter registration drives.

CHURCH PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- 1) Contributions to political campaign funds.
- 2) Public statements of position (verbal and written) in favor of or in opposition to candidates for office—in official church publications and at official church functions.
- 3) A church invites only one can-

What May Pastors and Churches Do?

didate in a political campaign to address the congregation.

- 4) A church distributes a voters guide containing questions demonstrating a bias on certain issues.
- 5) The endorsement of candidates.
- 6) Campaign activities by employees within the context of their employment.

7) A church fails to "disavow" the campaign activities of persons under "apparent authorization" from the church, by repudiating those acts "in a timely manner equal to the original actions" and taking steps "to ensure that such unauthorized actions do not recur."

8) Engaging in fund raising on behalf of a candidate.

9) Newspaper ads urging voters to vote for or against a candidate.

10) Church web sites that contain information either supporting or opposing candidates for public office.

11) Church web sites containing a link to candidate-related material, if the facts and circumstances indicate that one or more candidates are being supported or opposed. (Mathew D. Staver, Esq. Richard Hammar)

Pledge to Participate, or Learn More About "SOULS TO THE POLLS" 2008

And then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to destroy?" Luke 6:9.

Please join the General Baptist State Convention of NC, NC NAACP, Democracy NC, and hundreds of churches and civic groups in a "Souls to the Polls" Project – for voter registration, voter education, get-out-the-vote, and voter protection.

YOUR CHURCH OR GROUP CAN TAKE ACTION IN MANY WAYS:

Voter Registration: Expand the number of voters, especially African Americans and youth, through registration drives in churches, neighborhoods, civic groups, schools, and Same-Day Registration.

- Yes, we would like a "Register to Vote Here" yard sign and materials for voter registration.
- Yes, we will hold a registration drive.
- Yes, we will educate our members about how to use Same-Day Registration during the early voting period (Oct. 16 – Nov. 1).
- Yes, we will "adopt a precinct" close to our church for a voter registration drive.

Voter Education: Educate your members about the value of civic participation. Show how important issues are affected by elections & elected officials.

- Yes, we will distribute non-partisan voter guides.
- Yes, we would like a guest speaker or a workshop on voting rights and voting powers.
- Yes, we'd like free bulletin inserts about voting.

Voter Mobilization: Increase voter turnout in target areas by 15% over 2004 through "Souls to the Polls" events and other activities, Same-Day Registration, rides to the polls, etc.

- Yes, we will preach about the value of voting on a Sunday during early voting (Oct. 19 or 26).
- Yes, we will provide rides to the polls as part of "Souls to the Polls" events during early voting.
- Yes, we will collect voter pledge cards from our members and the community at-large.
- Yes, we will call or allow volunteers to call our members and urge them to vote.

Voter Protection: Publicize "Election Protection" hotlines for getting help about voting problems, discriminatory practices at the polls, etc.

- Yes, we will help distribute the Election Protection toll-free hotline
- Yes, we will help recruit volunteers to serve as "Election Protection" monitors on Election Day

Please check the boxes above to indicate the parts of "Souls to the Polls" you are interested in.

- We pledge to participate in at least some of the "Souls to the Polls" activities.
- Please contact us to provide more information about the "Souls to the Polls" project.

This is a non-partisan project. Technical and practical advice is available to help with each activity.

Name and Title (Please print) _____

Church or Organization _____

Street Address _____ Phone (____) _____

City _____ NC Zip _____ Email _____

Return to Souls to the Polls Project, 1821 Green St., Durham, NC 27705 • Questions? Call 1-888-687-8683

GBSC 141st Annual Session Information and Registration

Dr. Hawyood T. Gray
Executive Secretary Treasurer

October 27-29, 2008
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 20, 2008



Dr. Haywood T. Gray

On-Site registration begins October 27 at 11:00a.m.

PLACE: The Convention will be hosted at and by Lewis Chapel Baptist Church (5422 Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC). Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr., is the host pastor. The main events will take place at Lewis Chapel Church with two events held in the John D. Fuller, Sr. Recreational/ Athletic Complex (6627 Old Bunce Road, Fayetteville).

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: The

Holiday Inn Bordeaux hotel (1701 Owen Drive, Fayetteville) is the headquarters hotel for the Annual Session. The rate for singles and doubles is \$85.00 per night. Room tax amounts to 12.75%.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Hotel reservations may be made in one of three ways:

- Call the toll free reservations line at 1-800-325-0211 and ask for the General Baptist State Convention rate (Reservation Code GBS)
- Call the hotel directly at 910-323-0111 and ask for the General Baptist State Convention Rate (Reservation Code GBS)
- Reserve rooms online at www.ichotelsgroup.com and use Reservation Code GBS.

DEADLINE FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS: The cutoff date for hotel reservations at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux is Monday, October 13, 2008.

SESSION REGISTRATION FORMS: Registration forms for the Annual Session will be mailed from Raleigh on Monday, September 29, 2008. Registration forms will also accompany the upcoming Baptist Bulletin announcing the Annual Session.

SESSION REGISTRATION FEES: The Constitution sets for the representation fees for Churches for the Annual Session. In addition to the following Representation Fee, each Church is asked to send a contribution for State Missions. *See box below.*

ON SITE REGISTRATION: Onsite registration for the Annual Session will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 27, 2008 at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church.

PRE-REGISTRATION: Churches wishing to pre-register may do so by mailing a registration form and appropriate fees to Baptist Headquarters (603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338). The deadline for pre-registration is Monday, October 13 at noon. Registrations received after this date and time will be processed on site.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP	AMOUNT TO REPRESENT	NUMBER OF MESSENGERS
1-50 Members	\$20.00	2 Messengers
51-100 Members	\$35.00	3 Messengers
101-250 Members	\$50.00	4 Messengers
251-500 Members	\$75.00	5 Messengers
501-750 Members	\$100.00	6 Messengers
751-1000 Members	\$125.00	7 Messengers
1001 and above	\$150.00	8 Messengers

GBSC

REPRESENTATION FORM

2008 ANNUAL SESSION

October 27 - 29, 2008

Lewis Chapel Baptist Church - 5422 Raeford Road - Fayetteville

Membership Number:

Date:

Name of Church: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Pastor's Name: _____

SECTION A: FEES

Representation _____
State Missions _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED

(Based on size of Congregation)

(Make a contribution of your choice)

SECTION B: VOTING MESSENGERS

E-MAIL ADDRESS (IF AVAILABLE)

NAME

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____
7 _____
8 _____

SECTION C: ALTERNATE VOTING MESSENGERS

E-MAIL ADDRESS (IF AVAILABLE)

NAME

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

Pastor's Signature: _____

Phone: _____

Clerk's Signature: _____

Phone: _____

2008 Political Season

Don't let the political season shape you for the worse, with bitterness, mockery, sarcasm, rancor, etc... — but rather, transform the political landscape



Dr. Howard Parker, Jr.

by who you are — a king and a priest of the Most High! Be a confident, respectful, and quietly shining beacon of light in this dark (political) world, and continue to pray the Lord's guiding hand upon the leaders who face the tremendous responsibilities and challenges ahead.

True worship is a choice made by the worshipper, not something that happens. True worship is not measured by emotional responses, but by a change in the life of the worshipper.

Donations For Disaster Victims

The General Baptist State Convention and the Lott Carey Baptist Home and Foreign Missions Convention have identified the following immediate needs:

Toothpaste, Mouthwash, Soap Deodorant, Face and Bath Towels
Adult and children pampers
Wipes, Combs, lotion,
Shampoo, Boost or Ensure drinks, Canned meats (sausage, tuna, spam), Peanut butter, jelly, crackers, Water, Juices in cartons, Feminine hygiene products, Men's, Women's Children's Socks, Men's, Women's Kid's Underwear, Bleach, Detergent, Household Cleaning supplies, Band-Aids, Hand Sanitizer, Ace bandages, Rubber Gloves, First aid creams, Antacids, Aspirin/Motrin/Aleve

GBSC Partners with Lott Carey To Help People In Haiti, Louisiana and Texas

Fay, Gustav, Hanna, Ike. A series of recent tropical storms and hurricanes have caused significant destruction to people in Haiti, southwest Louisiana and Texas over the past few weeks.

In partnership with Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention, the General Baptist State Convention is appealing for financial assistance to help persons affected by the recent storms and devastation.

Lott Carey has a network of partners in the Gulf Coast regions who have been mobilized to respond to the needs of persons affected. Emergency shelters, food, clothes and water were staged in churches in the region.

A main distribution center for the region has been established at Greater Saint Mary Baptist Church in Lake Charles, Louisiana. This center is collecting supplies to assist persons rebuilding from the storms.

Haiti has seen perhaps the worst devastation in the storms. Lott Carey is

sending funds to assist the two dozen churches supported in Haiti to help with providing food and basic needs for people in Haiti. It is very bleak in Haiti and there is an immediate need for assis-

stance. According to Lott Carey, "Haiti was struggling with food insecurity before the series of storms. The problem has been exaggerated."

Lott Carey Liberia 365

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention is launching a new initiative for 2008-09. The project is to provide scholarship support for students at the Lott Carey Mission School in Liberia. April 2009 will mark the 100th Anniversary of the Lott Carey Mission School and the school has approximately 1,400 students enrolled.

For \$365.00, a person can fund the tuition, fees, uniform, instructional supplies and daily lunch for one student at the Lott Carey Mission School. The project (lead by the Lott Carey International Youth

Development Network) hopes to get at least 1,000 partners to sponsor a child this year.

This is an excellent opportunity for missions for individuals, for Sunday Schools, for missionary circles, for Churches and other groups. Persons connected with the General Baptist State Convention are encouraged to forward your \$365.00 contribution to the Baptist Headquarters marked "Liberia 365." You may send your designated contribution to GBSC, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2338.

A Message from Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley

Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley
Lott Carey Executive Secretary-Treasurer



Imagine what it would be like to live in a place where there was a chronic shortage of food, where the roads were in disrepair, where employment was nearly impossible to find, where health care was inaccessible, and where you could not provide adequately for the education of your children. Then a series of tropical storms and hurricanes cut off roads, flooded your homes, and left you even more destitute than before.

Imagine what it would be like to have survived devastating hurricanes three years ago, but your home was damaged or destroyed, your job was lost, your neighbors were dispersed, your church was devastated, and you were just beginning to get back on your feet. Then another hurricane came to set you back three steps when you had just made two steps forward.

Imagine what it would be like to have escaped the hurricanes three years ago, but that you were in the path of a huge hurricane this time that left nearly 40,000 homes damaged or destroyed with nearly 2,000,000 households without power, and you are being told that it will be more than a week, or two, or

three before you can come back to your neighborhood. However, when you get there it is a good chance that nearly all will be lost.

People in Haiti, Southwest Louisiana, and Texas don't have to imagine. Many are living a nightmare-again.

I have communicated with colleagues in Haiti, Louisiana, and Texas. I asked them what I should share with the Lott Carey network. They responded "Pray!"

Please pray to the Lord of all for grace for those who are surviving the storms. Please pray for the guidance to how you should respond to help those in need. "Somebody's calling your name."

We will be sending money to Haiti to help with food relief and emergency supplies directed to communities through the 30 congregations that are part of the Lott Carey network in Haiti. Life is still bad for them, and we are acting on faith. We trust that you will continue to seek the Spirit's guidance for inspiration concerning your response. I will be in Houston next week working on setting up Resurrection Centers similar to our efforts three years ago in Louisiana after hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Resurrection Centers are designed for "helping people rise again." They provide pastoral care ministries, social service support, mental health counseling, and child development programs. ■

President Moss appeals for Contributions

President Moss has issued an appeal for General Baptist Churches and Associations to support the work of Lott Carey in the aftermath of Fay, Gustav, Hanna and Ike. "Each time nature has raised its fury in recent years, the General Baptist State Convention has been a dependable partner with Lott Carey to help and respond to people in need. This time should be no exception," says



President Moss. "I am confident that North Carolina will again rise to the occasion."

The President is asking Churches and Association to send funds to the Baptist Headquarters earmarked for DISASTER RELIEF. Also, Churches who may be networking with others in the Gulf Coast should share details of their contacts with the Baptist Headquarters. ■

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President
AveryRevKin@aol.com
(704) 637-0954

“To the General Baptist family, together with all the saints throughout the world: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Corinthians 1:1b-2, NIV paraphrased). We are called to be fruit-bearers of God through Jesus Christ. True fruit-bearers possess inward divine power that transforms lives and overcomes obstacles to ministry.

True fruit-bearers do not falter nor waver in the face of naysayers, doomsday prophets, and ship jumpers. Rather, they fully embrace the reality of being under girded by the unmerited favor of God’s grace. Because of God’s sufficient grace, abundant mercy, omnipresent power, and blessed provisions, our convention remains alive, well, and full of Jesus’ resurrection power!

As we move forward under the anointed leadership of our administration and energetic leadership in our auxiliaries, we must be equipped, empowered, and encouraged to wage spiritual warfare on this Christian journey. In his letter to the church at Ephesus, the

Apostle Paul warned the Christian community to never underestimate the strength and impact of satanic warfare. In his paraphrase, the Message, Eugene Peterson summarizes Ephesians 6:10-18:

“God is strong, and [God] wants you to be strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the devil throws your way. This is no athletic contest that we’ll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the devil and his angels.

Be prepared. You’re up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it’s all over but the shouting you’ll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You’ll need them throughout your life. God’s Word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters.

Keep your eyes open. Keep each other’s spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.”

General Baptists, let us PRESS ON! We are fueled by a faith in God that embraces the past, enhances the present, and envisions the future. We must PRESS ON by supporting our convention and its objectives with our gifts and service. We must PRESS ON by endeavoring to worship, work and witness for the Lord. We must PRESS ON as true fruit-bearers in the work of God and as prophetic witnesses of God’s transforming power.

We can and will fulfill God’s mandated ministry through your sacrificial support of the General Baptist State Convention. Your generous prayerful and financial support of State Missions will enable us to invest and benefit greatly in convincing “the Unconvinced to be Convinced... through Education, Missions and Fellowship.”

I am challenging all Pastors, Laity, Churches, Moderators, Associations, and those who love the Lord to:

(1) Be a loyal subscriber & encourage others to subscribe to the Baptist Informer

(2) Support the “750” Stewardship Plan established by our Executive Secretary, Dr. Haywood T. Gray

Contact GBSC Headquarters or myself to become and remain a true fruit-bearer to the glory of God!

“The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.”
(1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV)

Happy Thanksgiving!

1 Corinthians 15:57-58



Scottish minister Alexander Whyte was known for his uplifting prayers in the pulpit. He always found something for which to be grateful. One Sunday morning the weather was so gloomy that one church member thought to himself, “Certainly the preacher won’t think of anything for which to thank the Lord on a wretched day like this.” Much to his surprise, however, Whyte began by praying, “We thank Thee, O God, that it is not always like this.” You see, there is always a way to thank God, even in the worst of circumstances. Where there’s a will, there’s a way. Let’s experience a true happy thanks giving today — let’s will to thank God, and do it happily! As we draw near to Him with our thanks, He will draw near to us and bring victory! Daily Christian Devotion

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title: Baptist Informer

2. Publication Number: 0426-180

3. Filing Date: October 2, 2008

4. Issue Frequency: Monthly

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 12

6. Annual Subscription Price: \$20.00

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): 603 South Wilmington St, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 Wake

Contact Person: Portia Brandon, Telephone (include area code): 919-821-7466

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 603 South Wilmington St, Raleigh, NC 27601

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank): Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): Same as above; Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Same as above; Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Mrs. Portia B. Brandon, M. Div., 603 South Wilmington St, Raleigh, NC 27601

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.): Full Name: General Baptist State Convention, NC, Inc.; Complete Mailing Address: 603 South Wilmington St, Raleigh, NC 27601

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box: None

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one): The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes; Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months; Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3 (Instructions Page 3)) PSN 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title: Baptist Informer

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: October 2, 2008

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		3336	3086
(1)	Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Shaded on PS Form 3541 (includes paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	3136	3036
(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Shaded on PS Form 3541 (includes paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	35	35
(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails (including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS)		
(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	22	22
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		3036	3236
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)			
(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies (included on PS Form 3541)		
(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies (included on PS Form 3541)		
(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)		
(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (claimers or other means)		
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))			
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)			
g. Copies not Distributed (See instructions to Publishers at page 9.3)		100	100
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		3336	3236
i. Printing Plant (15c divided by 15f times 100)			
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership: <input type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the November, 2008 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.			
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: [Signature] Date: October 2, 2008			

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

*Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
2nd Vice President
ldynch@ebccharlotte.org
(704) 598-2219*

Worship must extend to our individual lives, seven days a week. Worship involves our entire lives.

Come experience the Trip of LIFETIME! Holy Land Tour - 2009

Walk Where Jesus Walked

Mt. Carmel ~ Valley of Armageddon ~ Nazareth ~ Cana ~ Tiberias
Capernaum ~ Sea of Galilee ~ Jordan River ~ Bethlehem ~ Jerusalem
Via Dolorosa ~ Pool of Bethesda ~ The Upper Room ~ Garden of Gethsemane
Calvary ~ Garden Tomb

February 9 - 16, 2009

Ordained Clergy Familiarization Trip

{The Israel Board of Tourism is currently supplementing the travel cost of c
The clergy must agree to return and bring a tour group to Israel w
Now is a great time to take advantage of this offer!}

Ordained Clergy Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 7304

Base Price ~ Ordained Clergy - \$ 1,300.00 ~ Spouse - \$ 1,500.00
Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 {aprox. We will know exactly 45 days prior to trip. This amount may change.} ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 119.00 ~ Your travel to New York for Departure {we will be informed of which airport - J. F. Kennedy Airport is most likely} Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00}

Tour Package Includes:

Airfare from New York, NY to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} ~ Farewell dinner
All entrance fees as per itinerary

November 9 - 16, 2009

Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 6409

Base Price ~ \$ 2,999.00 ~ Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 ~ {aprox. We will know exactly 45 days prior to trip. This amount may change.} ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 199.00
Double hotel occupancy

Early Bird Discount: Available for both tours

The discount is as follows:

\$75.00 discount for every passengers that send a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 9 months prior to departure date or
\$50.00 discount for every passengers that sent a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 6 months prior to departure date
Passports are required. Please secure your Passport ASAP

Tour Package Includes:

Airfare from Charlotte, NC to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} ~ Farewell dinner
All entrance fees as per itinerary

A Non - Refundable deposit of \$ 250.00 is needed to secure a reservation.
Please make your deposit as soon as possible. Thank You.

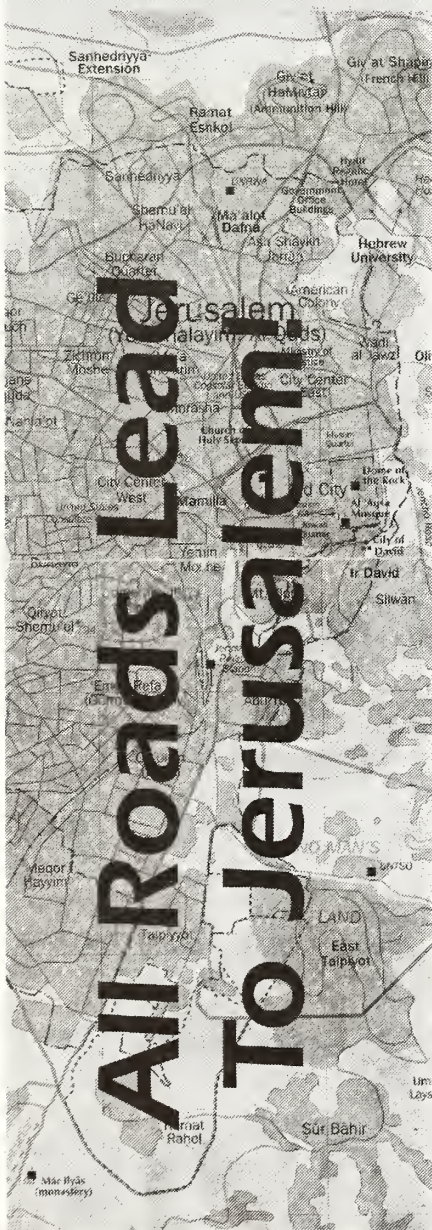
Make all checks payable to:

Journey's Unlimited
494 8th Avenue, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10001
800-486-8359

Our travel agent is
Jayne Haynie
1-800-546-4777
Jhaynie22001@aol.com

www.5thgenerationministries.com

You may contact
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
5th Generation Ministries, Inc.
P. O Box 26768
Charlotte, NC 28221-6768



"A Profile of Faithful People" Hebrews 11:6A

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President
pastorrickbanks@yahoo.com
(252) 335-5035

"A Profile Of Faithful People"
Hebrews 11:6A

This is one of the greatest chapters of the Bible. Its theme, given in Hebrews 10:38, is the grand word from Habakkuk 2:4, "The just shall live by his faith," for the chapter is a record of the functioning of faith in the lives of God's heroes through the early centuries.



Rev. Ricky Banks

There is an old story told about a sculptor who had just finished a life-sized statue of an elephant. He invited some friends in to his latest creation.

"Did you use a model?" asked one.
"No," said the sculptor.

"Amazing. How did you get such a perfect likeness?"

"I just kept chipping away at the pieces that didn't look like an elephant," replied the sculptor.

Today I want God to chip away from my life all that does not reflect Him. I long to be used by Him, to be faithful until He comes. The writer of Hebrews said,

"...without faith it is impossible to please Him."

By faith the saints of old prevailed, God's enemies did down;
Now, walking, trusting just as they,
May we too win a crown! - Bosch

"SHAW UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL"

"Shaw Athletes Help to Lead Campus Voter Registration Drive"

Political fever is in the air and has firmly landed on the campus of Shaw University. Because of the dynamics of economic and world issues, students on

campus are paying attention and have decided that these issues warrant their votes and voices. Student-athletes, student government association members and other student leaders all rallied outside of the Willie E. Gary Student Union in a successful voter registration drive to ensure that the opportunity to impact the future of this nation did not miss the students at Shaw.

Student Affairs is to be commended in this initiative that has opened the political doors to many that may otherwise have missed out on this election. The excellence continues and Shaw University continues to impact the lives of its students, communities and the world-at-large. That's the Shaw way!

Coach Cleo Hill, Jr., Head Men's Basketball Coach, was on hand to witness members of the men's basketball team register and take part in the process. K-97.5FM manned a booth and gave away CD's and information on various issues that directly affect the lives of this generation.

That veil

Hebrews 10:19-22

According to Jewish tradition, even to this day, when a son dies, his father tears his shirt as a sign of his agony and mourning. You can see this at traditional Jewish funerals worldwide.

Years ago, right when His Son Jesus died, His Father tore His veil. It is because of His great mercy toward us, that He allowed His Son to die for our redemption. And the tearing of that veil

allows us to enter the Holy of Holies and fellowship with Him. Today, we can come to the throne boldly — not because of anything we've done — but because of God's wonderful compassion. Let's enter the Holy place with the Lord today — worship Him and thank Him, boldly make our requests known and expect Him to do great and mighty things! (Daily Christian Devotion)

Central Children's Home

By Reverend Norman T. Davis
A Board Member of
Central Children's Home of NC

Greetings in the name of Him who was crucified, buried and rose again from the dead, in the name of Him who said I am He that was dead and alive forever.



Norman T. Davis

To the Baptist family across this great state of North Carolina, God's peace be unto you.

First, let me thank Dr. Haywood Gray and the Baptist family for your support. Your support has been outstanding the last few months. This has been by far the best support from the Baptist since I have been on the board. I have been working with the Children's Home since about 1980 and a board member since 1989.

The children and staff of the Home thank you; Dr. George Cook, our president, thanks you.

The Holiday season is quickly approaching; let us not forget our children. These are our children from the communities where we live. Let all of us dig a little deeper so our children can have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season. We really need to hear from all of our churches.

Mark 10:14-15 says, "But when Jesus

saw it, He was much displeased and said unto them, suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of God, Verily I say unto you, whosoever shall not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child shall not enter therein."

Effective September 1, 2008 the Board of Directors hired Mrs. Angela J. Williams as our interim director. She was previously our Business Manager.

We had to get approval from the state.

Pray for the Home, the Board and the staff.

We need your prayers and support. There is a song in today's church that says "I'm Holding On." The Home is just holding on. To God be the Glory for what He has done.



Dr. J. Vincent Terry

SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE

The Rocky Mount Baptist City Wide Missionary Union Senior Department is composed of nine Baptist Churches in the Rocky Mount area: East End Missionary Baptist Church, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Foster Memorial Baptist Church, Greater Mount Harmon Baptist Church, Hillsdale Baptist Church, Metropolitan Baptist Church, Mount Zion Baptist Church, North End Baptist Church and Saint James Baptist Church. These churches undertook an outreach project of securing toiletries and some extras for our Central Children's Home of North Carolina in Oxford, North Carolina. On Monday, September 15, 2008, the items collected were taken

to the orphanage and received by the staff, Sis. Doris Day, Sis. Cynthia Williams, and Bro. John Wiggins. Included were swabs, facial tissues, petroleum jelly, tooth brushes, tooth paste, lotion, sanitizer, mouthwash, hand towels, bath cloths, soap, hair conditioner, shaving cream, nail polish, phone cards, pencils, folders, combs and an organizer. Sis. Jean Whitley, president of the Union, Sis. Alice Hart, first vice president, Sis. Rosa A. Brodie, and Sis. Carrie Davis delivered the items.

The trip gave us an opportunity not only to deliver the items but to meet the staff, obtain information and tour the facility. It was a very rewarding experience.

Luke 2:19

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

Twice in the book of Luke, it is mentioned that Mary kept these things and pondered them. It seems that Mary always kept a place in her heart where she stored away God's promises.

We, too, must create a place in our hearts to store away God's gifts and promises to us so that we can always remain in a state of joy all the days of our lives. During this Thanksgiving Holiday, let's reflect, and unearth the many buried treasures with which God has blessed us. Let's ponder those things and praise God for His goodness. He has already done so much in our lives and He wants to do more! (KJV)

"To Christ We Raise...Grateful Praise"

Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC
Executive Secretary-
Treasurer
pbrodie@wbhfm.org
(919) 833-4823
Mrs. Bronnie Daniels
(336) 767-6156



Bronnie Daniels

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies:

For the wonder of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light:

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild:

For Thy Church that evermore Lifteth holy hands above,
Off'ring upon every shore Her pure sacrifice of love:

Chorus

Christ our God, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

—Folliott S. Pierpoint

We are now in the season of Thanksgiving and the ninth month, November. When we reflect upon the words of the given hymn, we can say with the Psalmist, "Oh, that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!... He sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions... Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!... Let them exalt Him also in the congregation of the people, and praise Him in the assembly of the elders."

—Psalm 107:15,20,31-32

How wonderfully blessed have we been again for your kindness and mercy shown toward the Woman's Convention. How Great Is God For The Things He Has Done!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

REMINDERS

YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

The 27th Annual Youth Evangelism Conference will be held at Caswell County Civic Center, November 1, 2008, Person County Union, host, Reverend Mildred Chambers, President. The address of the Civic Center is 536 Main Street East, Yanceyville, NC 27379. For directions go to www.yahoo.com.

INSTITUTES

Last year many of you participated in institutes under the auspices of the Woman's Convention. It is now time to begin Christian missionary studies for the new year's institutes. The books recommended for this year's study are: Understanding Christian Ethics (Seniors and Young Adults); The Covering (Youth, 13-20); Fill In the Blank Bible Fun (Youth, 9-12); Baby Jesus Visits (Youth 6-8); God Helps Me To Obey (Youth Birth-5). Persons/organizations interested in having these studies should contact the Woman's Convention for its certified persons as institute/workshop instructors and for the books.

ONE DAY SESSION

On Saturday, January 10, 2008, beginning at 9:00 A.M. will be the One Day Session of the Woman's Baptist State Convention for Seniors, Young Adults and Youth. It is scheduled to be held at the Concord Convention Center at Embassy Suite Hotel, 5400 John Q. Hammons Drive NW, Concord, NC 28027. Everyone is to come together for the opening joint session.

MISSIONS BUDGET

The Proposed Missions' Budget for 2008-2009, will be near \$802,200, will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina. Please give more generously for State Missions than last year so that we can realize our State Missions Budget.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT !!!!

The WBH&FMC WESTERN ASSEMBLY (All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts I, II, & III)

"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand." II Corinthians 1:24

Introductory Statement: For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state. Thus under the leadership of President Daniels, the Woman's Convention continues to implement this initiative.

Purpose(s): To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings

across the state (one setting per quarter)

To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through with the Woman's Convention



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

Date: November 15, 2008

Time: 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Place: Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
273 Tryon School Loop Road
Bessemer City, NC 28016

Reverend Charles Turner, pastor
(Please see www.yahoo.com for directions)

Suggested Format: (TO BE PREPARED)

BY WBH&FMC)

- Inspirational Period (local participants)
- Greetings (local participants)
- Presentation (WBH&FMC officials/representatives)
- Congregation Interaction
- Sermon (a local pastor)
- Altar Call (a local pastor)
- Benediction

Attendees: All above named persons in Districts I, II, & III

District Chairpersons:

District	Group	Chairperson
1	1	Vacant
1	2	Vacant
2	1	Vacant
2	2	Mrs. Edna Long
3	1	Ms. Rebecca Brown
3	2	Mrs. Virginia Russel

POSITION OPEN: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Because the present Executive Secretary-Treasurer retires December 31, 2008, the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to GBSC, now is accepting applications for an Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Nature of Work: Serve as the principal administrative officer of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Auxiliary to General Baptist State Convention

Qualifications

- Must be a Christian and a member of a Missionary Baptist Church
- Must possess at least a college degree or higher, preferably in Christian Education
- Must have adequate knowledge of: Christian missions, stewardship, evangelism, worship and doctrine; Baptist polity and doctrine
- Must have leadership, communicative and administrative skills

Major Responsibilities

- Serve under the general supervision of President in implementing the By-Laws of the Convention (WBH & FMC)
- Work with the President in promoting and developing the Convention's program
- Serve as one of the Convention's spiritual leaders
- Serve as one of the Convention's instructors for workshops and institutes
- Coordinate and manage the Convention's finances
- Make reports to the Executive Committee, Executive Board, and Convention
- Provide leadership in the financial development of the Woman's Convention
- Provide leadership in implementing Board policies
- Serve as ex-officio members on all committees
- Coordinate, develop, prepare conventional materials
- Prepare articles for and edit all articles for the Woman's Convention's page in the "Baptist Informer"
- Serve as general manager of The Missionary Helper operation
- Assign and coordinate work and provide appropriate supervision for daily office operation by the staff
- Work usually with GBSC Executive Secretary-Treasurer in implementing GBSC'S Personnel Policies, relating to the WBH & FMC'S staff and other mutual administrative and conventional efforts as directed by GBSC and WBH & FMC
- Represent the staff of the Woman's Convention to the GBSC Personnel Committee, along with the President
- Attend designated local, state, national, and global meetings

The salary is negotiable; good benefits.

For further information and application, please contact:

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer
WBH & FMC, Auxiliary to GBSC
PO Box 1818
Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone (919) 833-4823 OR Fax (919) 833-7599
E-Mail: wbhfm@wbhfm.org

Please mail the completed application and a resume no later than November 15, 2008, to:

Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, President
WBH & FMC, Auxiliary to GBSC
3911 Tony Drive, NE
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.
Christian Education Coordinator/
Managing Editor
(919) 821-7466
gbschbrandon@bellsouth.net
portiaabrandon@hotmail.com

When God called His people out of Egypt and they began to wander in the wilderness, He wanted them to focus on worshipping Him, so He established a place for this worship to occur—the



Portia H. Brandon

Tabernacle. To give you an idea of the priority that was put on this place of worship, consider that it took seven chapters (a total of 243 verses) for God to discuss all the standards, measurements, and furnishings that were to be a part of the Tabernacle, and it only took thirty-one verses to describe the whole creation of the universe.

Devotion

Praise Team

Praise teams provide a fast and efficient system for introducing new songs. A praise team can introduce a new song on Sunday morning, and most churches can quickly pick up the melody of the song and join in the singing.

However, some churches that have brought praise teams into the church have experienced a decline in congregational singing. If we are to preserve our heritage of congregational singing, then churches that use praise teams must examine that part of the service.

Order of Worship

The Prelude

Some churches are blessed with a fine pipe organ and a skilled organist. The word prelude derives from the Latin "praeludium" and means "to play beforehand." It is an important part of our preparation for worship. Please observe silence during the prelude.

The Call to Worship

No matter the size of your church or whether you have a choir, somehow the congregation must be called to worship. They may not have thought of God all week though they have talked about Him but not to Him, and here they are "to worship". So, we must prepare ourselves to be sensitive to God's presence with an open heart to the love of Christ.

The Open Hymn

The opening hymn should be one that is well known by all, in order to draw the congregation together immediately in a unity of praise and thanksgiving. There should be a plan for teaching new hymns, —but not at the beginning of regular worship. In selecting hymns and songs, pay attention to the words and reflect on how they relate to the service.

Church Worship 101

Invocation

The Latin word for invocation is "invocatio" and it means "the act or process of asking for help or support." The purpose of the invocation is to petition the presence of God at the worship service. We pray to God to support the church's mission, and to be a part of Christ's work in reconciling the world.

Scripture Reading

Before reading the Scripture, always give the translation, chapter, and verse of the Bible. Give the congregation time to find the Scripture before the reading. Scripture texts should be used to shape the theme of a service. The public reading of Scripture calls for "deepest reverence." In some congregations this is stressed by asking the people to stand during the reading. But whether standing or sitting, the listener should take up the posture of reverence to God. Commenting on the Scripture while reading it isn't necessary. "Give it to the people unvarnished, let the Word be its own witness." But it is all right to comment, if a person feels so inclined. There are Bibles in the pew racks for those who wish to follow the readings. Each reading is designed to undergird or provide a scriptural foundation for the pastor's sermon.

Charles Spurgeon

"If you ask me how you may shorten your sermons, I should say, study them better. Spend more time in the study that you may need less in the pulpit. We are generally longest when we have least to say."

Announcements

The announcements should be brief and to the point. If anyone needs to rise from the congregation to make an announcement, make sure they are seated up front with a clear path to the lectern and make sure that they know how to be brief.

The Congregational Singing

The saints within the local church are commanded to teach and admonish one another "in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Col 3:16)

Worship in Tithes and Offerings

The ushers enter the aisles with offering plates and pass them along the rows of seats. At the conclusion of the passing of the offering plates, the ushers come forward with their plates and the congrega-

tion rises and sings the Doxology: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."

The Pastor's Robe

Robes have a long history in worship practice, going back to God's instruction to Moses, "And you shall make holy garments for Aaron, your brother, for glory and for beauty. And you shall speak to all who have ability, whom I have endowed with an able mind, that they make garments to consecrate him for priesthood" (Exodus 28:2-3). This command began the long tradition of wearing special garments for worship, a tradition which continues today.

The Pulpit

Latin for "raised platform," the pulpit is more than just a practical piece of furniture for it symbolizes the authority of the church to preach the Word of God.

The Preaching of the Word of God

The purpose of this time is for instruction in the Word of God with the goal of making it applicable to our daily lives. The time frame for the message can vary depending on the pastor, from 15 to 20 minutes on the short side to 1 hour on the long side.

PREACHING SHOULD BE:

- Biblically sound (Titus 2:1)
That is doctrinally correct.
- Diligent (Acts 18:25.)
- Faithful (1 Cor. 4:2).
- Complete (Acts 20:27).
- Powerful (1 Cor. 2:4)
- Clear and easy to understand (1 Cor. 3:2).
- Filled with fervent love toward Christ.

Invitation to Discipleship

Before the singing of the hymn of Invitation, you will be invited to respond to God in a couple of ways:

- Invited to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life and publicly affirm that you want to become his disciple.
- Invited to join in the life of the congregation and become a member of this Christian family.

The Communion Table

Centered in front of the pulpit and on the floor with the congregation is the communion table. This is the central place for the congregation to respond to God. We come to this table to respond to God when we commit ourselves in the following ways:

- Giving of our tithes and offerings.
- Altar Prayer
- Participate in the Lord's Supper.

The central symbol is the barren cross,

(WORSHIP, cont. page 10)

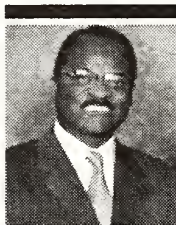
FIELD REPORT

Dates / Purpose

- October 8, 2008
Baptist Informer
Publication - Benson, NC
- October 9, 2008
Middle District
Association
Moderator Terry L. Henry
Middle District
Headquarters Bldg
West Burgaw, NC
2-sessions of Church
Adm Wkshp
Morning & evening
- October 15, 2008
St John Association
Moderator Gorham
Wagram, NC
Church Finance
10:00-11:00
- October 16, 2008
Vance County Baptist
Sunday School
Convention
Henderson, NC
President Leslie
Baskerville
Sunday School
Workshop-7:00 pm
- October 25, 2008
Johnston District
Association
Johnston Piney Grove
MBC - Clayton, NC
Christ Ed Wkshp-Min.
Eva Mitchell
- October 26, 2008
Piney Grove Baptist Ch.
Wingate, NC
De. C.C. Craig, Jr.
Woman Day Speaker
- October 27-29, 2008
GBSC Annual Session
Fayetteville, NC

Types of prayer: Every prayer should have a specific purpose of its own. A prayer should not deal in generalizations. Unless this principle is followed, there's a danger of violating Jesus' command, "Use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do." (Matt: 6:7).

Theodore David
President NC Laymen's League



Theodore David

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving, America's day of thanks, has a very interesting history. It is celebrated every year on the 4th Thursday in November and has a very interesting history. Its origin can be traced back to the 16th century when the first thanksgiving dinner is said to have taken place. It is said that Pilgrims learned to grow corn, beans and pumpkins from the Indians, which helped them survive. During autumn of 1621, they held a grand celebration where 90 people were invited including Indians. The grand feast was organized to thank God for his favors. This dinner of celebration and thanks is popularly known as "The first thanksgiving feast".

When we hear the word "Thanksgiving", do we think more about, and look forward to the tasty turkey, the mouth-watering dressing, the delicious yams, the irresistible ham, and other fine and tasty dishes so well prepared by those in our families who have long anticipated their preparation? Are we more excited about having 3-day weekend away from our jobs, about going back home, about seeing relatives and friends, or about the many other things that we greatly enjoy during Thanksgiving and other holidays? Or do we truly focus on what is truly important on the Thanksgiving Holiday.....to give thanks to God? Let's go to the Bible.....

I Thessalonians 5:16 says, Rejoice evermore.

I Thessalonians 5:17 says, Pray without ceasing.

I Thessalonians 5:18 says, "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Firstly, Thanksgiving Day is traditionally intended to celebrate the good that God has done in our lives and we, as carnal beings, do tend to gravitate towards being more appreciative of life's more favorable events. However, Scripture tells us that the will of God in Christ Jesus for us is that we give thanks in everything. Therefore, we are to thank God for the good things as well as the bad things which happen in our lives.

Secondly, Scripture tells us that we should "pray without ceasing". So thanking God on Thanksgiving Day for the favor that He has shown us throughout the past year is only a start! It is only a start because it allocates only one day out of the entire year for giving

thanks when the Bible tells us that we should actually "pray without ceasing". We should be consciously, sub-consciously, and most of all, continuously thankful to God.

Thirdly, Scripture tells us that we should "rejoice evermore" and "count it all joy" even when we fall into divers temptations. These Scriptural teachings and expectations of us go against our carnal/natural tendencies to become disheartened and depressed, discouraged and disillusioned, sad and sometimes cynical, when we are experiencing less than desirable circumstances environments, or outcomes. However, as Christians, we are reminded that our thankfulness, praises and rejoicing really invokes God's presence into our life situations and facilitates his turning our undesirable situations around. He turns our night into day, our pain into joy, our storms into sunshine, our failure into success, our spiritual death into eternal life.

Be reminded that our unceasing thankfulness, praise and rejoicing causes God to really "go to work" on our behalf so that "All things work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose". So rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks for the good as well as the bad in our lives, and keeping God's Commandments.

Give Thanks, with a grateful heart
Give thanks, to The Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
And now, Let the weak say "I am strong".....And the poor say "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.....We Give Thanks

Laymen's News

North Carolina Laymen and Laymen Supporters traveled to Greenville, SC on September 26-28, 2008 to the 12th Annual Walter Cade, Jr. Southeast Laymen's Workshop. Laymen and Supporters from our five state region were in attendance. More than 100 North Carolina Laymen and Laymen Supporters attended again this year. Mrs. Portia Brandon spoke wonderfully to the Workshop attendees on the subject: "The Role of a Laymen's Wife".

Rev. Dr. John R. Shannon, Pastor of Providence MBC, and Moderator of the Middle Ground Union Association accompanied the NC Laymen Delegation. Dr. Shannon delivered a wonderful closing sermon during the Laymen's Regional Workshop's Sunday

Morning Service. He was affectionately labeled "The Closer" by workshop attendees.

During this year's All Baptist Assembly, Dr. Shannon was recognized by NC Laymen as "Outstanding Moderator of the Year".

The Walter Cade Southeast Regional Laymen's Workshop consist of the following five states, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The location of Regional Laymen's Workshop will continue to rotate annually between our five regional states as follows:

- 2009 – The Laymen of Virginia will Host the event
 - 2010 – The Laymen of Georgia will Host the event
 - 2011 – The Laymen of North Carolina will Host the event
- Again, many thanks to all who traveled to Greenville, SC and so wonderfully represented the great state of North Carolina.

- Our next NC Laymen Auxiliary's Quarterly Study Commission Meeting

will meet on Dec. 13, 2008 at Gethsemane Baptist Church, Salisbury, NC where Dr. Clary Phelps serves as Sr. Pastor.

Thanks to all NC State Laymen, Youth Laymen, and Laymen Supporters who faithfully attend and support our State Laymen's Calendar. Thanks also to those local and association Laymen League Auxiliaries who have submitted their State Laymen's Assessment of \$400.00 per year. We feel and appreciate your commitment to the Baptist Laymen's mission and programs.

- The Laymen's Leadership Team is truly grateful for your support and prayers and we attribute any success progress, which we may have experienced, to God's grace, mercy, and favor. We solicit your prayers, support, and continued collaboration and partnership as we keep on pressing on "The Upward Way".

"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. Jn 9:4

Church Finance: The Bible teaches one plan for church finance, tithes and offering. The tithes is the tenth, meaning that God's people are to bring a tenth of their income to the Lord's house. The offering is in addition to the tithes.

Offertory appeal: When making the offertory appeal, never say "this is the part of the service that everyone can take part."

(WORSHIP, from page 9)

symbolic of the resurrected Christ whom we gather to worship each Sunday.

The Altar

Approaching the communion table and altar is a wide center aisle, symbolic of the open access the worshipper has to God. The believer has direct, unimpeded access to all that the table and altar represent.

The aisle reminds us of God's love flowing from the cross and reaching out to the world.

The Closing Hymn

Hymn sung by the congregation

Benediction

A benediction is a prayer of blessing at the close of a religious service. When the benediction is given: Do not raise your hand unless you are the minister giving the benediction. Since the benediction is a blessing for the entire congregation, the minister raises h/his hand symbolically blessing the congregation. The appropriate response is for the congregation is to

bow their heads, receiving the blessing. As the congregation gathers with purpose, so it departs. With lives and faith renewed, worshippers are sent into the world to continue in daily worship and service.

The Postlude

The word postlude derives from the Latin "postludium" and simply means "to play afterward." The postlude is designed to provide a bridge from our encounter with God in worship to our service for God in the world. We are invited to remain in silence and listen to the postlude.

Many people leave church asking themselves, "What did I get out of the service today?" instead of asking themselves, "What did God get out of my worship today?"

(Resources: Hiscox's Star Book for Ministers (Valley Forge, Pa.: Judson Press, 1994) or A Manual of Worship, New Edition by John E. Skoglund and Nancy E. Hall (Valley Forge, Pa.: Judson Press, 1993).

Strategic Planning: A Tool for Defining Your Church's Vision and a Directions

Deacon William H. Harris,
MPA Pro tem, Fuquay-Varina Mayor



Perhaps you are a Pastor or member of a Church congregation that appears to be going through the motions of weekly worship, Bible study, visitation, annual youth programs, Church anniversary, Church Revivals and Church programs to enhance the building fund, or other special projects. These activities although very important and essential to the life of the Church appear to be just "business as usual" without a sense of urgency to fulfill the Church's mission of regenerating and transforming the community and the world at large.

Why Strategic Planning

Often the Pastor is given the daunting task of moving the Church and its

congregation forward without clear support from the membership and various Church Ministries.

The challenge becomes how to incorporate the membership and Ministries into a collective and supportive process so that the Pastor's vision of growth, expansion and in some cases reformation can occur. There are no limitations on the growth and expansion of the local church when church leadership is clear about what it is that they want to achieve. This can only become clear when there is a written plan outlining goals and the vision for the future.

One of the ways to develop the vision with clear direction and consensus among the majority of the congregation while at the same time holding the leadership and membership accountable is through the process of Strategic Planning. This article will discuss the benefit to church leaders and members using the strategic planning process. It is a process that can be used to enable a

congregation to move toward its fullest potential and to have maximum impact in the community and the world at large. Its purpose is to encourage the congregation to define and implement clear short term, immediate and long term goals for growth and development.

If we can accept the premise that there are different levels of effectiveness in a Congregation's capacity to be that transforming agent of change, then the question becomes how we can measure whether our local congregation is really making a difference. How can we as members of the Body of Christ measure our effectiveness as witnesses to the world that Jesus Christ lives if we settle for mediocrity year in and year out --- doing the same things the same way and expecting different results? Strategic planning aims to serve as a mechanism for on going assessment of effectiveness based on the achievement of clearly defined goals and objectives.

What is Strategic Planning?

Strategic planning is an process of defining a congregation's unique history, its values, mission, and vision. This process results in the development of a strategy, or direction, and a means of making decisions on how monies and other resources will be allocated toward the achievement of agreed upon goals and objectives. Strategic planning enables the church leadership to identify (SWOT) strengths, weaknesses, opportunities for service and threats that can propel the church into greater success. Simply by going through the planning and goal setting process inherent in strategic planning church administrators can focus on directing resources in a harmonious way. Through the strategic planning process congregations are able to increase its strength both spiritually, economically and socially in the community.

Who Should Be Involved in the Planning Process?

Strategic planning should be conducted by a planning team. Consider the following guidelines when developing the team.

1. The Pastor and Chairmen of the Board of Deacons and Board of Trustees should be included in the planning group, and should drive development and implementation of the plan.
2. Establish clear guidelines for membership, for example, those directly involved in planning, those who will provide key information to the process, those who will review the plan document, those who will authorize the document, etc.
3. A primary responsibility of a

We worship along with all the hosts of heaven!
A Christian man recently heard about the pastor of a small church, who was dismayed when only two people stayed for the communion service. As he read from the liturgy, he came to the words: "Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we worship and adore Thy glorious name." That sentence changed everything for him. In his heart he said, "God forgive me. I did not know I was in that great company." It's true — we are in GREAT company! When we worship the Lord, no matter how small a number we think we are, we worship along with all the hosts of heaven!

(Daily Christian Devotion Feb, 2007)

Pastor, Board of Deacons and Trustees is strategic planning to effectively lead the organization. Therefore, insist that the boards be strongly involved in planning, often including assigning a planning committee (often, the same as the executive committee).

4. Ask if the planning team is representative of the congregation and if they are not, the Church may want to involve more representation in planning. If the Pastor, Chairmen of the Deacon Board or Trustee Board balks at including more of the members in planning, then the Church leadership needs to seriously consider how serious the organization is about strategic planning!

5. Always include in the group, at least one person, (the Pastor) who ultimately has authority to make strategic decisions, for example, to select which goals will be achieved and how.

6. Ensure that as many stakeholders as possible are involved in the planning process.

7. Involve at least those who are responsible for composing and implementing the plan.

8. Involve someone to administrate the process, including arranging meetings, helping to record key information, helping with flipcharts, monitoring status of rework, etc. ■

25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

25 Years Of
FAITH
SERVICE
& HOPE
Built On A Solid Rock

Saturday, November 15, 2008
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

After Five Attire

(Pre-Reception, 5:00 p.m.)

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Conference Center

• Other events •

Saturday, November 15, 2008 • 7:00 a.m.
Worship Service & Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, November 16, 2008
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
Worship Services

4:00 p.m.

Anniversary Worship Service & Reception

All events at
3400 Beatties Ford Road

To purchase tickets for \$55 please contact
The Gallery at Friendship at 704.391.3858.
Limited quantity available. Event Code: FM-1115
For additional information,
contact the Anniversary Event Line • 704.391.6687

FAMU: Scholarship for African American Women

Florida A & M University is providing an outstanding opportunity for Black women entering college in the fall of 2009. It is designed to address their absence in the field of computer technology. Dr. Jason Black is the Principal Investigator of a recently awarded \$552,000 NSF Grant entitled African-American Women in Computer Science. The grant provides scholarships from \$4000 to \$10,000 per year for female African American students.

We need your help to get the word out about this great opportunity to build back up the enrollment of women in the CIS Department. Pass this information along to high school or community college students, their parents, and to guidance counselors you may know. The full text of the press release can be found at

You can also contact Dr. Black by email at jblack@cis.famu.edu or <mailto:jblack@cis.famu.edu>.

In our day, when so much emphasis is placed on "having an experience," people are open to deception. The "feeling" one may get from the constant mantra-like repetition of choruses is not the Holy Spirit. When it becomes necessary for people to get a certain "feeling" when they worship, they may very well have become addicted to what the music does to them. The tragedy is that in such situations, the Lord's "manifest presence" has departed, yet no one realizes it. That is exactly what was happening in Jeremiah two, when not even the leaders were asking, "where is the Lord?"

Church Worship
101

In Loving Memory of Dr. Aggie Nora Simpson

Dr. Aggie Nora Simpson, 98,
of 311 Martin Luther
King Drive, Maxton,
died Oct. 6, 2008 at her residence.

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

Writers:

Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
Marvin E. Davis
Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
Wheeler L. Jones
T.L. Lewis
Robert L. Malone
Joseph L. Slade
Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-
MAILED OR MAILED
WITHIN 24 HOURS OF
ORIGINAL ORDER!
FOR PRICING SEE
THE WEB SITE!



1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com
Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN



Do You Need... ENCOURAGEMENT...
HOPE... UPLIFTING and INSPIRATION?

DEAL BY ME

by James W. Smith

A Must Read

"If you ever need an example of how Christ can transform a life of misplaced valued and hopelessness into a caring and useful servant, then this is the book to read."

Peggy Cardea, Former Volunteer, Prison Fellowship International
Huntington, West Virginia

"This book is a must read for everyone. In this book, you will find every imaginable emotion that one can possess. The conclusion to this life story is a real victory and to God be the glory."

G. K. Butterfield, United States Congressman
1st Congressional District, State of North Carolina

After sitting down to read this book, I could not put it down until it was finished. It is now 12:24 a.m. and I am disappointed that I have just read the last page. What a powerful story! Your writing is so vivid that I could feel what you experienced and could plainly see every detail, from the smoky pool halls to the cold, dreary cellblock.

Linda M. Bailey, Cary, North Carolina

Books may be ordered online from www.authorhouse.com
or www.jwsmithconsultant.com

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!

Our Dress In Worship

Lula Gainey
Congress President

Even though worship is not a "dress parade", many times we become too sloppy, and revealing in the way we dress for worship. Our clothes do contribute to the emphasis we place on worship to God. This does not mean we have to wear fine and expensive clothes. But the way we dress should be in keeping with the dignity of the occasion.

Women are commanded in 1 Timothy 2:9-10, "In like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation...which is proper for women professing godliness with good works." Modest clothing is the way women who are "professing godliness" dress. Certainly a woman or man whose clothing is not modest is not professing godliness by the way they dress.



Ms. Lula Gainey

Our Lord says in Mark 7:7, "And in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

When we follow the commandments of men instead of God's instructions, our worship becomes vain. If our worship is vain, it is empty, hollow, and useless. It will do us no good. If it is vain, it would be as though we had not worshipped God at all and we will be lost. When we worship in the way "we want" then God is dishonored and insulted. When we worship the way God has told us in His word, God is honored and glorified.

As we read in John 4:24, "God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." To worship in truth is to worship as the word of God directs. Jesus said in John 17:17, "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth." Since the word of God is truth, when we worship God in truth, we worship Him according to His word. The only way God will accept our worship is

The wearing of lewd and revealing clothing to worship God is unthinkable, but some do it anyway. A woman who wears clothing that exposes herself to men is contributing to their sin of lust. Our Lord says in Matthew 5:28, "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." She becomes guilty of contributing to his sin of adultery, so she also becomes guilty. In our actions as well as the clothing we wear, 1 Thessalonians 5:22 (KJV) says, "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

Some think they have to follow the style and fashion of the world, regardless of how short and revealing clothing gets. But we are told in Romans 12:2, "And do not be conformed to this world." Why? Because this world is going to be lost, and if we conform to this world we will also be lost.

Would we dress in sloppy or revealing clothes if we were attending our parent's funeral? Our Lord says in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in

the midst of them." How should we dress to show respect for someone much greater than our parents, when we appear in the presence of our Lord to remember the death of our Saviour and to honor and worship God? He is the one who made us and who will determine our future in eternity.

Our dress should show a moderate opinion of our own value. Our dress should be pure, proper, chaste, and decent. It should not call attention to ourselves, because it is showy, sloppy or lewd. When we worship we are actually in the presence of the Lord. He deserves only our very best. We are told in Romans 12:1, "That you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God". Do you actually think God is pleased with us when we wear immodest clothing as we present our bodies a living sacrifice in worship to Him. I think not.

(Soul Sanctuary: Images of the African American Worship Experience by Jason Miccolo Johnson)

Vain Worship

to follow His directions in the Bible.

God says in Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." If we don't know what God says, we are going to be destroyed or lost for our lack of knowledge. It is sad to say but the vast majority of people are illiterate of God's word. They don't really know what the Bible says.

When people are ignorant of God's directions on how He is to be worshipped, they wander in spiritual darkness. Our Lord says in Matthew 15:14, "And if the blind lead the blind, both

1 Kings 8:27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?

When Solomon set out to build the first temple, the Lord told Him that He cannot be contained in a manmade structure. He is infinite and all-encompassing! He's not in a wall or any other man-made object! And amazingly, infinite as He is, He promises to draw near to us as we draw near to Him! God wants to have a deep and intimate relationship with us. He wants us to experience the life-changing power of His healing and deliverance in our lives. In the words of Keith Green, "Going to church doesn't make us a Christian anymore than going to McDonald's makes us a hamburger"! Let's not get distracted by the man-made ways people try to connect with God - let's cry out for intimacy with Him right here and right now. And let's also not forget pray for revelation for all who seek Him - that they would see the truth of the Messiah, Jesus.\

will fall into the ditch." We must first have a desire to know the truth of God's will and then be willing to change when we find we are wrong and are not worshipping according to His truth. Jesus says in John 8:32, "And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." Only the truth can make us free, otherwise we are still under the bondage of sin. We may be sincere in our worship, and we must be, but if we do not worship God "in truth", that is as God directs, then our worship will be vain and unacceptable to God.

Also if we try to worship God "in truth" but not "in spirit", that is not with the proper motive of honoring God and with reverence, then we are just practicing ritualism and our heart is far from it. This type of worship is also vain and unacceptable to God, for Jesus says in Matthew 15:8, "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me." We must worship God both in spirit and in truth. (Called to Worship: A Lifestyle of Praise by Sandra Bailey)

Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Roger Babson, a famous statistician was having lunch with the President of Argentina, "Mr. Babson," the President said, "I have been wondering why it is that South America, with all its natural advantages, mines of iron, copper, coal and silver, rivers and great waterfalls is so far behind North America?"

Babson replied, "Well, Mr. President, what do you think is the reason?" He answered, "...South America was founded by the Spanish who came in search of gold. North America was founded by the Pilgrims who went there in search of God." If we live a life of seeking gold - the blessings of God but not God Himself - we end up losing both. The Pilgrims, who gave us the wonderful holiday of Thanksgiving, came in search of God. It is because of this that America has reaped blessing upon blessing. We need to examine ourselves and be careful that we are seeking God in all things, putting Him first and giving thanks to Himhhh.

Ushers' Convention Officers (2006-2010)

Helen M. Thompson, President (910) 488-5322n
Charles W. Dunn, 1st Vice President
Archie T. Lofton, Jr. 2nd Vice President
Norman H. Dorsey, Sr. 3rd Vice President
Valerie Singleton 4th Vice President
Mary Belle, Recording Secretary
Viola N. Thornton, Assist Recording Secretary
Martin Clowney, Dean
Charlie Rhodes, Assistant Dean
Youth Supervisors: Felton Davis
Charlie Rhodes
State Coordinator
Nancy High

All Baptist Assembly Youth Empowerment

All Baptist Assembly
Youth Empowerment Outreach
July 28th through July 30th, 2008

Evangelism Chairman
Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens, Sr – Greater Galilee Baptist Church

Administration & Teaching Staff

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Deaconess Carolyn Gray- Coordinator | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 2. Minister Kwame Nyerere – Asst. Coordinator | Greater Galilee Baptist Church |
| 3. Minister Tonya Tate | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 4. Minister Archie Comfort, Jr. | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |
| 5. Dr. Lois V. Burks | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |
| 6. Sis. Sharon Dean | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |
| 7. Sis. Charisse M. James | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 8. Sis. Dorothy Bailey | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |
| 9. Sis. Brittany Davis | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 10. Deacon Stephen McCloud | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 11. Sis. Jasmin Ferguson | Greater Galilee Baptist Church |
| 12. Sis. Stacy Wright | Greater Galilee Baptist Church |
| 13. Sis. Terry McGowens | Greater Galilee Baptist Church |
| 14. Sis. Barbara Isom | Morning Star Baptist Church |
| 15. Sis. Rolanda Coleman | Health Dept. – Cedar Grove, Mocksville |
| 16. Sis. Kelly Diller | Health Dept. |
| 17. Pastor Winford Galmon | 1 st Red Branch Baptist Church, Charlotte |

Culinary Staff

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 18. Sis. Patricia Rice | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |
| 19. Sis. Shirley Williams | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |
| 20. Sis. Rosalind Williams | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |

Drivers

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 21. Trustee Alfred Crump | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 22. Trustee Arthur Sanders | Greater Galilee Baptist Church |
| 23. Deacon Alonza Crowder | Greater Galilee Baptist Church |
| 24. Trustee Ronnie Hannah | Galilee Baptist Church |

Teachers

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 25. Minister Alexander Shuford, III | Greater Galilee Baptist Church |
| 26. Minister Tonya Tate | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 27. Sis. Audrey Wilkins | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 28. Bro. Kenneth Brown | United Metropolitan Baptist Church |
| 29. Minister Velma McCloud | Piney Grove Baptist Church |
| 30. Sis. Quilla Smith, RN | Galilee Baptist Church |
| 31. Minister Andrea George | Health & Healing – Raleigh, NC |

Samaritan's Kitchen – Homeless Shelter

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 32. Dr. A. T. Griffey, III – Coordinator | Mt. Carmel Baptist Church |
| 33. Pastor Leon Oglesby | Robbins, North Carolina |
| 34. Rev. Monica Redmond | St. Paul Baptist Church |
| 35. Bro. Stephen Stover | Beulah Baptist Church |

Host Churches and Pastors

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 36. Pastor Chad R. Armstrong | Phillips Chapel Baptist Church |
| 37. Dr. A.T. Griffey, III | Mt. Carmel Baptist Church |

Neighborhood Canvassing

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 37. Rev. Chester Hopkins | 1 st Baptist Church of Fairmont |
| 37. Rev. Lawrence Dowdy | Antioch Baptist Church – Proctorville, NC |

Daily Attendance July 28th through July 30th

July 28 th	Ages 4-17	76 in attendance
July 29 th	Ages 4-17	151 in attendance
July 30 th	Ages 4-17	186 in attendance

Total Youth Evangelism Participation **423 Youth**
35 Adult Staff





Making Relationships Work . . .

God's Way

Pastor, let us bring our exciting, dynamic, Bible-based workshop to your congregation. The workshop is designed for singles, married couples and anyone seeking a fulfilling, Christ-centered marriage. The workshop is absolutely free! You provide the place and participants and we'll do the rest. We provide all materials and we will even help you promote the workshop in your local media. Call us today toll-free at 866-463-1760 or visit us at www.NCFRCministry.org and let us help you enhance marriages and relationships in your congregation.



Workshop Presenters

Married more than 35 years, Rev. Donald Stevenson, a corporate tax attorney and former senior pastor, and Dr. Sara Stevenson, a psychologist and life coach, are the authors of *Get A Clue! Why Relationships Don't Work* and are the founders of the National Christian Family Resources Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Christian marriages and families in the Body of Christ.

January 2009 Liturgical Colors for the Season Epiphany and First Sunday Following . . . White (gold)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 Emancipation Proclamation 1863 New Year's Day Slave Trade abolished 1808	2	3	4
5 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity founded 1914	6	7 W.B. Purvis, 1890 African-American inventors, invented the fountain pen	8	9 GHSU M.I.K. Banquet TBA	10 WBH & FMC One-Day Session	11
12	13 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority founded 1913	14 Congress Program Committee Meeting Fayetteville	15 Dr. M.L. King, Jr. Born 1929	16	17 Usher's Executive Board Meeting, Baptist Headquarters-10:00 am	18
19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observed	20 Inauguration Day	21 National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	22 National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	23 National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	24	25
26	27 National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	28	29 Oprah Winfrey Born 1954	30	31 Amendment Abolishing slavery passed by Congress 1865	

February 2009 Liturgical Colors for the Season Pre-Lenten Sunday . . . Green Lenten Sunday . . . Violet

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1 Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week
						2 Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week
						3 Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week
						4 Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week
						5 NAACP Founded 1909
						6 WBH & FMC Executive & Program Committee-TBA
						7 WBH & FMC United Central & Northern Assembly TBA
						8 Super Bowl Sunday
						9 Groundhog Day
						10 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						11 Ross Parks born 1913
						12 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						13 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						14 Congress One Day Session 8:00 AM/TBA
						15
						16 President's Day
						17 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						18 Merchouse College founded 1867
						19 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						20 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						21 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						22 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						23 Frederick M. Jones Invented the Thermostat control, 1960
						24 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						25 Supreme Singer Diana Ross Born 1944
						26 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						27 Usher's Convention One Day Session-TBA 9:00 am
						28 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						29 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						30 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						31 CIAA tournament Charlotte

March 2009 Liturgical Colors for the Season Palm Sunday . . . Violet (Red)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
						2
						3
						4
						5
						6 J.C. Smith University founded 1867
						7 Burridge & Marhaman Invented the Typewriter, 1885
						8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
						9 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						10 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						11 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						12 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						13 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						14 Laymen's League Study Commission Junior Level Baptist Church
						15 Usher's Executive Board mtg 10:00 am
						16 NC&T University founded 1891
						17 St. Patrick's Day
						18 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						19 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						20 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						21 Congress State-Wide VBS Huntersville, NC 9AM
						22 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						23 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						24 Dorothy I. Height President Emerita National Council of Negro Women (96 years old)
						25 WBH & FMC Executive Board & meeting
						26 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						27 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						28 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						29 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						30 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						31 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority founded 1923

April 2009 Liturgical Colors for the Season Lenten Sundays . . . Violet

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
						2
						3
						4
						5
						6 J.C. Smith University founded 1867
						7 Burridge & Marhaman Invented the Typewriter, 1885
						8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
						9 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						10 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						11 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						12 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						13 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						14 Laymen's League Study Commission Junior Level Baptist Church
						15 Usher's Executive Board mtg 10:00 am
						16 NC&T University founded 1891
						17 St. Patrick's Day
						18 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						19 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						20 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						21 Congress State-Wide VBS Huntersville, NC 9AM
						22 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						23 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference
						24 Dorothy I. Height President Emerita National Council of Negro Women (96 years old)
						25 WBH & FMC Executive Board & meeting
						26 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						27 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						28 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						29 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						30 CIAA tournament Charlotte
						31 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority founded 1923

June 2009
Liturgical Colors for the Season, Pentecost . . . Red, Trinity Sunday . . . White
First Sunday Following Trinity Sunday . . . White Other Sundays After Trinity Sunday . . . Green

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Democratic Senator Barack Obama. In Black Man presidential nominee of 2008	Thomas W. Stewart Invented the Mop 1893	Civil rights leader Medgar Evers is shot dead	WBH & FMC Young Adult Retreat, TBA	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Author James Weldon Johnson Born 1871	African American inventor W. H. Richardson receives patent for the Baby Buggy 1899		WBH & FMC United Eves, August 9-20 The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh Central Children's Home Day - 10:00 am	Father's Day The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI	The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI	The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI	The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI	The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI	The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh	
29	30					
	Grammy Award winning Jazz singer Lena Horn Born 1917					

July 2009
Liturgical Colors for the Season, Sundays After Easter . . . White

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2009
Liturgical Colors for the Season, Sundays After Trinity Sunday . . . Green

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

State of the Association

By Rev. Langston D. Logan, Jr.
GBSC Moderator

History is important. To know from whence we came and how we have come is very important.



Rev. Langston Logan, Jr.

I believe that a great number of churches and pastors may have overlooked or may not be aware of the importance of the history of their association. For churches and church leaders that don't know or may have overlooked their historical past really means that we don't know ourselves as the body of Christ.

I want to share very briefly a portion of the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association. I hope this will encourage moderators, pastors, and church members to search, and research your association's history, bring it to the attention of the younger generation, that they may have a better sense of who they are and how they have come to be where they are today in the black church.

On August 10, 1895, at Ledge Rock Baptist Church, Wake County, Reverend A. B. Wyche, pastor, a resolu-

tion was passed in the Cedar Grove Association as follows: Whereas, The Cedar Grove Association has grown to such magnitude that it has become burdensome and upon any one community or church to support us in our present condition. We have become convinced that we would secure much better results by dividing our forces. Be it resolved (1) That we are hereby divided into two separate Associations with Lynchburg and Durham Railroad as the dividing line. Resolve (2) That the Churches west of said line retain the name Cedar Grove Association (3) That the property known as Cedar Grove Assembly be retained the Cedar Grove Association so long as it remains for school purposed and if sold, Eastern Association shall have the equal part of the proceeds in accordance to the valuation of property at the time. Resolved (4) That nothing herein contained shall prevent Churches in either side of the said line from becoming members of the Association on the opposite side of said line.

These resolutions were respectfully submitted by Reverend J. C. Cozart. After thirty minutes of debate and discussion, they were accepted. Thus, the East Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Association adopted the name Cedar

from Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Roxboro, North Carolina where the Reverend J. R. Timberlake served as pastor. Therefore, Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church is known as one of the Mother Churches for the Association. Other mother churches are Shady Hill, New Hope Granville, Mt. Vernon, Pine Grove, Union Baptist, and Union Grove.

This is a brief excerpt taken from our history. Workshops can be done in the church and the association about its history. Our present and future generation needs to know that the black church has a rich history. Our present and future generation needs to know that the black church has a rich history and a great legacy, and we who are in leadership have the responsibility to pass it on. We would be grossly negligent if we were to overlook it, misuse it or allow it to die.

We've come this far by faith. I'm sure you feel that things need to be done differently in your association or maybe even modernized or revamped. Perhaps as a pastor you feel that your church can do just as well or better than the Association, but let us not forget where we came from. Also, let us not forget how we got where we are today.

IN GOD'S HOUSE

The author of Psalm 84, had a love for God's house. Some commentators have speculated that for a time he, a temple singer, was unable to go to the temple—either because of sickness or circumstances. So as he wrote this psalm, his soul was especially longing and crying out to be in "the courts of the LORD" (v.2). He believed that one day of worship in God's house gave more satisfaction than a thousand days spent anywhere else (v.10). There's something special about praising God together with His people, and we should take every opportunity we can to do so. But if we can't, like the psalmist, we can still express our love for the living God and our longing to know Him (v.2). The Lord is pleased and we'll be blessed when our heart's desire is to be with Him and His people. —
(Psalm 84)

Mount Gilead Centennial Celebration



Rev. Norman Davis

Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate one hundred years. We praise God and thank God, for He is the one that has brought us this far. We have come this far by faith and He has never left us alone.

Mount Gilead is located at 404 Dowd Street, Durham, North Carolina. On October 26, at 9:30 a.m. the praise will go up and at 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship and the celebration will begin. There will be only one service on Sunday, but the celebration begins on Friday night and Saturday evening and lunch for those who have tickets at the Searle Center at 1 p.m. Our goal is to raise \$50,000, to refurbish the church and buy a new van.

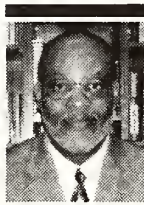
Dr. Willie Darby will be the guest preacher for the day. He comes to us from Penn Avenue Baptist Church, Oxford.

Please pray for us as we seek to save souls and add to the work of our Father's Kingdom. For Mount Gilead it has been a pleasure and privilege to have had the opportunity to serve at the present time. Thanks to God for what He has done.

Some of the former pastors serving the last 100 years were: Dr. Leroy Davis, Dr. Alexander Mosley, Rev. Harold Roland, Rev. Elias Wimbley, Rev. John Tilley, Rev. Henry Davenport and Rev. David Jones.

Expressions of worship should not be limited to church buildings. Anywhere you can think, speak, or act, you can also worship.

Rev. Smith Celebrates 20 Years in Prison Ministry



Michael R. Smith

Reverend Michael R. Smith, Sr., Chairman of the GBSC Anti-Crime and Incarceration Ministry has just celebrated 20 years of serving full-time as a Chaplain/Pastor in the prison setting. Chairman Smith began his ministry in prisons as a volunteer Bible teacher at the Wake County Jail in Raleigh, NC. He later was called to be Staff Chaplain at Central Prison in October of 1988-93. His prison ministry also includes being Regional Chaplain for NC Division of Prisons North Central Area 1993-95, Staff Chaplain Metropolitan Correctional Center in Chicago, Ill. 1995-97, Supervisory Chaplain Federal Correctional Institution in Estill, SC 1997-2000, Supervisory Chaplain Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, NC 2000-04, Chaplaincy Administrator for BOP Mid-Atlantic Region 2004-08, and presently as the Chaplaincy Program Administrator for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Washington, DC. In his present ministry role, Chaplain Smith is responsible for national policy develop-

ment, recruiting, and training of BOP chaplains around the country.

Therefore, Chairman Smith is launching a serious outreach within the GBSC to recruit qualified ministers who are called to serve lives impacted by crime and incarceration. "We need more able ministers who can reach, reconcile, and restore human lives in our prisons around the country. Our crime and incarceration crisis can only be impacted by providing pastoral care, preaching the Gospel, and making disciples in obedience to the Great Commission in our prisons."

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR CHAPLAINCY IN BUREAU OF PRISONS (BOP)

- Must be officially endorsed by ecclesiastical body or denomination
- Must have a Master of Divinity Degree from an ATS accredited seminary
- Must be under 37 years of age to comply with United States Code of Regulations
- Must have 2 years of ministerial experience in church setting or 1

full year of CPE
(Starting salary range is \$60,000 dependent on U. S. location)

Contact Chaplain Smith's office for more information and application packet!
Main Office# 202 514-9740
Direct Office# 202 353-8053
Fax# 202 514-9750
Email mrsmith@bop.gov
Website www.bop.gov

"OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD" PREACHING SERIES

Invite Chairman Smith or Vice Chairman Solomon to come to your church or association to share biblical messages regarding the Church's response to crime and incarceration.

Also training is available to equip you to serve more effectively.

AIM CONTACT INFORMATION
Chairman Michael R. Smith, Sr. - O - 202 353-8053 / CP - 919 349-5686
Email - mrsmithgbsc@aol.com & mrsmith@bop.gov
Vice-Chairman Melvin B. Solomon - CP - 910 724-3139 / Church - 252 492-3834
Email - smb04@doc.state.nc.us

**When you can't come to us,
our mobile showroom will come to you!**

**Coordinating
Group Outfits
from Head-to-Toe!
Suits
Shirt/Tie Sets
Shoes**

On-Site Group Fittings!



**Suit Sizes to 80
Shirt Sizes to 22**

**Call to Schedule
a Showing!**

Suits with Brand
Names such as:
**Tayion
Stacy Adams
Falcone**

ROWE'S
MEN'S SHOP

136 Shannon Village Shopping Center, Louisburg, NC 27549
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Friday 9-8 • 919-496-3573

The Pastor's Wife: Dealing with Feelings of Loneliness

Mrs. Lena Johnson
President, Ministers Wives
WBH & FMC

According to the article, "Pastor's Wives Come Together", published in Time Magazine July 30, 2007, the basic job description for pastors' wives hasn't changed in a century.



Mrs. Lena Johnson

But pastors' wives have. The rise of mega churches, dual-career couples and women's independence have complicated the role of the pastors' wife and in some cases intensified their frustrations. Eight in 10 pastors' wives say they feel unappreciated or unaccepted by their husbands' congregations, according to surveys by the Global Pastors Wives Network. That same number wishes their husbands would choose another profession. "Wives' issues" is the No. 1 reason pastors leave their ministries. The divorce rate among ministers and their wives is 50%, no better than that of the general public. The article ended with this statement: "The expectations a lot of times are overwhelming. Although pastors' wives enjoy what they do, they deal with anger and resentment. This anger and resentment may be against the church, their husbands and perhaps against your

position as a pastor's wife."

Where then does the pastor's wife go to deal with feelings of anger, resentment and frustrations without the fear of opening herself up to the world's criticism? You may be surrounded by godly, well-meaning friends in the church, but wise advice from pastors' wives who

wanting or needing his undivided attention. This can leave the pastor's wife feeling very lonely. Loneliness is a running theme among pastors' wives and builds up anger and resentment that can only cause problems in the church and in the marriage.

Like most young minister's wives, I

"Let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God What is good and is pleasing to Him and is perfect."

Romans 12:2

have done that cautions not to go to friends because all are not well-intentioned with your personal woes. You can't go to colleagues or other friends outside the church because they can't relate to the frustrations of your "fish bowl" existence. You can't always go to your husband because you don't want to add to his already "overflowing plate" and in some cases, you feel guilty for

felt overwhelmed and lonely by it all early on in my husband's ministry. Mind you this was before internet weblogs, web support boards, chat rooms, and support groups were so prevalent. But to my advantage, my "venting" board was my precious mother-in-law, who was a pastors' wife for over forty years. Many of her experiences paralleled some of the problems I

was encountering. Her priceless advice, along with fervent prayer, helped me to survive those early years. A mature, wise woman (pastor's wife or widow) can be of great value. But, remember, to ask God to lead and direct you to that person.

There are many other resources available today for the pastor's wife, "new" or seasoned and widows. If you are looking for support and kindred fellowship with other ministers' wives, consider joining a local ministers' wives/widows association. As chair of the Ministers' Wives & Widows Fellowship, an auxiliary to the GBSC Women's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention, I invite you to come to the May Retreat held the first Saturday in May (more information to come). We not only fellowship at this Retreat, but also have empowerment sessions that will strengthen you in your role as a pastor's wife or widow. If you prefer to read for application, there are many books written by prominent minister's wives who have walked the walk and can provide insight into this challenging journey; and as I mentioned, there are Christian weblogs and chat rooms where you can connect and commune with minister's wives globally with simple concerns to more private issues with anonymity. Keep in mind, these resources are just that; basic resources.

God's Word stands as your ultimate guide for any situation, problem, or worry that comes against you. Only God can provide truths regarding the loneliness you may feel and how to prevent your feelings from turning into resentment and anger. God will help you to realize that through His power He will and He can enable you to influence the spiritual atmosphere of your home and your relationships within your church family. No longer will you find yourself competing with the church and expectation of others, but rather you will find your purpose in your position as a pastor/minister's wife.

My encouraging word to you is to Commune with God, Hear His Voice, Meditate on His Word and Stay "prayed up." God wants you to enjoy your service as a pastor's wife, to love His people, to use your gifts for the building up of the ministry by the side of your spouse, and to have a close, personal walk with Him.

God Loves You and so do I!
E-mail: cjohnson035.nc.rr.com

A Different Drug Problem.....

The other day, someone at a store in our town read that a Methamphetamine lab had been found in an old farmhouse in the adjoining county and he asked me a rhetorical question, "Why didn't we have a drug problem when you and I were growing up?"

I replied, I had a drug problem when I was young: I was drug to church on Sunday morning. I was drug to church for weddings and funerals. I was drug to family reunions and community socials no matter the weather.

I was drug by my ears when I was disrespectful to adults. I was also drug to the woodshed when I disobeyed my parents, told a lie, brought home a bad report card, did not speak with respect, spoke ill of the teacher or the preacher, or if I didn't put forth my best effort in everything that was asked of me.



I was drug to the kitchen sink to have my mouth washed out with soap if I uttered a profanity. I was drug out to pull weeds in mom's garden and flower beds and cockleburs out of dad's fields. I was drug to the homes of family, friends and neighbors to help out some poor soul who had no one to mow the yard, repair the clothesline, or chop some firewood, and, if my mother had ever known that I took a single dime as a tip for this kindness, she would have drug me back to the woodshed.

Those drugs are still in my veins and they affect my behavior in every-thing I do, say, or think. They are stronger than cocaine, crack, or heroin: and, if today's children had this kind of drug problem. America would be a better place.

God bless the parents who drugged us.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

January 9, 2009

General Baptist State
Convention of North Carolina
Incorporated



**2009 Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr.,
Banquet**
Embassy Suites
Charlotte-Concord
Concord, North Carolina

January 10, 2009



**WOMAN'S BAPTIST
HOME AND FOREIGN
MISSIONARY
CONVENTION OF NC**
Auxiliary to GBSC

One Day Session
Embassy Suites
Charlotte-Concord
Concord, North Carolina



February 14, 2009
**Congress of Christian
Education**
Ms. Lula Gainey, President.
**One Day Session-
TBA**



February 28, 2009
Ushers' Convention
Ms. Helen Thompson, President
**One Day Session-
TBA**



March 14, 2009
Laymen's League
Mr. Theodore Davis, President
Study Commission
Juniper Level Baptist Church



Baptist Informer
RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM



Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check) Number of Years: (check one)

New Subscription 1 Year

Renewal 2 Years

Address Change (include old address label) 3 Years

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention
603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 821-7466 • www.gbsc.org

Signature _____

SAINT PAUL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

1401 ALLEN STREET, CHARLOTTE, NC 28205

TELE: 704-334-5309 FAX: 704-376-0072

Pastor's 10th Anniversary Celebration



**Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
and the First Family**

Sunday, November 2, 2008

7:30 & 10:30 a.m. worship service

November 1998 - Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr., was called to Saint Paul. He strongly emphasized the need for spiritual revival, member participation and the church becoming more purpose driven. Our unified purpose statement was developed and states, "To convince the unconvinced to be convinced and make disciples". During Dr. Moss' first year at St. Paul, God blessed our church family with 349 new members. Our ministry continues to expand which directly reflects our increasing commitment to becoming better stewards. As in years past, God continues to show Himself mightily through the work and ministry of Saint Paul Baptist Church.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Union Baptist Church of Lexington, North Carolina, is seeking devoted Christian musician. Skills must include reading music and teaching parts.

Call Ninette Diggs
336-243-1648 to inquire

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
94 NC 37 N • Gates, NC 27937

Qualifications:

- Licensed and Ordained Minister in the Baptist Denomination.
- Pastoral experience.
- Degree from an accredited Seminary or School of Theology.

All interested persons should submit a resume to:

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
c/o Deacon Robert Williams, Chairman
PO BOX 91
Gatesville, NC 27938

- Deadline for all submissions is January 31, 2009.

POSITIONS OPEN:

Director of Music and Fine Arts Church Administrative Assistant

Baptist Grove Church of Raleigh, NC is currently seeking applicants for the following two positions:

1. Director of Music and Fine Arts. This is a part-time role (20-30 hours per week) that will oversee, develop and direct the music and arts ministry of the church. The Fine Arts ministry includes several choirs, several dance groups, a mime group, and an orchestra.
2. Church Administrative Assistant. This is a full-time role that supports the administrative needs of the Pastor and the church in general.

Interested applicants for either role can contact Sis. Rose Closs at the church office to receive a detailed job description.

A cover letter and resume should be submitted by mail as follows:

Baptist Grove Church
c/o Personnel Committee
7109 Leesville Road
Raleigh, NC 27613

or by email to: rosebcloss@baptistgrovechurch.org

ROAD TO ZERO DEBT

Saint Paul would like to express our gratitude to all disciples and friends for supporting the campaign to eliminate our debt before 2008. Support for this effort will allow us to do even greater things for the cause of Christ in this community



**Come Worship
With Us!**

Church Music Director

Open Date: September 14, 2008
Employment Status: Staff (Part-Time)
Closing Date: Open until filled
Salary Range: Negotiable

Description of Duties:

First Baptist Church at Hubbard Street, Reidsville, North Carolina invites applications for a Music Director to provide weekly rehearsal for the church choir(s), to serve as pianist/organist and perform a leading role in the church music worship experience. The ideal candidate will demonstrate piano/organ competencies and have experience teaching a diverse community of singers, knowledge of appropriate traditional and contemporary gospel repertoire, hymns and anthems. Knowledge of vocal technique and the aptitude to assist choir members in developing their ability to perform music from primary to advanced performance proficiency levels is essential. In addition, the candidate should have a strong commitment to the Christian faith, the ability to teach a range of voice parts, and the ability to work in a collegial manner with the Pastor, choir members and church administration. Piano, organ and/or keyboard skills that are sufficient to support worship music of various genres are necessary.

Qualifications:

Bachelor degree in Music or pursuant thereof is strongly desired
Previous experience as a church musician is required

Special Requirements:

The candidate should be creative and possess a strong performance record.
The ability to supervise other musicians and a commitment to the mission of the church is essential. Excellent sight-reading and the ability to "play-by-ear" are expected performance skills.

Application Requirements:

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest and resume to:

Search Committee
First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 337
Reidsville, NC 27323

BAPTIST Informer

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portia Brandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

PASTORAL VACANCY

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, located at 1400 Fitch Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina has a pastoral vacancy. The predominately African-American, 300 plus member congregation is seeking a pastor who meets the following criteria:

- Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist Minister
- Must be an effective communicator who possesses and applies comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology
- Must have a college/seminary degree
- Must have at least six years ministerial and preferably at least six years pastoral experience
- Must be versatile and able to relate to a diverse age group within the congregation, emphasizing spiritual growth and development
- Applicant(s) must submit to and pass a criminal background check and furnish a credit report

How to Apply

All interested and qualified persons should submit a resume, letter of interest, biographical sketch and two letters of recommendation to:

The Pastoral Search Committee
Morning Star Baptist Church
P. O. Box 12835, Winston-Salem, NC 27117

Minister of Music Vacancy

PROVIDENCE MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

ROCKINGHAM, NC

is currently accepting applications for a Minister of Music.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must be a Christian dedicated to Christ and the church
- Must prove his/her music ability with skills in teaching, playing for services and programs
- Must have experience in directing and working with choirs
- Must be responsible to the Pastor and the church for planning, conducting, and evaluating the Music Ministry of the church

Mail all application material to:
Providence Missionary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 2256
Rockingham, NC 28379

General Instructions for the Pastoral Search Committee

Reverend Dr. Alvin Love, Pastor
Lilydale First Baptist Church, Chicago
Illinois
Member of the National Baptist Convention,
USA, Board of Directors



The primary purpose of the pastor search committee is to find and recommend someone to serve as pastor. Remember, you are not simply searching for a Preacher, but for a Pastor who can preach!

A. Establish Guidelines for the Work

1. Survey Church to ascertain it's needs regarding a Pastor.
2. Compilation of Church Information Packet.
3. Determine how the committee will consider recommendations.
4. Develop and distribute to each potential candidate, a "Pastoral Request for Information" form. This form will include the candidates personal testimony, experience, education, family, philosophy of ministry, doctrinal beliefs, ordination, denominational preferences, viewpoints on current theological issues, names & addresses of (5) personal references.
5. Develop Voting Procedures.

B. Evaluate Potential Candidates

1. Receive all resumes and information responses.
2. Verify information supplied.
3. Conduct interviews of prospective candidates.
4. Reduce list of potential candidates.
5. Arrange for Church visit of serious candidates.

C. Recommend Possible Pastor

1. Make recommendation to Church in writing. This recommendation should include the potential Pastor's qualifications, experience, Church expectations and Church commitment (salary and benefits package).
2. Ask Joint Board to call Church Meeting for purpose of voting.
3. Notify Pastor of Church's decision. This should be done by certified mail.

D. Orient the New Pastor

1. Handle moving arrangements, if necessary.
2. Finalize housing issues.
3. Provide a welcoming reception.
4. Make introductions to the community.
5. Plan and implement Installation Services.

PASTORAL VACANCY

THE NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

1604 White Plains Church Road • Clarkton, NC

Qualifications:

- A man or woman of God licensed and ordained in the Baptist Denomination.
- Must have at least five (5) years experience as an Ordained Minister
- Pastoral experience.
- Seminary training.

OTHER ATTRIBUTES

- Gifted Teacher • Good leadership ability • Good communication skills
- Ability to counsel • Committed to the needs of the flock

If interested, please send information profile or resume to:

Bro. Ronnie Blanks, Pastor Search Committee Chairman
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
1604 White Plains Church Road
Clarkton, NC 28433

Please pray for our committee as we continue our search process.

Mt Level Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Youth & Christian Education Minister.

Qualifications include completion of a Theological Master Degree program with a focus in youth ministry.

The Ministee should have a sound knowledge of scripture and Baptist Doctrine and the ability to teach youth and adults. Qualified Candidates should submit a resume to: Youth & Christian Education Minister Committee, Mt. Level Missionary Baptist Church, 316 Hebron Road, Durham, NC 27704 or email: mtleveleducyouthchild@gmail.com.

Visit our website: www.mtlevelmbc.org

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at you church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

PASTORAL VACANCY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

ROXBORO, NC

First Baptist Church of Roxboro, North Carolina, is a church with approximately 200 members, seeking a pastor who meets the following criteria:

- LICENSED BAPTIST MINISTER
- HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/GED WITH SEMINARY STUDIES FROM AN ACCREDITED SEMINARY SCHOOL
- POSSESS AT LEAST (3) YEARS OF PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Interested persons should send resume to:

First Baptist Church
Attention: Pastoral Search Committee
14 Main Circle
Roxboro, North Carolina 27573

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.*

*Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to*

*Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists
(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: *"By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)*

BAPTIST Informer

**THINK
first, then
VOTE**

NOVEMBER 4, 2008

These tips will help you save time at the polls and be sure your vote is counted.

1. **Can you vote?** Yes - if you're a U.S. citizen at least 18 years old on Election Day and have lived in the district for at least 10 days. Felons may not vote until they have completed their sentence, including probation or parole.
2. **Out of time?** Don't worry - you can register at the poll on Election Day with an official ID and proof of current residence.
3. **Save Time** Poll lines are typically shorter mid-morning or mid-afternoon. Be sure to bring an official ID and proof of residence in case your registration is not complete.
4. **Be Prepared** You may have to wait in line, but it's worth it. We only get to do this once every 4 years! Report concerns or problems to an election official or call the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

In 1923, Hitler won the leadership of the German Nazi Party by ONE vote.

**BAPTIST
Informer**

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



Worship is something that needs to go beyond our church gathering times. (Sunday or Wednesday) Our church meetings should simply be the culmination of an entire week of obedience and glorifying God in our small, daily choices. So the most genuine, meaningful and passionate church worship times, will be when the congregation has been living worship all week long. (rbc Ministries)

Church Worship
101



November 27, 2008

Happy



Thanksgiving

11/28/2008
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2555
S21 P3



BAPTIST Informer

Volume 131, No. 12

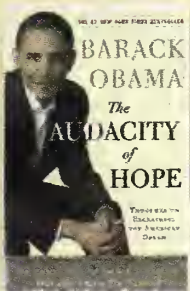
Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.

December 2008

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST SEMINARY LIBRARY

GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship," Matthew 28:19-20



The Audacity of Hope

Below: President-Elect Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle and daughters, Malia & Sasha Obama

By Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
President GBSC
Gmoss1@bellsouth.net
(704) 334-5309

Greetings to you in the joy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

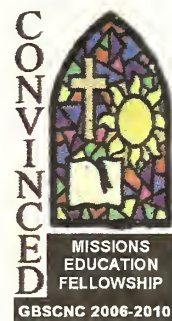
We are continuing to bask in the glow of our 141st Annual Session. By all indications it proved to be one of the best. The presence of God among His people was evident, blessing all who were in attendance. An unofficial evaluation noted the preaching and seminar presenters were at their best. We are indebted to all of our preachers, presenters and choirs for using your gifts to teach, train and inspire us to do better in missions and ministry.

Thank you Dr. John D. Fuller and Lewis Chapel for the tremendous effort of hosting our session. You left no stone unturned to ensure the comfort and safety of those in attendance. Your staff and congregants are to be commended and we are eternally grateful. Congratulations and thanks are also in order to Executive-Secretary Haywood T. Gray and staff for your untiring work and dedication to GBSC causes. Most are not aware of the many details involved in planning and implementation of our sessions. It

involves many hours, phone calls, negotiations, programming and site visits.

On Tuesday November 4, millions participated in a history making election. People around the globe are celebrating the election of Barack Obama as the 44th president of our country. When President-Elect Obama assumes office in January, he will face stiff challenges with the economy, two wars, health care and a plethora of other domestic and foreign issues. It is a daunting task, but it can be done. President Elect Obama has provided hope and opportunity for everyday citizens to participate in its own government. He, more than anyone, understands no one person can solve these seemingly insurmountable problems facing our country and world. We will need to remain engaged in the political process-voter registration and holding our representatives accountable like never before. Continue to pray for the Obama family, and the other officials as they navigate troubled waters.

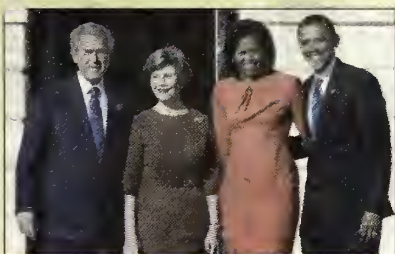
We are presently preparing for the Martin Luther King Celebration in January. The event will be held at the Embassy Suites in Concord, North Carolina. During the banquet we will celebrate Dr. Pricilla A. Brodie, retiring executive-secretary of the Woman's



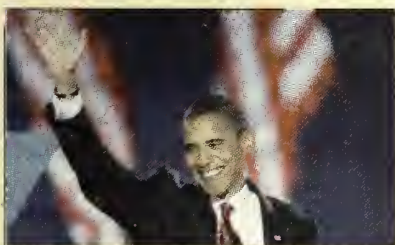
Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

Auxiliary. For more than three decades Dr. Brodie has provided leadership and guidance for the auxiliary. We are eternally grateful to God for allowing Dr. Brodie to share her gifts with us. Please join us in Concord for what will be a great celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King and for the contributions of Dr. Brodie.

Finally, let us endeavor to re-focus our attention on our primary reason for existence as a convention-MISSIONS. Our objectives deserve our support and if we are to be about Kingdom building we will embrace the challenges with vitality and vigor. God has equipped us with many resources (financial and human). It is ours to put them to work on His behalf so that others will know Him in His awesome power. To God be the Glory! ■



President elect Barack Obama and his wife Michelle visited current President George Bush and his wife Laura at the White House on Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008.



President-elect Barack Obama waves after giving his victory speech at Grant Park in Chicago, Nov. 4, 2008.



President Bronnie H. Daniels becomes Dr. Daniels

On Friday, October 17, 2008, Mrs. Bronnie Harris Daniels, wife, educator, and devoted servant of humanity received the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa from Shaw University.

Bronnie Harris Daniel's life has been one of caring for humanity through long and distinguished service as a counselor to young people and as a volunteer with a variety of organizations, including Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Baptist Convention of North Carolina, of which she is president.

Mrs. Daniels earned a bachelors degree from Winston-Salem State University and masters of science degrees in both education, and guidance and counseling from North Carolina A&T State University. After 35 years of service, she retired as a Guidance Counselor from

the Winston-Salem Forsyth County School System.

Her experience has been wide and varied. She served as a volunteer with Crisis Control Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, the Forsyth Women's Shelter and the League of Women Voters. She directed the Forsyth County Missionary Union Institute of the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Baptist Convention of North Carolina. She rendered service to the North Carolina Baptist State Convention Commissioned Seminary as an Extension Instructor.



Bronnie Daniels

Mrs. Daniels received the Distinguished Service Award-Continuing Support of the Shaw Divinity School where she has established a Shaw University Divinity School Scholarship in memory of her husband, Dr. B. F. Daniels. ■

President Elect Obama's Election Speech • Nov. 4, 2008



There was some good news for his children, Malia, 10 and Sasha 7, seven. When the family moves to the White House they're getting a new puppy.



Barack Obama kisses his wife Michelle as Joe Biden embraces his wife Jill. Photo: Getty Images



125,000 cheering supporters at Chicago's Grant Park



If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible; who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time; who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer.

Its the answer told by lines that stretched around schools and churches in numbers this nation has never seen; by people who waited three hours and four hours, many for the very first time in their lives, because they believed that this time must be different; that their voice could be that difference.

Its the answer spoken by young and old, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican, black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American, gay, straight, disabled and not disabled - Americans who sent a message to the world that we have never been a collection of Red States and Blue States: we are, and always will be, the United States of America.

Its the answer that led those who have been told for so long by so many to be cynical, and fearful, and doubtful of what we can achieve to put their hands on the arc of history and bend it once more toward the hope of a better day. Its been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America.

I just received a very gracious call from Senator McCain. He fought long and hard in this campaign, and hes fought even longer and harder for the country he loves. He has endured sacrifices for America that most of us cannot begin to imagine, and we are better off for the service rendered by this brave and selfless leader. I congratulate him and Governor Palin for all they have achieved, and I look forward to working with them to renew this nations promise in the months ahead.

I want to thank my partner in this journey, a man who campaigned from his heart and spoke for the men and women he grew up with on the streets of Scranton and rode with on that train home to Delaware, the Vice President-elect of the United States, Joe Biden. I would not be standing here tonight without the unyielding support of my best friend for the last sixteen years, the rock of our family and the love of my life, our nations next First Lady, Michelle Obama. Sasha and Malia, I love you both so much, and you have earned the new puppy thats coming with us to the White House. And while shes no longer with us, I know my grandmother is watching, along with the family that made me who I am. I miss them tonight, and know that my debt to them

is beyond measure.

To my campaign manager David Plouffe, my chief strategist David Axelrod, and the best campaign team ever assembled in the history of politics - you made this happen, and I am forever grateful for what youve sacrificed to get it done.

But above all, I will never forget who this victory truly belongs to - it belongs to you.



"There is not a black America and white America and Latino America and Asian America - there is the United States of America,"

Barack Obama

I was never the likeliest candidate for this office. We didnt start with much money or many endorsements. Our campaign was not hatched in the halls of Washington - it began in the backyards of Des Moines and the living rooms of Concord and the front porches of Charleston.

It was built by working men and women who dug into what little savings they had to give five dollars and ten dollars and twenty dollars to this cause. It grew strength from the young people who rejected the myth of their generations apathy; who left their homes and their families for jobs that offered little pay and less sleep; from the not-so-young people who braved the bitter cold and scorching heat to knock on the doors of perfect strangers; from the millions of Americans who volunteered, and organized, and proved that more than two centuries later, a government of the people, by the people and for the people has not perished from this Earth. This is your victory.

I know you didnt do this just to win an election and I know you didnt do it for me. You did it because you understand the enormity of the task that lies ahead. For even as we celebrate tonight, we know the challenges that tomorrow

will bring are the greatest of our lifetime - two wars, a planet in peril, the worst financial crisis in a century. Even as we stand here tonight, we know there are brave Americans waking up in the deserts of Iraq and the mountains of Afghanistan to risk their lives for us. There are mothers and fathers who will lie awake after their children fall asleep and wonder how theyll make the mortgage, or pay their doctors bills, or save enough for college. There is new energy to harness and new jobs to be created; new schools to build and threats to meet and alliances to repair.

The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even one term, but America - I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there. I promise you - we as a people will get there.

There will be setbacks and false starts. There are many who wont agree with every decision or policy I make as President, and we know that government cant solve every problem. But I will always be honest with you about the challenges we face. I will listen to you, especially when we disagree. And above all, I will ask you join in the work of remaking this nation the only way its been done in America for two-hundred and twenty-one years - block by block, brick by brick, calloused hand by calloused hand.

What began twenty-one months ago in the depths of winter must not end on this autumn night. This victory alone is not the change we seek - it is only the chance for us to make that change. And that cannot happen if we go back to the way things were. It cannot happen without you.

So let us summon a new spirit of patriotism; of service and responsibility where each of us resolves to pitch in and work harder and look after not only ourselves, but each other. Let us remember that if this financial crisis taught us anything, its that we cannot have a thriving Wall Street while Main Street suffers - in this country, we rise or fall as one nation; as one people.

Let us resist the temptation to fall back on the same partisanship and pettiness and immaturity that has poisoned our politics for so long. Let us remember that it was a man from this state who first carried the banner of the Republican Party to the White House - a party founded on the values of self-reliance, individual liberty, and national unity. Those are values we all share, and while the Democratic Party has won a

(continued page 22)

Celebrating a Dream...embracing Change



January 18, 2009

Celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin King and the historic election of the 1st African American President...

Celebrating

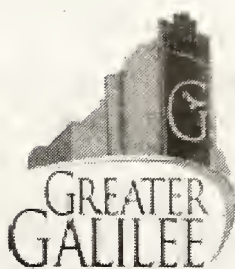
A Dream...embracing Change!

**Sponsored By The Steering Team: Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch,
 Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens, Sr., Dr. Gregory K. Moss,
 Dr. Peter M. Wherry and Dr. Ricky A. Woods**

Event Speaker Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina

President, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc
2nd Vice-President Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention



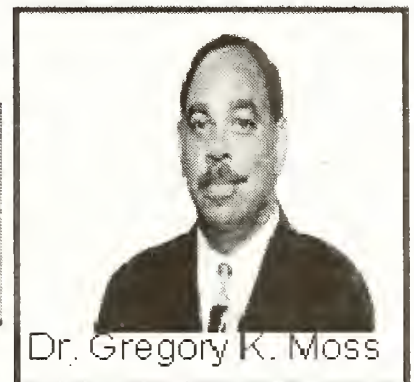
Hosted by Greater Galilee Baptist Church

Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens, Sr., Pastor

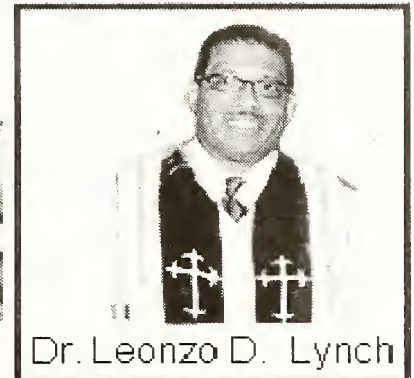
6:00pm Youth Hour

7:00pm Worship Service

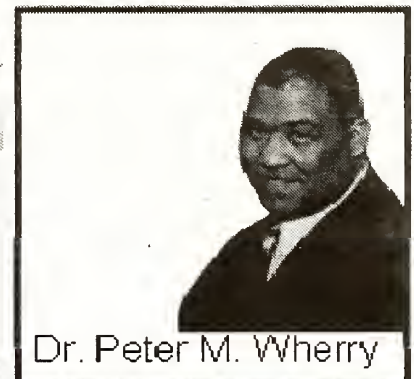
Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens, Sr.



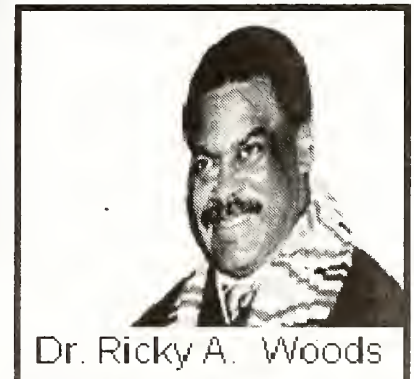
Dr. Gregory K. Moss



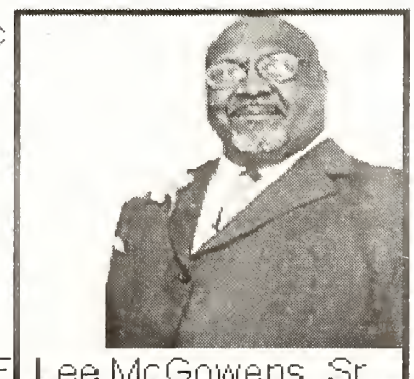
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch



Dr. Peter M. Wherry



Dr. Ricky A. Woods



Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens, Sr.

How far Obama and U.S. have come since he slept in alley on 1st night in NYC

Alvarez/News

Alleyway on W. 109th St. in Manhattan that is almost certainly the one presidential hopeful Barack Obama — in his autobiography — describes sleeping in during his first night in New York.

Every school kid should see the Manhattan alleyway where a future President spent his first night in New York. Just across the street is the fire hydrant where young Barack Obama washed up with a homeless gentleman after waking that morning a quarter century ago.

Obama had come to New York as a transfer student at Columbia having arranged to take over a friend of a friend's apartment on W. 109th St. He arrived with his luggage just after 10p.m., only for nobody to answer the door. Obama sat on the building's stoop, rereading a letter he had received before he left California. The letter was from the father who had long since moved back to Kenya. The father urged him to carry through with plans to visit Africa after his graduation.

"The important thing is that you know your people, and also that you know where you belong," the long-absent father had written. "Please look after yourself

and say hello to your mum." Obama refolded the letter and gazed along what was then a row of boarded-up buildings on W.109th St., keenly feeling the absence of a guiding paternal hand in a country where there seemed no clear place for a young black man.

"I looked down now at the abandoned New York street," Obama later wrote in his autobiography. "Where were the fathers, the uncles and grandfathers who could help explain this gash in our hearts? Where were the healers who might help us rescue meaning from defeat? They were gone, vanished, swallowed up by time. Only their cloudy images remained." He waited past midnight before wiggling through a gate into an alleyway that by his description is almost certainly the one adjacent to 200 W. 109th St. "I found a dry spot, propped my luggage beneath me

and fell asleep, the sound of drums softly shaping my dreams," he wrote. "I woke up to find a white hen pecking at the garbage near my feet." He rose and stepped from the alleyway: "Across the street, a homeless man was washing himself at an open hydrant and didn't object when I joined him," Obama recalled.

Twenty-five years later, the hydrant has been given a cheerful coat of red paint by the Dominican superintendent of the building across from the alleyway. The alleyway is no longer garbage-strewn but swept clean, the six trash cans kept in a neat row by the Montenegrin super in the adjacent building. The supers were taking the extra care because that is their nature, just as the once-abandoned buildings along the block now fly American flags as a signal of the neighborhood's restoration.

Nobody seems to have been aware that the alleyway and the hydrant might

become one of the city's most unlikely historical sights. Here slept and washed up a future President who propelled himself beyond the soft drumming of his dreams, who appeared before us suddenly and so vividly, showing a young black man's place is where he strives to be, presenting himself as a healer who can help black and white rescue meaning from defeat. "It's a privilege to live in a neighborhood where once a future President has spent the night," the Montenegrin super, Ruzdija Jarovic, said in his native language.

Happy shouts rang out from the recess yard of Public School 165 just down the block. A whistle sounded and the youngsters filed inside past a bank of voting machines delivered for the election that could have such an impact on their future. The man who slept in the alley just up W. 109th St. was on every ballot in the country. Obama's father and mother died long before his nomination. His grandmother died yesterday, a day before she could have seen more than dreams come true.

Maybe the homeless guy who shared the hydrant is still around. The hydrant and the alleyway remain, and to visit there on Election Eve was to feel how audacious hope can really be. ■

"My job is not to represent Washington to you, but to represent you to Washington."

Barack Obama



Making Relationships Work . . . God's Way

Pastor, let us bring our exciting, dynamic, Bible-based workshop to your congregation. The workshop is designed for singles, married couples and anyone seeking a fulfilling, Christ-centered marriage. The workshop is absolutely free! You provide the place and participants and we'll do the rest. We provide all materials and we will even help you promote the workshop in your local media. Call us today toll-free at 866-463-1760 or visit us at www.NCFRCministry.org and let us help you enhance marriages and relationships in your congregation.



Workshop Presenters

Married more than 35 years, Rev. Donald Stevenson, a corporate tax attorney and former senior pastor, and Dr. Sara Stevenson, a psychologist and life coach, are the authors of *Get A Clue! Why Relationships Don't Work* and are the founders of the National Christian Family Resources Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening Christian marriages and families in the Body of Christ.

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

Dr. Howard Parker, JR.
Vice President at Large
(252) 756-4869

"A Birth of New Freedom" will be President-elect Barack Obama's official inauguration theme. The choice was inspired by the Gettysburg Address, in which President Lincoln expressed hope that the sacrifice of those who died to preserve the nation would lead to "a new birth of freedom."

"At a time when our country faces major challenges at home and abroad, it is appropriate to revisit the words of President Lincoln, who strived to bring the nation together by appealing to 'the better angels of our nature,'" said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, California Democrat and chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (JCCIC).

"Although some inaugural traditions have changed since Lincoln's time, the

swearing-in ceremony continues to symbolize the ideals of renewal, continuity and unity that he so often expressed," Mrs. Feinstein said.

Preparations for Inauguration Day -- Jan. 20 -- have been in the works for months. They officially began with the ceremonial "first nail" of the inauguration platform on Sept. 24. The city also repaved Pennsylvania Avenue to eliminate potholes. The presidential inauguration is more than just a celebration of one person's assumption of the presidency," Mrs. Feinstein said after driving that first nail. "It is an affirmation of our Constitution."

Inauguration Day will begin with a procession down Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House to the Capitol. The president-elect and vice president-elect will then be sworn in on the 10,000-square-foot platform under construction on the west steps of the Capitol. The platform will be similar in size to the one used in the 2005 inauguration, which was the largest ever. More than 200,000 people are expected to attend.

After his inaugural address, President Obama will attend a luncheon

in National Statuary Hall and then parade back down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House. President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney will be given a send-off ceremony on the east side of the Capitol.

The swearing-in and send-off ceremonies will be put together by the JCCIC, but the rest of the day's events (including the popular Inaugural balls) will be planned by the Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC). The members of the PIC are chosen by the president-elect, but Mr. Obama has not made his selections yet.

2009 Inaugural Events

Tickets

Tickets for the inauguration will be distributed in January to members of Congress. Those who wish to attend can contact their senator or congressman. Tickets also will be available through area ticket brokers..

Parade

Requests to participate in Inauguration day events for marching bands, marching units, mounted units, and other performers are collected by the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee. The Presidential Inaugural Committee, formed after the November election, selects the participants from the collected requests.

Balls

The Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC)—established after the November election—is responsible for all balls and galas hosted in honor of the newly-elected President.

Fast Facts about the Platform

- On inauguration day it will hold more than 1,600 people including:
 - o The President and Vice-President-elects and their families
 - o Members of U.S. Senate and House of Representatives
 - o Cabinet members and nominees
 - o Justices of the Supreme Court
 - o The outgoing President and Vice President
 - o Former presidents
 - o The Joint Chiefs of Staff
 - o Governors
 - o The diplomatic corps
- In addition, bleachers built above the platform, on the Upper West Terrace will hold another 1,000 people including choirs and guests.
- It is built entirely of lumber, to protect the surfaces of the Capitol.
- The platform is fully ADA compliant.

If the people cannot trust their government to do the job for which it exists - to protect them and to promote their common welfare - all else is lost.

Obama Inauguration Theme: "A New Birth Of Freedom"

At a time when our country faces major challenges at home and abroad, it is appropriate to revisit the words of President Lincoln, who strived to bring the nation together by appealing to 'the better angels of our nature,'" said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, California Democrat and chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (JCCIC).

SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS! SERMONS!

Writers:

- Bryant L. Bacon, Sr.
- Jesse Voyd Bottoms, Jr.
- Marvin E. Davis
- Darron LaMonte Edwards, Sr.
- Robert Earl Houston, Sr.
- Wheeler L. Jones
- T.L. Lewis
- Robert L. Malone
- Joseph L. Slade
- Rodney A. Teal, esq.

ALL ORDERS E-MAILED OR MAILED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ORIGINAL ORDER! FOR PRICING SEE THE WEB SITE!

1,000+ TITLES AVAILABLE

www.sermonsharingservice.com

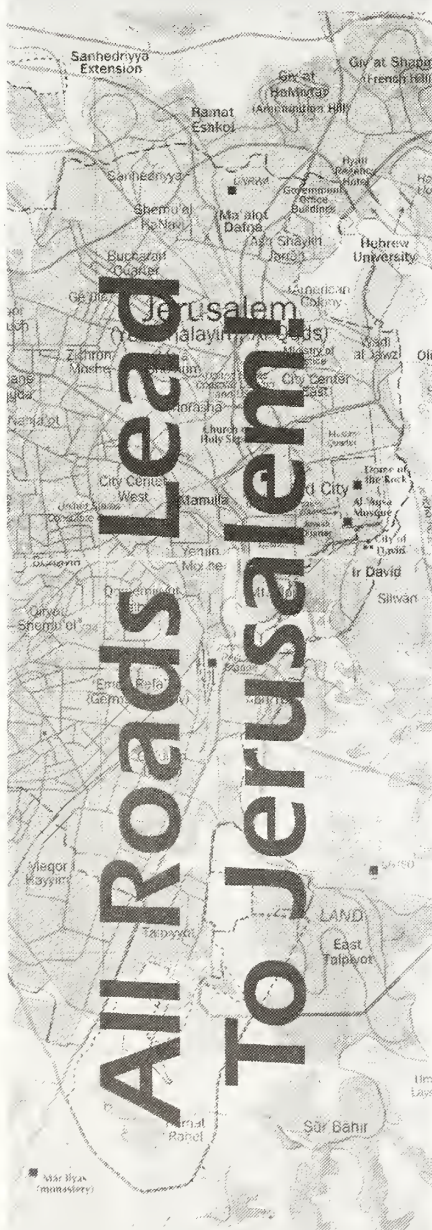
Presented by Robert Earl Houston, Sr. Ministries, Nashville, TN



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
2nd Vice President
ldynch@ebccharlotte.org
(704) 598-2219

Worship must extend to our individual lives, seven days a week. Worship involves our entire lives.



Come experience the Trip of LIFETIME! Holy Land Tour - 2009

Walk Where Jesus Walked

Mt. Carmel ~ Valley of Armageddon ~ Nazareth ~ Cana ~ Tiberias
Capernaum ~ Sea of Galilee ~ Jordan River ~ Bethlehem ~ Jerusalem
Via Dolorosa ~ Pool of Bethesda ~ The Upper Room ~ Garden of Gethsemane
Calvary ~ Garden Tomb

February 9 - 16, 2009

Ordained Clergy Familiarization Trip

{The Israel Board of Tourism is currently supplementing the travel cost of c
The clergy must agree to return and bring a tour group to Israel w
Now is a great time to take advantage of this offer!}

Ordained Clergy Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 7304

Base Price ~ Ordained Clergy - \$ 1,300.00 ~ Spouse - \$ 1,500.00
Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 {aprox. We will know exactly 45 days prior to trip. This amount may change.} ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 119.00 ~ Your travel to New York for Departure {we will be informed of which airport - J. F. Kennedy Airport is most likely}
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00}

Tour Package Includes:-

Airfare from New York, NY to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} ~ All entrance fees as per itinerary
Farewell dinner

November 9 - 16, 2009

Tour Pricing ~ Tour Group # 6409

Base Price ~ \$ 2,999.00 ~ Plus Airport/Fuel Taxes \$ 500.00 ~ {aprox. We will know exactly 45 days prior to trip. This amount may change.} ~ Tips \$ 150.00 ~ Insurance \$ 199.00
Double hotel occupancy

Early Bird Discount: Available for both tours

The discount is as follows:

\$75.00 discount for every passengers that send a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 9 months prior to departure date or
\$50.00 discount for every passengers that sent a deposit of \$250.00 no later than 6 months prior to departure date
Passports are required. Please secure your Passport ASAP

Tour Package Includes:

Airfare from Charlotte, NC to Tel-Aviv, Israel ~ English speaking guide service
Hotels & luggage service ~ Breakfast & dinner daily ~ Deluxe A/C Coach bus tour
Double hotel occupancy {for a single room add aprox. 400.00} ~ All entrance fees as per itinerary
Farewell dinner

A Non - Refundable deposit of \$ 250.00 is needed to secure a reservation.
Please make your deposit as soon as possible. Thank You.

Make all checks payable to:

Journey's Unlimited
494 8th Avenue, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10001
800-486-8359

Our travel agent is

Jayne Haynie
1-800-546-4777
Jhaynie22001@aol.com

www.5thgenerationministries.com

You may contact
Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch
5th Generation Ministries, Inc.
P. O Box 26768
Charlotte, NC 28221-6768

January 9, 2009

General Baptist State Convention of
North Carolina Incorporated



**2009 Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr., Banquet**
Embassy Suites
Charlotte-Concord
Concord, North Carolina

Saturday, January 10, 2009

**WOMAN'S BAPTIST
HOME AND FOREIGN
MISSIONARY
CONVENTION OF NC**

Auxiliary to GBSC



Concord, North Carolina
5400 John Q Hammonds Dr., NW
1-704-455-8200 Fax 1-704-435-8201



Dr. Haywood T.
Gray
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

One Day Session

Embassy Suites
Charlotte-Concord

How to Reach US

DR. GREGORY MOSS
(704) 334-5309

GBSC, Vice President at Large
DR. HOWARD PARKER
(252-756-4869

GBSC, 1st Vice President
DR. NILOUS AVERY
(704) 637-0954

GBSC, 2nd Vice President
DR. LEONZO LYNCH
704) 598-2219

GBSC, 3rd Vice President
DR. RICKY BANKS
(252) 335-5003

GBSC, 4th Vice President
DR. J. VINCENT TERRY
(919) 807-1194

GBSC Executive Sec/Treasurer
Dr. HAYWOOD GRAY
(919) 821-7466
gbscgray@bellsouth.net

GBSC, Christian Education
Coordinator
Baptist Informer Managing /Editor
MRS. PORTIA BRANDON
(919) 821-7466
gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net

GBSC, Chief Financial Coordinator
REV. SELMA HUNTER
(919) 821-7466

GBSC, Bookkeeper
MRS. DARCELLE MCNEILL
(919) 821-7466
gbscmcneill@bellsouth.net

GBSC, LAYMEN'S LEAGUE, PRESIDENT
MR THEODORE DAVID
(919) 264-0114

GBSC, USHER'S CONVENTION
PRESIDENT
MS. HELEN THOMPSON
(910) 488-5322

GBSC, CONGRESS PRESIDENT
MS. LULA GAINEY
(910) 728-8718

GBSC, MINISTER'S COUNCIL,
PRESIDENT
REV. JOE JACKSON
(919) 735-2274

GBSC, EVANGELISM CHAIRPERSON
DR. ROBERT MCGOWEN
(704) 376-8600

WBH & FMC, President
DR. BRONNIE H. DANIELS
(336) 767-6156

WBH & FMC
Executive Secretary Treasurer
DR. PRISCILLA BRODIE

October 26-28, 2009

2009 ANNUAL SESSION
Greenville Convention Center

303 Greenville Blvd SW
Greenville, NC 27834
(252) 321-7671

HOST PASTOR
Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.

HOST CHURCH
Sycamore Hill Baptist Church
1001 Hooker Rd
Greenville, NC 27834

Friday, January 8, 2010

2010 GBSC MLK BANQUET

Raleigh Convention Center

2 East South Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 831-6011 Phone

HOST PASTOR
Dr. William T. Newkirk, Sr.

HOST CHURCH
Oak City Baptist Church
608 Method Road
Raleigh, NC 27636

May 4-5, 2010

2010 MID YEAR SESSION

New Bern River Front
Convention Center
203 S Front St
New Bern, NC 28560
(252) 637-1551

HOST PASTOR
Dr. James L. Cooper

HOST CHURCH
First Baptist Church
New Bern, NC

October 25-27, 2010

**GBSC Annual
Session**

HOST PASTOR
Dr. Gregory K. Moss

HOST CHURCH
St Paul Baptist Church
1401 Allen St
Charlotte, NC 28205

May 5-6, 2009

**2009 MID YEAR
SESSION**

HOST PASTOR
Dr. J. C. Harris

HOST CHURCH
First Baptist Church
464 Garfield Street
Statesville, NC

From the Desk of the First Vice President

There is no greater love than that of Christ above, That made Him stoop to earth, become a Man, And by His death provide redemption's plan; There is no greater love.

—Peterson

Shepherds

Back then no one thought God would be interested in shepherds, or that shepherds would be interested in God. Shepherds were notoriously irreligious, ranked by the rabbis with prostitutes and other "habitual sinners." They were outcasts, barred from the synagogue and polite society. They assumed that God would never accept them, and they feared Him. But God spoke to them. I think He knew that these shepherds, like so many people who appear indifferent to spiritual things, were quietly longing for God.

(David H. Roper)

Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President
AveryRevKin@aol.com
(704) 637-0954



Dr. Nilous Avery, II

Peace to you all, and love with faith, from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the season when the world celebrates Christmas and the New Year in swift succession. Special attention is given to performing acts of compassion and embracing the angelic praise of "peace on earth among those whom God favors" (Luke 2:14, NRSV). Wouldn't it be nice if the hearts and minds of humankind were mobilized and energized to possess this mindset throughout the year?

The world now stands in between the time when the Lord came into the world and the time when He will come again. The Lord's appearing here on that night in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago provided a look at a mind-set that often plagues our world --- a mind-set of "no room." The savior of the world was born in an area usually set aside for the animals. There was "no room" for his family in that crowded town filled with people who had complied with Caesar Augustus' decree that all inhabitants of Rome's empire be registered.

This "no room" policy continued when King Herod received word that Messiah had been born in Bethlehem. Herod sent his soldiers to kill all the

children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under. Herod had a "no room" policy --- he would not tolerate any sharing of his throne.

Jesus often found Himself at odds with the political and religious leaders because of His passion for God and compassion for people. He placed human needs above tradition. He crossed lines and broke down barriers that alienated people because of their race, sex, status, and religion. He advocated the inclusion of all persons. As a result, Jesus was targeted for crucifixion because the political and religious leaders had a "no room" policy --- they would not tolerate any one defying their custom whose chief aim was to put and keep people "in their place."

Our world has a history of having a "no room" mind-set. Racism and sexism are twin cousins of evil, which seek to oppress others simply because of their skin color or gender. Whole segments of our population are often abandoned and isolated based upon their race, gender, economic status, creed, and/or religious and political beliefs. When Jesus comes again, will the "no room" policy still be in effect? Will this policy that faced Jesus when He was born as a child face Him as He returns as King?

Many have not made room for others because they have not made room for Jesus the Christ in their life. This season challenges us to lift the veil and tear down the walls that keep a "no room" mind-set in place.

- We must make room for the least, the lost, the lonely, the left out, the kept out, the locked out,

and the knocked out.

- We must make room for the frail, the fragile, and the forgotten.
- We must make room for the distressed, the depressed, and the oppressed.
- We must make room for the hapless, the helpless, the hopeless, and the homeless.

If we do not strive to make room for those who are God's beautiful creatures, should we be surprised if God meets us at the gates of the Eternal City and declares: "There is no room for you?!"

Beloved, let us make room throughout the year to support the goals and objectives of our General Baptist State Convention.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THE 141st ANNUAL SESSION IN OCTOBER WITH YOUR PRESENCE, PRAYERS, and SPECIAL GIFTS FOR STATE MISSIONS!

This is just the beginning of our efforts to make room as we "Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced" through your generous and continual support of State Missions.

God's grace and peace be with you all for a joyous Christmas and a fruitful, fulfilling, uplifting New Year. "May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all" (2 Thessalonians 3:18, NLT). ■

"Receiving God's Message"

Luke 2:20

Rev. Ricky Banks
Third Vice-President
pastorrickbanks@yahoo.com
(252) 335-5035

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen.

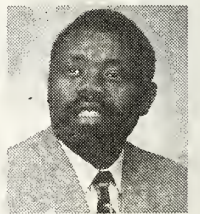
One of the fascinating things about the birth of Jesus is that we can compare the event as recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke relative to the Blessed event. This is very much like news reporting in our world today; one journalist, or reporter, includes some detail that another omits entirely. Or, one will see the same event in a slightly different light. Mark, the first to set the Gospel story in writing, does not

report the birth of Jesus at all. Instead of an infant narrative, John the Evangelist traces the Lord's existence to the beginning of creation. Matthew reports an encounter of Joseph with an angel who gave an advanced announcement of the Savior's Advent, as well as His eventual birth. But it was left to Luke to give us the narrative of the "Shepherds abiding in the fields," on the night that Christ was born. That the announcement of Jesus's birth was first made to such a group of lowly estate confirms that God loves all people without regard to status or position in society.

Anyone having been privileged to share the shepherds' heartwarming experience might have asked, "How does one respond to an experience like

that?" Luke states that these men responded in a most admirable way, for they returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. Thankfully, despite all of the negative

news so prevalent in these times, there is still the good news that the Savior is born. It is our task to become modern shepherds, heralding this news. In this celebration of the Savior's birth, let us receive God's message, and then pass it on to a distracted world. ■

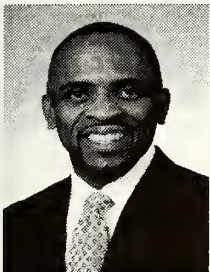


Rev. Ricky Banks

By Reverend Norman T. Davis
A Board Member of
Central Children's Home of NC

Renewing the Celebration of Holy Communion Through Congregational Song in the African American Baptist Church

Tony McNeill, Minister of Music and Arts



Friendship
Missionary
Baptist Church--
CHARLOTTE,
NC
3400 Beatties
Ford Road
Charlotte, NC
28216
tmcneill@friend-

shipcharlotte.org and tmcneill@the-call2worship.net

Introduction

Statement of the Ministry Problem

- Many African American Baptist congregations are stifled by a limited theology and practice of Holy Communion; usually approached as a "memorial" or "funeral"
- Communion may be perceived as an "add-on" to worship
- Some clergy, musicians and worship

From Funeral to Feast

leaders have a limited understanding outside the memorialistic view practiced in their local context

- Much of the congregational singing speaks only to: crucifixion, blood death and burial of Jesus Christ. Absent is the balance of congregational songs that speak to other dimension of what the Table represents.
- Clergy and worship leaders have allowed the emphasis on personal unworthiness and private introspection to dominate the motive for coming to the Table.

Purpose and Goals of Thesis Project

- To use scripture to justify a call for reorientation and to introduce other biblical and theological themes Communion provides for the church.
- Empower clergy and worship leaders to (re)discover the joy and festive character of Holy Communion
- To encourage responsible worship preparation for those charged to lead corporate worship in the African American Baptist Church
- To expose worship leaders to the wealth of hymns and congregational songs contained in the New National Baptist Hymnal, The African American Heritage Hymnal and New Wine in Old Wineskins that will aid in widening the

congregational view of Holy Communion

- Produce a worship-planning guide that offers congregational song selections and appropriate scriptures to expand possibilities in making Communion the feast it was intended.

A Summary of the Methodology for Confronting the Ministry Problem

- Recruit clergy and musicians from Baptist churches in Charlotte area to attend a four-week teaching series.
- Data will be collected in a variety of ways to include: Pre-test survey, Observations, one-on-one interviews, Post-test survey, in-class discussions

Toward a more biblical and theological approach to Communion:


- Aim to create/maintain a spirit of joy, unity and service during communion by celebrating one or more of the themes mentioned above.
- Pastors, musicians and church leaders must foster a discipline of collaborative preparation
- Use Scriptures/congregational songs to demonstrate how the Table extends itself into the various dimensions as explained above.
- Seek to incorporate songs that pro-

vide a view of the full sweep of salvation history.

- Create a COMMUNITY TABLE(S) in conjunction with the COMMUNION TABLE — where congregants bring canned goods, clothing or monetary gifts for missions in the local community and abroad
- Foster congregational singing during the distribution of Communion to elevate the tone of worship from self to story
- Music leaders must invest the time and energy in TEACHING congregational music IN WORSHIP
- Incorporate communion prior to a larger, fellowship meal (HOMECOMING, THANKSGIVING or CHRISTMAS).
- Communion at weddings should include the congregation — not just the bride and groom.
- Communion at a wake or funeral is an appropriate way to affirm the anticipatory notion of the Feast of Heaven.
- Holy Communion during the context of a church meeting, retreat, workshop or ministry gathering.
- Use Scriptures/congregational song to foster the inescapable link between Baptism and Communion



Dr. J. Vincent Terry



Baptist Informer
RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Date: _____

I am enclosing: (check one) Check Money Order

Check # or Money Order # _____ In the amount of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (____) _____

Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when to renew your subscription.

The Baptist Informer is produced and mailed around the first of each month. Individual subscriptions are \$20.00 per year.

Type of Change (please check)

New Subscription

Renewal

Address Change (include old address label)

Number of Years: (check one)

1 Year 2 Years

3 Years

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

General Baptist State Convention
603 S. Wilmington Street • Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 821-7466 • www.gbsc.org

Signature _____

Dr. Priscilla Brodie
WBH & FMC Executive Secretary-
Treasurer
pbrodie@wbhfm.org
(919) 833-4823
Mrs. Bronnie Daniels
(336) 767-6156



Bronnie Daniels

How quickly time has passed! For again do we find ourselves in the season which emphasizes CHRISTmas. Often we hear and sing the song, "Joy to the World," which mirrors Psalm 98.

Joy To The World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

—Isaac Watts

In a fashion this song reminds us of the many benefits God through Jesus Christ has given to the world, to us. God continues to give us because of His love for us. No one outgives Him. Christmas

"CHRISTMAS: God's Joy To The World"

demonstrates this. The question then arises to us out of the backdrop of Psalm 116:12-14, 16-17. What shall (we) render to the Lord, For all His benefits toward (us)? Will (we) take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord? Will (we) pay (our) vows to the Lord Now in the presence of all His people? Can we say, "O Lord, truly I am your servant, the son of your maidservant; you have loosed my bonds; I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord?" How great is Christmas to us Always! What shall we as individuals, Christian believers, the Body of Christ, the parachurch organizations (the Woman's Convention and GBSC) render to the Lord who made heaven and earth? The choice is ours. Will whatever we do give the glory to the Lord's name or to ourselves? Let us remember always it is the Lord who calls, sends, and enables, not we ourselves.

**WHAT JOY GOD GIVES!
HAVE A BLESSED AND MERRY
CHRISTMAS!**

UPON RETIREMENT

As of December 31, 2008, I am to retire officially as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC. Time comes and goes very swiftly. To God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) who called, enabled and sent me I give the glory, praise, and thanksgiving. To you who received and allowed me be a part of His missionary team (WBSC, GBSC, churches and state, national and global parachurch organizations) I say thanks. What a privilege!

Approximately six years ago in the "Baptist Informer" was an article, concerning my having given my publicly initial sermon in that I felt that God had placed upon me the calling to the preach-

ing ministry. However, since that time, it seems I was in error and that I am to remain basically in the teaching ministry. Thanks for the giving your assistance. Now may "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."



Dr. Priscilla Brodie

ONE-DAY SESSION

On Saturday, January 10, 2009, will be the One Day Session of the Woman's Baptist State Convention at the Concord Convention Center at Embassy Suites, 5400 John Q. Hammon Drive, Concord, NC 28027 beginning at 9:00 A.M. for Seniors, Young Adults and Youth. The Joint Assembly will open the session. Please pray now for the session and come. Also bring a sacrificial state mission contribution.

MISSIONS BUDGET

The Proposed Missions' Budget for 2008-2009, will be near \$802,200, will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

Please give more generously for State Missions than last year so that we can realize our State Missions Budget. In order to help us reach the State Missions Budget section, we earnestly suggest that you please give 25% to 50% more than the suggested quota or intended gift, or at least please see to it that 2/3 of the funds which you send go to State Mission. Out of State Missions come all funds needed for Annual Session, Retreats, Conferences, Youth Bible Camp, Leadership Training Conference, Workshops, printing, staff salaries and benefits, rental for facilities, office supplies, office equipment, office operations, postage and other unnamed essentials. Without your committed and generous gifts for State Missions hardly will the Woman's Convention be able to operate and minister in the name of Jesus Christ.

QUOTAS

Suggested financial quotas 2008-2009 should be sent out to church missionary circle presidents or a contact person. If your church does not receive a suggested quota by February 15, 2009, please write the Woman's Convention at P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Or contact the Convention Office immediately at (919) 833-4823. Please give us the name of contact person, mailing addresses, and telephone number, and the name and location of church. Missionary Union, Auxiliaries and District Conferences will receive quotas this year also. ■

The WBH&FMC United Central & Northern Assembly

Attendees: (All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts IV & VII)

"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand."

II Corinthians 1:24

Introductory Statement: For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state.

Purpose(s): To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings across the state (one setting per quarter)

To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through with the Woman's Convention

Date: February 7, 2009

Time: 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Place: Watts Chapel Baptist Church, 3703 Tryon Rd, Raleigh, NC 27606

District Chairperson:	Distric	Group	Chairperson
	4	1	Ms. Martha Joyce
	4	2	Mrs. Essie Haynes
	4	3	Reverend Mildred Chambers
	7	1	Mrs. Lou Degraffenneaid
	7	2	Mrs. Debra Brodie

Free Robes (with minimum order)

ROBES: CHOIR • CLERGY • CASSOCKS • ACADEMIC • GRADUATION
CLERGY SHIRTS • ALBS • STOLES • USHER'S UNIFORM BADGES - GLOVES •
EASTERN STAR WHITE DRESSES-GLOVES • PEW BIBLES • BAPTIST HYMNALS •
PARAMENTS • DISPOSABLE COMMUNION SETS

JAMES' HOUSE OF ROBES & UNIFORMS

*FREE: MEASUREMENTS • CATALOGS • DEMONSTRATIONS *Call for details

Phone/Fax 704-684-0677 OR 1-800-788-4070

Access Code 70 • Cell 704-222-6435

Email: james@jameshouseofrobes.com www.jameshouseofrobes.com

P.O. Box 2593 • Indian Trail, NC 28079

SUPPORT YOUR OWN...PLEASE!



Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.

Christian Education
Coordinator/
Managing Editor
(919) 821-7466

gbscbrandon@bell-
south.net

Portia H.
Brandon

portiaabrandon@hot-
mail.com

The Frieze Resource Library

The Frieze Resource Library is a collection of management and administrative resources that assist church and ministry leaders in organizing and operating God's house in a more "decent and orderly" manner. Each resource has been designed as a template that leadership can use to create their official organizational and operational manuals. Be a wise steward! These amazing resources will save you countless hours of time, as well as money, as you avoid recreating the wheel, when the wheel already exists. Join the thousands of other churches and ministries who have seen the light.

A Variety of Options

Five individual resources comprise the entire Frieze Resource Library. Each resource is available individually, in any combination with the others, or in total - comprising the complete Library. They can be purchased as hard copy manuals only, or in software (manual also included if requested). Software purchases are also available in multi-user developer and network user licenses.

Software Features

Each of the five resources in the software has been provided as a set of PDF (Portable Document Format) documents for easy use in reviewing, researching and printing. All five resources are tightly integrated with hyperlinks and common navigational tools.

The actual customizable working files of the resources (available in the applicable Microsoft Office file formats Word, Excel or Powerpoint) will be used to perform your own manual preparation work and create, save, and in the future, modify your own manuals.

Five individual resources comprise the entire Frieze Resource Library:

1. The POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL contains hundreds of operational policy and procedure examples. It is divided into six sections - Leadership and Management, Personnel, Financial, Facilities, General Administration and Ministry. All policies and procedures are presented in a consistent manner

The Frieze Resource Library

with section references and paragraph numbering. All Policy Statements are supported with scriptural references and most procedures are referenced to applicable form(s) that would be used to document the transaction or event. These forms are available in the Administrative Forms Manual resource as discussed in this section. Other helpful hyperlinks have been added throughout the resource to related policy sections and the Employee Handbook. This entire manual consists of three binders. However, each section or a combination of the six sections may be purchased. Summary of Policy & Procedure Examples Found in this Manual

Section I - Leadership and Management:
Code of Ethics, Volunteer Oversight, Prevention of Children and Youth Abuse, Conflict-of-Interest, Conflict Resolution, Disaster Management and Recovery, Fraud Prevention, Privacy of Information, and many more. Over 150 resource pages.

Section II - Personnel:

- 19 Employment Policies
- 15 Compensation Policies
- 49 Workplace Guideline Policies
- 29 Benefit Policies
- Performance Review Policies
- Salary and Wage Administration Plan
- Over 140 resource pages.

Section III - Financial:

Effective System of Internal Controls, General Accounting System, Budgeting, Contributions, Purchasing, Cash Disbursements, Cash Management and Reserves, Investments, Fixed Assets, Long-Term Debt, Fiscal Reporting, Governmental Reporting Obligations, Year-End Closing and many more. Over 270 resource pages.

Section IV - Facilities:

Housekeeper and Maintenance Program, Safety and Protection, Security, Use of Facilities, Weddings and Receptions, Use of Vehicles, Service Contracts, Insurance and many more. Over 130 resource pages.

Section V - General Administration:

Record Retention, Communication and Media, Telephone Usage and Message Services, Copyright Infringement, Computer Services; Official Website, Bookstore, Food Service and many more. Over 140 resource pages.

Section VI - Ministry:

Worship Services, Intercessory Prayer, Ushering, Music, Counselors, Preschool, Children, Youth, Adults, Christian School, Benevolence, Activities Center, World Missions and

many more. Over 275 resource pages.

2. The ADMINISTRATIVE FORMS MANUAL includes a vast assortment of illustrative forms, reports, worksheets, checklists, etc., which support the various operations of the church. Thirteen separate administrative sections have been created to facilitate easy reference and use of the documentation. Specific forms are easily located by means of a separate table of contents for each section. Each form is assigned a different number for referencing purposes. These forms can be used "as is" or modified by use of the optional software.

These forms are also referenced (hyperlinked in the software) directly to the practices and guidelines as outlined in the Policies and Procedures Manual mentioned in this section.

Summary of Administrative Forms Found In This Manual

This manual consists of two binders which includes over 650 forms, reports, worksheets, checklists, etc. Following are the thirteen sections of the manual, examples of forms and the actual number of forms in each.

Accounting - Cash Receipts Count Summary, Acknowledgement of Non-Cash Gifts, Purchase/Funds Request, Check Request, Time Sheets, Employee Monthly Expense Report, Year-End Accounting Checklist, etc. Includes 99 forms.

Budgeting - Budget Timetable, Budget Request Worksheet, New Program Budget Request, Personnel Budget for Staff, Justification for Budget Projections, etc. Includes 43 forms.

Computer Services - Evaluation of Computer Software, Computer Processing Request, Internet Access, Summary of Standard Processing Deadlines, etc. Includes 23 forms.

Financial Reporting - Weekly Cash Report, Monthly Statement of Cash Flow, Budget to Actual Financial Comparisons, Recurring Reporting Requirements, etc. Includes 19 forms.

Food Services - Food Service Request, Charge-Out Worksheet, Wednesday Evening Dinner Setup Checklist, Food Service Cleaning Schedule, etc. Includes 17 forms.

General Administration - Master Planning Sheet, Calendar of Events Request, General Meeting Agenda, Record Retention/Disposal Authorization, File Retrieval Log, etc. Includes 35 forms.

Legal - Permission and Medical Consent, Activity Participation Agreement, Debt Covenant Review,

Watch Night Services

The Watch Night Services that we celebrate in Black communities today can be traced back to gatherings on December 31, 1862, also known as Freedom's Eve. On that night, Blacks came together in churches and private homes, anxiously awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation actually had become law. Then, at the stroke of midnight, it was January 1, 1863, and all slaves in the Confederate States were declared legally free. Blacks have gathered in churches annually on New Year's Eve ever since, praising God for bringing us through another year.

Checklist of Insurance Safeguards, Photography/Video Release, etc. Includes 25 forms.

Management - Project Planning Sheet, Ministry Event Evaluation, Conflict-of-Interest Questionnaire, Notification of Minister's Housing Allowance, Delegation Planning Sheet, Disaster Assessment Worksheet, etc. Includes 54 forms.

Media Services - Services Request, Bulletin Announcement Request, Audio Tape Order, Production Services Request, etc. Includes 17 forms.

Minister's Taxes/Financial Planning - Annual Financial Plan, Specific

(FRIEZE, cont. page 20)

Mrs. Michelle Obama speaks to the GBSC

**141th Annual Session
General Baptist State
Convention of North
Carolina, Inc.**

**HOST PASTOR
DR. JOHN D. FULLER, SR.**

**HOST CHURCH
LEWIS CHAPEL MISSION-
ARY BAPTIST CHURCH
FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH
CAROLINA**

**Wednesday,
October 30, 2008**

**Mrs. Michelle Obama
speaks to
THE GENERAL BAPTIST
STATE CONVENTION**



Wednesday, October 29, 2008

The wife of Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama urged an audience of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated and church leaders to help elect a candidate whose Christian values would lead him to help his fellow man.

"I come here today as a Christian, a person of faith who believes we've all been called to serve our fellow men and women and honor all of God's creation," Michelle Obama told about 1,000 delegates attending the General Baptist State Convention, the state's largest association of black Baptists. "I also come here as a wife, who loves my husband and I believe my husband will be an extraordinary president."

She described how her husband's mother died at 53 of ovarian cancer, and how her last days included battling with insurance companies reluctant to cover her treatment. She said she and her husband have known tough times, and can better relate to

the struggles of Americans today.

"Don't we deserve a president with that kind of experience?" she said. "Barack Obama gets it because he's been there."

After Barack Obama earned his law degree from Harvard, he could



Mrs. Michelle Obama embraces Dr. Gregory K. Moss, President, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated



have taken a high-paid job on Wall Street, she said. Instead, he went to Chicago to help a community shaken by factory closings. She cited the Gospel of Luke, which says that to whom much is given, much is expected.

"We have been given so many blessings in our lives and we have a responsibility to give back to the country and the communities that nourished us and made our lives possible," she said. "It's a promise that we made to God. We accept His blessing with the condition that we have to share them."

In Rocky Mount, Michelle Obama urged residents to cast an early ballot for her husband.

"If you vote early, you won't have to worry if you get sick, or if the weather is bad, or if something comes

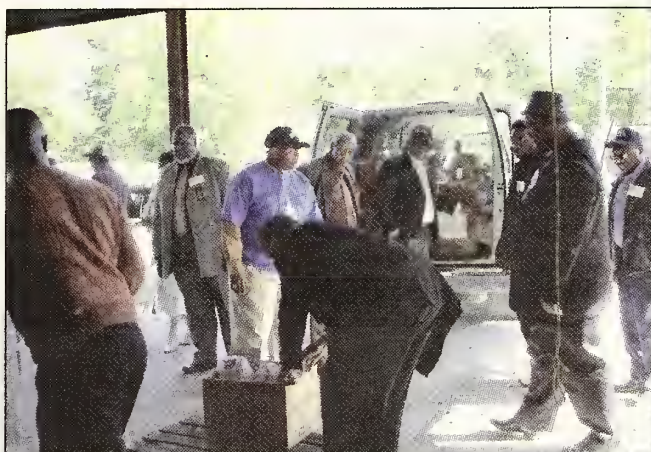


up," she said. "You can no longer say, 'I can't make it.' Not this time."

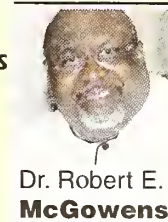
An Associated Press-GfK poll released Wednesday showed Barack Obama in a dead heat with Republican candidate John McCain among likely voters. If Obama wins the state, he would be the first Democrat to capture North Carolina's electoral votes since Jimmy Carter in 1976.

The survey found 90 percent of likely voters said they worried about North Carolina's current economic conditions and 72 percent are worried about their family's finances. Voters in the survey give Obama an edge on economic issues.

North Carolina's black voters have been one of the Democratic Party's most faithful constituents, and Michelle Obama was clearly among friends as she spoke to the convention. The Baptist group counts about 500,000 members in 1,600 churches across the state, convention president Gregory K. Moss Sr. said. (The Associated Press)



Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens
GBSC
Evangelism
Chairperson



Dr. Robert E. McGowens

Rev. Anthonette Wright, M.Div.
GBSC
Recording
Secretary
Evangelism
Ministry



Rev. Anthonette Wright

"...Sir, we would see Jesus." (KJV)

The 141st Annual Session of the GBSC

Here in the midst of recession, heartache, pain, hunger and famine, there is still a cry to see Jesus. Desire to see Jesus brings peace in the middle of storms. Desire to see Jesus bring relief for hardships. Desire to see Jesus gives strength for the journey. Desire to see Jesus brings about a change for hard times. A desire to see Jesus!

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina contin-

ues to adhere to the clarion call. Dr. Robert McGowens, GBSC Evangelism Chairperson and the Evangelism Ministry took hold of the mission to share Jesus to the world. During the 141st Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention, more than 100 volunteers gathered together to fulfill this charge. After collecting non-perishable items from various communities in Cumberland and surrounding areas, volunteers

departed from the Lewis Chapel Baptist Church to disperse more than 3000 pounds of food to the Second Harvest Food Bank in Fayetteville, North Carolina. At the same time, volunteers took part in feeding more than 300 homeless persons at the Salvation Army. Efforts will not end there. At every opportunity mission work will continue.

If we are to be the servants that Christ has commissioned us to be,

then not only should we want to see Jesus, but also help someone else to see Him too! So as we journey through this land, singing as we go. Let's help to point souls to Calvary, to the crimson flow. Many arrows may pierce our souls from without and within. But our LORD will lead us on, and through Him, we will win. "Oh, I want to see Him, look upon His face. There to sing forever of His saving grace. On the streets of glory let me lift my voice. Cares all past, home at last, ever to rejoice." ■



2009 GBSC Calendar

Equipping the Saints for the
WORK OF MINISTRY

January 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season
Epiphany and First Sunday Following...
White (gold)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day Emancipation Proclamation 1863 Slave Trade abolished 1808	2	3
4	5 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity founded 1914	6	7 W.B. Purvis, 1890 Black inventors, invented the fountain pen	8	9 GBSC MLK Banquet Embassy Suites Hotel Resort & Convention Center Concord, NC	10 WBH & FMC One Day Session Embassy Suites Hotel Resort & Convention Center Concord, NC
11	12	13 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority founded 1913	14 Congress Program Committee Meeting Fayetteville	15 Dr. M.L. King Jr., Born 1929	16	17 Usher's Executive Board Meeting-Baptist Headquarter-10:00 am
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observed National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	20 Inauguration Day National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	21 National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	22 National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	23 National Bapt Conv USA Winter Board Meeting Nashville, TN	24
25	26	27	28	29 Oprah Winfrey Born 1954	30	31 Amendment Abolishing slavery passed by Congress 1865

February 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season Pre-Lenten Sunday... Green
Lenten Sunday... Violet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Super Bowl Sunday Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week	2 Groundhog Day Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week	3 Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week	4 Rosa Parks born 1913 Shaw's Religious Emphasis Week	5	6	7 WBH & FMC Executive, & Program Committee-TBA WBH & FMC United Central & Northern Assembly TBA
8	9	10	11	12 NAACP Founded 1909	13	14 St Valentine Day Congress One Day Session 8:00 AM
15	16 President's Day	17	18 Morehouse College founded 1867	19	20	21
22 Washington's Birthday	23 Frederick M. Jones Invented the Thermostat control, 1960	24	25 Ash Wednesday	26	27	28 Ushers' Convention One Day Session-TBA 9:00 am
		CIAA tournament Charlotte	CIAA tournament Charlotte	CIAA tournament Charlotte	CIAA tournament Charlotte	CIAA tournament Charlotte

March 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season Palm Sunday... Violet (Red)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Robert F. Flemming, Jr Invented the Guitar 1886	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins	9 NC A&T University founded 1891	10	11	12	13	14 Laymen's League Study Commission Juiper Level Baptist Church Ushers' Executive Board mtg 10:00 am
15	16 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference	17 St. Patrick's Day Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference	18 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference	19 Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference	20 First Day of Spring Shaw Divinity School Ministers' Conference	21 Congress State-Wide VBS Clinic Hamlet, NC 9AM
22	23	24	25	26	27 WBH & FMC Executive Board & meeting	28
29	30 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority founded 1923	31				

April 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season Lenten Sundays... Violet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4 WBH & FMC Statewide Leaders wkshp, St Paul Church, Charlotte
5 Palm Sunday	6	7 J C Smith University founded 1867 Burrigde & Marshman Invented the Typewriter, 1885	8	9 Maundy Thursday	10 Good Friday	11 Laymen's League Mid-Annual Session Spelman College founded 1883
12 Easter	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 American Baptist Churches of the South Richmond, VA	21 American Baptist Churches of the South Richmond, VA	22 American Baptist Churches of the South Richmond, VA	23 American Baptist Churches of the South Richmond, VA	24 American Baptist Churches of the South Richmond, VA	25
26	27 Coretta Scott King Born 1927	28	29	30		

May 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season, Sundays after Easter... White

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 WBH & FMC Ministers' Wives & Widows, Weekend Retreat, TBA
3	4 J. W. Smith Invented the Lawn sprinkler 1897	5 GBSC Mid-Year Session Statesville, NC	6 GBSC Mid-Year Session Statesville, NC	7 J. W. Winters Invented the Fire escape ladder 1878	8	9 Shaw U Comm- 11:00 am WBH & FMC Executive Committee 10:00 am, Program Committee 12:00- Bapt Headquarter
10 Mother's Day Nelson Mandela becomes President of South Africa 1994	11	12	13	14	15	16 Laymen's League Mini-Skill Conference Ushers' Executive Board mtg-Bapt Headquarters- 10:00 am
17	18	19 L. A. Burr Invented the Lawn mower 1889	20	21	22	23 WBH & FMC United Southern Assembly TBA. 9:30 am
24	25 MEMORIAL DAY	26 Congress passed the Voting Rights Bill	27	28	29 GBSC Congress Officer Planning Session Fayetteville, NC- 4:00pm	30
31						

June 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season, Pentecost... Red, Trinity Sunday... White
First Sunday Following Trinity Sunday... White Other Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Democratic Senator Barack Obama, 1st Black Man presidential nominee of a major US political party- 2008	4	5	6 WBH & FMC Young Adult Retreat, TBA
7	8	9	10 Thomas W. Stewart Invented the Mop 1893	11	12 Civil rights leader Medgar Evers is shot dead	13 Laymen's League Study Commission TBA
14 Flag Day	15	16	17 Author James Weldon Johnson Born 1871	18	19	20 WBH & FMC United East Assem- 9:30 The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh Central Children's Home Day - 10:00 am
21 Father's Day	22 The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh	23 The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh	24 The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh	25 The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh	26 The National Baptist Congress Of Christian Education, Detroit, MI The 55th Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar Shaw U, Raleigh	27
28	29	30 Grammy Award winning Jazz singer Lena Horn Born 1917				

July 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Civil Rights Bill passed by Congress 1964	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10 Laymen's League Men & Boys Retreat TBA	11
12	13	14 John Standard received a patent for the Refrigerator 1891	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season Sundays After Trinity Sunday... Green

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Central Children's Home Family & Friends Day- 11:00 am
2 Central Children's Home Alumni Reunion	3	4 Barack Obama Born 1961	5	6	7	8
9	10 Lott Carey Baptist Convention, Raleigh, NC	11 Lott Carey Baptist Convention, Raleigh, NC	12 Lott Carey Baptist Convention, Raleigh, NC	13 Lott Carey Baptist Convention, Raleigh, NC	14 Halle Berry born 1968 Lott Carey Baptist Convention, Raleigh, NC	15 Ushers' Exec Board Mtg- 10:00 am Central Children's Home Day
16 Actress Angela Bassett Born 1958	17	18	19	20 First African slaves arrive in Jamestown, VA- 1619	21	22 Laymen's League Scouting Camporee
23	24	25	26	27	28 The "March on Washington" & Dr. ML King, Jr. "I Have A Dream King- 1963	29
30	31					

September 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season. Sundays After Trinity
Sunday... Green

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Grammy Award Winning singer Beyonce born 1981	5
6	7 Labor Day The Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc Memphis, TN	8 The Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc Memphis, TN	9 The Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc Memphis, TN	10 The Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc Memphis, TN	11 The Annual Session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc Memphis, TN	12 Laymen's League Men's Retreat WBH & FMC Executive meeting 10:00 & Program Committee meeting 12:00 Baptist Headquarter
13 Grandparents' Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 FW Leslie invented the envelope seal, 1891	22 First Day of Autumn	23	24	25 Grammy Award winning actor Will Smith born 1968	26 WBH & FMC Family Missions Conference 1 st Bapt Church West Charlotte, NC
27	28 National Baptist Convention organized 1895	29 National Urban League founded 1910	30			

October 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season, Sundays After Trinity
Sunday, Green, Harvest Festival, Reformation Sunday, Red

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Activist Rev Al Sharpton Born 1954
4	5	6	7 Desmond Tutu born 1931 1st elected, ordained, African Anglican Archbishop, Cape Town, South Africa	8	9 Shaw U Founder's Day Convocation	10 WBH & FMC Institute Workers' Workshop Baptist Headq-10:00 am
11 Alexander Miles invented the electric elevator, 1887	12 Columbus Day	13	14 Popular singer Usher born 1978	15	16 <u>National Boss Day</u>	17 GBSC-Organized 1867
18 Ushers' Executive Board mtg. 10:00am	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 American Legion Pilgrimage Central Children's Home Day	26 T. Marshall Invented the Fire extinguisher 1872 GBSC Annual Session Greenville, NC	27 GBSC Annual Session Greenville, NC	28 GBSC Annual Session Greenville, NC	29	30	31

November 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season, Harvest Festival...
Red, Thanksgiving and All Saints Day... Red Sundays
in Advent... Violet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends	2 World Day of Prayer (BWA-Woman Dept)	3	4	5 Shirley Chisholm becomes the first Black American woman to be elected to the US Congress. 1968	6	7 WBH & FMC Youth Evangelism Conf TBA Ushers' Exec Board Mtg 10:00 am
8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day Alexander Miles Invented the Elevator 1867	12 Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority founded 1922	13 Academy Award winning actress Comedian Whoopi Goldberg Born 1949	14 WBH & FMC-Exec Committee 8:45 am, Exec Board, 10:00 am YBC & LTC Meeting Baptist Headquarter
15	16	17 Omega Psi Phi Fraternity founded 1911	18	19	20 Garrett Morgan Invented the Traffic light, 1923	21 Shaw University founded 1865
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30 S. R. Scrutton Invented the Curtain rod 1889					

December 2009

Liturgical Colors for the Season, Harvest Festival...
Red Thanksgiving and All Saints Day... Red, Sundays
in Advent... Violet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <u>AIDS Awareness Day</u>	2	3	4 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity founded 1906	5 National Council of Negro women organized 1935
6	7	8	9	10 O. Dorsey Invented the Door knob 1878	11	12 Laymen's League Study Commission Mt Peace MBC
13 Academy Award winning Actor Jamie Foxx born 1967	14	15 CME Church founded 1870	16	17	18	19
20	21 <u>First Day of Winter</u>	22	23 Madam C.J. Walker First female millionaire Born 1867	24	25 Christmas Day	26
27	28 Academy Award winning Actor Denzel Washington Born 1954	29	30 Sarah Boone Invented The ironing board, 1887	31 New Year's Eve Watch Night		



Lula Gainey
President

SENIOR DIVISION

Ms. Lula
Gainey

1. Ask not what God can do for you; ask what you can do for God.
2. My biggest challenge.
3. Why church is so important to me.
4. Not my will but your will be done.
5. How to become popular!
6. What should Christian teens believe about creation and science?
7. How can I write an evolution assignment, when I don't believe in evolution
8. Safe sex is not safe.
9. The importance of integrity.

2009-2010 Oratorical Topics

10. To convince the unconvinced to be convinced through fellowship.

JUNIOR DIVISION

1. If not now, "when?"
2. My hero in the religious world is...
3. Watcha know about that!
4. Where do I go from here?
5. Turn around!
6. Is it OK to play guitars in the church?
7. How to make friends.
8. Learn some cool new words.
9. To have religion or be religious!
10. I do not participate in hurtful gossip.

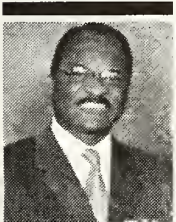
PREPARATORY DIVISION

1. Be real.
2. All people are created equally.
3. How would the world be different if everybody was truly caring?
4. Give thanks.
5. Blessed.
6. Who, what, when, where, why and how!
7. Dancing for Jesus.
8. Do you see what I see?
9. God will do the rest.
10. What you want is what you are going to get.

The giving of gifts is not something man invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His son.

Robert Flatt

Laymen's League



Theodore David
President NC
Laymen's League

Theodore
David

TIPS FOR MEMBERS

- ~ Never be late for the meeting. You may be needed to complete a quorum.
- ~ Never sit in the rear. Leave the rear seats for the late ones.
- ~ Never say "I move you." Omit the "you."
- ~ Never say "I make a motion to...." say "I move to.."
- ~ Never wait to obtain the floor in order to second a motion.
- ~ Never stand while another is speaking.
- ~ Never fail to take part in the debate if you have a viewpoint to express, or want information or parliamentary assistance.
- ~ Never claim the floor the second time, if there are others who wish to speak the first time.
- ~ Never be silent during the debate and then criticize after the meeting.
- ~ Never speak on a motion while the voting is being counted or taken.
- ~ Never address a woman chairman as chairlady - say "Madam Chairman."
- ~ Never carry on a conversation with your neighbor while someone is speaking.
- ~ Never forget to notify the chairman of a committee of which you are a member if you cannot attend a committee meeting.
- ~ Never delay paying your dues on time.
- ~ Never accept an office unless you are willing to assume the responsibilities of the office.
- ~ Never use your knowledge of parliamentary law to hinder business by constantly raising points of order and insisting upon the strict observance of every rule at a meeting in which the majority of the members have no knowledge of these rules.
- ~ Never leave the meeting, unless necessary, until the president/chairperson declares the meeting adjourned. You may be needed for the quorum or something very important may come up at the last minute.

TIPS FOR THE PRESIDING OFFICER

- ~ Start the meeting on time (a quorum being present) - ten minutes grace may be allowed. If no quorum is present, start the meeting anyhow. The business will be held over until later when late arrivals will make up the quorum. The membership will take note that meetings start on time and will respond accordingly.
- ~ Never stand during debate or while a report is being given.
- ~ Never take part in debate while you are in the Chair. If you must speak, turn the chair over to the vice-president; do not return to the Chair until the vote has been taken.
- ~ Never allow members to deal in personalities while debating.
- ~ Never say "I think," "I appoint," "It is my opinion," etc., but say "The Chair thinks," "The Chair appoints," "It is the opinion of the Chair," etc.
- ~ Never say "You are out of order," when you mean "The motion is out of order."
- ~ Never strike with the gavel any harder than necessary to attract the attention of the members. Standing very quietly may accomplish surprising results.
- ~ Never lose your calmness, objectivity, or impartiality.

There are two hundred and fifty six names given in the Bible for the Lord Jesus Christ, and I suppose this was because He was infinitely beyond all that any one name could express.

(UNKNOWN)

Serving as a Church Usher

Ms. Helen Thompson
President



The Ministry of Ushering

One of the great ministry of the church is ushering. Paul, who believed in the power of preaching, the importance of teaching, and the ministry of music, also wrote, "Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way" (1 Corinthians 14:40). Ushers are given the responsibility of tending to the details of each service so that it is conducted in an orderly fashion.

USHERS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Ushers in the Old Testament tabernacle and later in the temple were called doorkeepers. The psalmist, writing for the director of music in the temple, understood the importance of ushers when he said, "How lovely is your dwelling place. O Lord Almighty! ... Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.... Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked" (Psalm 84:1, 4, 10). One of the functions of doorkeepers in the Old Testament was to receive the collections from the people. We read in 2 Kings 22:4, "Go up to Hilkiah the high priest and have him get ready the money that has been brought into the temple of the Lord, which the doorkeepers have collected from the people." The Old Testament chronicler spoke of Shallum and his "fellow gatekeepers," who were "responsible for guarding the entrance to the dwelling of the Lord" (1 Chronicles 9:19). The preacher in Ecclesiastes wrote about the day "when the keepers of the house tremble" (Ecclesiastes 12:3). And in Ezekiel's vision of a future temple, he saw space reserved for the priests, the musicians, and two sets of ushers—"the priests who have charge of the temple" and "the priests who have charge of the altar" (Ezekiel 40:45-46).

USHERS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

In the New Testament the temple ushers were given unusual authority, evidently as uniformed guards. In the book of Acts, "the captain of the temple" and "the officers" are referred to several times in connection with arrests and general handling of the crowds. It was these doorkeepers, or ushers, who carried out the high priest's orders in the persecu-

tions against the apostles immediately following Pentecost and thirty years later in the arrest and maltreatment of Paul.

Jesus used his disciples as ushers on many occasions. They prepared the way for his coming, they introduced people to him, and they directed the people who had come to hear him speak or to be touched by his healing hands. On one

be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word. This proposal pleased the whole group" (Acts 6:2-5). The character of these first deacons is spelled out

5:13, emphasis added). And Paul said, "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6). A good usher adds a tang of joy rather than a tinge of drabness to a churchgoer's Sunday worship experience. Also, the ministry of an usher is like salt because salt can never do its work until it is brought into close contact with the substance on which it is to make its influence. The church ushers, pastors, musicians, and teachers come into direct contact with more people in a given service than anyone else who ministers to them. The ministry of salt is silent, inconspicuous, and sometimes completely unnoticed. But it is there—in a powerful and useful way.

Also, a good usher, like "a city on a hill" (Matthew 5:14), becomes a landmark to churchgoers who learn to depend on him. Stability helps overcome other weaknesses an usher may have. The first glimpse of an usher on whom a churchgoer has come to depend brings an internal sense of welcome repose. The churchgoer thinks, "Someone is on hand who is interested in me!" It's not uncommon for an usher to become an adviser, a source of information, or, better yet, an intermediary between the needs of a specific person and the resources available through the pastor, musicians, and teachers of the church.

Third, a good usher is like a lamp. Jesus said, "Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house" (Matthew 5:15). A lamp brings warmth and welcome to all who are in the room. One shining candle can brighten the conversation in a room and bring an inner feeling of warmth and joy. Just as a lamp dispels the darkness and brings emotional warmth to a room, so the ministry of an usher can make a similar intangible contribution to all who experience the light he allows to shine through himself.

Jesus concluded his discussion on godly character by saying, "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). The nature of Christian character is to radiate; it cannot help but shine. The radiance of this glory is not for "self" but for the kingdom of God. The ministry of an usher is not intended to bring glory to himself but to God. Just as a pastor preaches in the Spirit and a musician sings in the Spirit, the usher must do his work in the power of the Holy Spirit, bringing glory to God in the Lord's house on the Lord's Day.

Serving as a Church Usher by Dr. Leslie Parrott

CONTENTS	
Preface	7
How to Use This Guide	9
1. The Ministry of Ushering	13
<i>Preaching, Teaching, Music, and Ushering</i>	
<i>Ushers in the Old Testament</i>	
<i>Ushers in the New Testament</i>	
<i>What Makes a Good Usher?</i>	
<i>Why Ushers Are So Important</i>	
<i>An Usher's Prayer</i>	
<i>An Usher's Commission</i>	
<i>Questions for Reflection and Discussion</i>	
2. The Functions of an Usher	25
<i>Three Areas of Concentration</i>	
<i>Ambassador of Kindness</i>	
<i>Seating People</i>	
<i>The Church Offering</i>	
<i>Miscellaneous Functions</i>	
<i>Questions for Reflection and Discussion</i>	
3. An Usher's Standard of Excellence	43
<i>The Personality of a Church</i>	
<i>A More Excellent Way</i>	
<i>Exhibiting the Fruit of the Spirit</i>	
<i>Sacred Moments</i>	
<i>Equipment and Supplies</i>	
<i>Questions for Reflection and Discussion</i>	

occasion Jesus gave a sharp warning to the disciples, who as ushers had endeavored to keep children away from him. On still another occasion Jesus directed the disciples in organizing a congregation of five thousand men plus women and children to be seated in groups of fifty. Then, with Jesus supplying the unending loaves and fish, the disciples served the hungry multitude.

The first church board also served as ushers: "So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, It would not

clearly.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD USHER?

The three qualities of Christlike people expounded by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount are exemplified in the ministry of church ushers. First, the ministry of ushering is like salt that makes everything more palatable and serves as a general preservative against deterioration. Jesus did not say, "You ought to be the salt of the earth"; he said, "You are the salt of the earth" (Matthew

Two "AIM" Forums planned for 2009



AIM Chairman Smith receives Award for 20 years of Prison Ministry



Dr. T. Saulsberry, Rev. Smith at Liberty Baptist in Atlanta, Ga.



Rev. Smith, Dr. J Sherman Pelt, Dr. Terry Saulsberry

AIM Chairmen Michael R. Smith, Sr. and Melvin Solomon are planning to have two Anti-Crime and Incarceration Forums in 2009. The two forums will take in eastern and western parts of the state. The purpose of these forums will be to continue promoting biblically based strategies in responding to the crime and incarceration crisis. Secondly, to help churches become more aware of the effective ministry efforts going on around the state. Thirdly, to provide on-going education and training opportunities for churches seeking to get more involved. These forums will be one day sessions and will be held at a local church. The specific place, date, and time for each forum will be announced in early 2009 in the Baptist Informer. It is critical for our convention to promote the need for more involvement in response to crime and incarceration in lieu of the devastating effects we are seeing in our communities. Start praying now for these two forums.

Chairman Smith led a prison ministry seminar during the Christian Education and Urban Ministries Leadership Conference at Liberty Baptist Church (Dr. J. Sherman Pelt, Pastor) in Atlanta, Georgia on October 28, 2008.

"OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD" PREACHING SERIES
Invite Chairman Smith or Vice Chairman Solomon to come to your church or association to share biblical messages regarding the Church's response to crime and incarceration. Also training is available to equip you to serve more effectively.

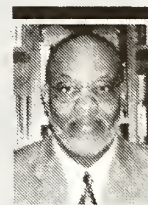
*Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
Holidays!*

Prison Ministry
AIM CONTACT
INFORMATION

Chairman Michael R. Smith,
Sr. - O - 202 353-8053 /
CP - 919 349-5686

Email - mrsmithgbsc@aol.com
& mrsmith@bop.gov

Vice-Chairman Melvin B.
Solomon - CP - 910 724-3139
/ Church - 252 492-3834
Email - smb04@doc.state.nc.us



Michael R.
Smith

**A.W. Tozer
says that people who are
crucified with
Christ have
three distinct
marks:**

- 1. they are facing only one direction,**
- 2. they can never turn back, and**
- 3. they no longer have plans of their own**

(FRIEZE, cont. from page 11)

Financial Goals Checklist, Computation of Minister's Housing Allowance, Location of Important Documents/Instructions, etc. Includes 28 forms.

Ministry Services - Family Data Request, Spiritual Gifts Ministry Opportunities, Volunteer Application, Child Care Request, Benevolence Assistance, Funeral Arrangements, Ministry Interests Survey, etc. Includes 107 forms.

Personnel - Application for Employment, Reference Checks, Screening Forms, Payroll Authorization, Employee Orientation Checklist, Travel Arrangements, Leave Authorization, Service Agreement, Employee Evaluations, Accident Investigation Report, etc. Includes 93 forms.

Property and Equipment - Request for Use of Facilities, Room Setup Request, Facilities Work Request, Preventive Maintenance Inspection Report, Custodial Daily Work Checklist, Request for Vehicle Use, Vehicle Driver Application, etc. Includes 89 forms.

3. The ORGANIZATIONAL MANUAL has been designed to aid in the effective and efficient functioning of staff, ministry groups and church members; assist church leadership in sound decision making; optimize the fulfillment of the church's ministry purposes and goals; and have in written form necessary ministry guidelines in one place for quick and easy reference.

This manual will serve to bring the entire organizational structure of the church together in one concise manner. This orderly presentation will greatly assist all levels of church leadership in properly organizing and operating His local church. It will serve as an effective means for communicating to church members and training new staff members.

The manual consists of two binders which includes over 720 pages of organizational resource examples. All examples have been created in a consistent format. Each can be used "as is" or modified to complement your ministry! A resource ready for immediate use and great for future referencing purposes as the ministry grows.

Summary of Important Contents of This Manual

Primary Governing Documents

- Articles of Incorporation (Charter)
- Bylaws (Constitution)

Philosophy of Ministry

- Mission Statement, Purpose Statement, Doctrinal Statement, Ministry Priorities and Ministry Distinctives and Core Values

Organizational Charts

- Detailed charts of leadership and ministries (Council of Elders, Oversight Groups, Committees and Ministry Teams)

- Detailed charts of staff (Executive Staff, Ministry Department Heads and Support Staff)

Leadership Position Descriptions

- Lay Ministry Leaders (i.e., Elder, Deacon, Class Teachers, Church Hostess, Men's Ministry Coordinator, Nursery and Toddler Coordinator, Youth Leadership). - Includes over 70 positions.
- Ministerial Staff (i.e., Senior Minister, Executive Minister, Minister of Children, Minister of Education, Minister of Evangelism, Minister of Youth). - Includes 24 positions.

- Staff Associates, Directors and Coordinators (i.e., Director of Business Affairs, Director of Choirs, Director of Counseling, Director of Facilities, Director of Media, Director of Orchestra, Director of Personnel, Office Manager). - Includes over 30 positions.

- Support Staff Positions (includes descriptions for numerous secretary positions, finance office staff, music/audio/visual staff, facilities staff, food service staff, child care staff, Christian school staff, etc.). - Includes over 70 positions.

Ministry Descriptions

- Council of Elders, Deacon Fellowship and Ministry Oversight Groups

- Committees - Advisory, Standing and Ad Hoc (i.e., Facilities, Finance, Information Systems, Internal Auditing/Safety, Insurance, Money Counters, Planned Giving, Personnel, Strategic Planning, Transportation, Works of Service). - Includes over 25 descriptions.

- Ministry Teams (i.e., Altar Counselors, Adults, Baptism, Benevolence, Children, Evangelism and Outreach, Financial Counseling, Hospitality, Men, Missions, Prayer, Support Groups, Ushers, Weekday Education, Women, Youth). Includes over 50 descriptions.

4. The INTERNAL AUDIT CHECKLISTS have been designed to provide a means for reviewing the internal workings of the ministry on a periodical basis. This resource explains how to establish an effective Internal Audit Committee for your ministry and provides specific responsibilities and duties for the committee. Actual comprehensive internal audit checklists are provided for the committee's use. The checklists are designed for immediate use, but a separate "How to Use Checklists" section has been prepared to assist in more

effectively using them. Why spend a countless number of hours in researching numerous books and publications relating to administrative and managerial issues of the church, when one comprehensive resource covers the most prevalent issues?

Summary of Internal Audit Checklists Found In This Manual

- Separate sections are included on how to establish an Internal Audit Committee and how to effectively use the checklists. Progress Report forms are also provided.

- Over 1,240 organizational and operational questions are addressed in these checklists.

- Checklists have been designed where applicable comments can be recorded for future follow-up.

These checklists have been divided into six key organizational and operational areas of the church. Following, is a list of these areas with a brief overview of the sub-categories which will be covered under each:

- Governance and Legal - Governing Board responsibilities, Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, legal records, and more.

- Management and Leadership - Strategic ministry planning, policies and procedures, fund raising, appeals, personnel oversight, volunteer oversight, meetings, files and records, and more.

- Finances and Accounting - Budgeting, bank accounts, contributions, purchasing, cash disbursements, accounts payable, payroll, investments, inventories, fixed assets, notes payable, tax matters, financial reporting, and more.

- Personnel - Required documentation and support, compensation/benefits/expense reimbursement planning, unique ministers issues, and more.

- Facilities - Planning and construction, insurance, security, inventories, vehicles, energy conservation, cost reductions, safety, and more.

- Computer Information Systems - Software, hardware, physical security, access control, maintenance, backup, networking, and more.

5. The EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK is designed to assist leadership in communicating to employees important personnel policies and procedures. The Handbook can also serve as an important orientation tool when new employees are hired. The Introduction to the Handbook can be personalized to whatever degree the user so desires. All employment related sections found in the Handbook represent an abbreviation of the ministry's official personnel policies and procedures. Appropriate Acknowledgement of Receipt forms are

also provided for the employee to complete and return to the employer.

Throughout the Handbook the employee is provided with hyperlinks that direct them to related policies found in the ministry's official Policies and Procedures Manual, or to organizational issues, found in the ministry's official Organizational Manual. Hyperlinks are also provided to administrative forms that the employee will need to complete as they serve in their ministry position. These forms are found in the ministry's official Administrative Forms Manual.

Summary of Employee Handbook Features

Introduction to the Handbook - Welcome to employee from the Senior Minister, Brief history of church or ministry, Lists ministry's mission statement and ministry purposes, Discloses ministry's doctrinal beliefs, Shares how to effectively use Handbook

Five Employment Related Sections - Each of these sections outlines the ministry's official position on personnel-related matters.

- Section A - Employment (i.e. Equal Employment Opportunity, Employment at Will, Staff Structure, Probationary Period, Employment of Relatives). Covers 13 areas.

- Section B - Compensation (i.e. Pay Periods, Time Sheets, Overtime, Confidentiality of Wages). Covers 15 areas.

- Section C - Workplace Guidelines (i.e. Tardiness and Absence, Grievances and Complaints, Sexual Harassment, Outside Employment, Conducting Counseling Sessions, Use of Church Computers). Covers 49 areas.

- Section D - Benefits (i.e. Vacation, Sick Leave, Retirement, Christian School Tuition Subsidies, Minister's Housing Allowances, Education Assistance). Covers 29 areas.

- Section E - Performance Standards (i.e. Position Descriptions, Performance Evaluations, Promotions, Terminations, Retirement). Covers 7 areas.

Acknowledgements to Sign and Return - Employee Handbook, Use of Computer and Internet Access, Code of Ethics Policy, Safety and Protection Policy

Supporting Attachments - Includes selected attachments of important employee-related ministry policies and procedures.

Frieze Consulting
5520 Hansel Ave Ste C
Orlando, FL 32809-3405
Phone: 407-251-5500
Fax: 407-251-5510

BAPTIST *Inform*er

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 350.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,000.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 125.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 800.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 80.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 540.00

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY AD RATES

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
FULL PAGE	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,900.00
HALF PAGE	\$ 325.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,100.00
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 200.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,500.00
EIGHTH PAGE	\$ 150.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 900.00

AD SPECIFICATIONS

FULL PAGE	10.5" x 12.5"
HALF PAGE	10.5" x 6.25"
QUARTER PAGE	5.25" x 6.25"
EIGHTH PAGE	5.25" x 3.125"

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiabrandon@hotmail.com.

North Carolina Mutual and Our Baptist Churches

Building strong churches and communities together.



- Money for building programs
- Financial literacy and wealth-building
- Life insurance planning

North Carolina Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

800.647.2114

www.ncmutuallife.com

(Speech, continued from page 2)

great victory tonight, we do so with a measure of humility and determination to heal the divides that have held back our progress. As Lincoln said to a nation far more divided than ours, We are not enemies, but friends...though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. And to those Americans whose support I have yet to earn - I may not have won your vote, but I hear your voices, I need your help, and I will be your President too.

And to all those watching tonight from beyond our shores, from parliaments and palaces to those who are huddled around radios in the forgotten corners of our world - our stories are singular, but our destiny is shared, and a new dawn of American leadership is at hand. To those who would tear this world down - we will defeat you. To those who seek peace and security - we support you. And to all those who have wondered if Americas beacon still burns as bright - tonight we proved once more that the true strength of our nation comes not from our the might of our arms or the scale of our wealth, but from the enduring power of our ideals: democracy, liberty, opportunity, and unyielding hope.

For that is the true genius of

America - that America can change. Our union can be perfected. And what we have already achieved gives us hope for what we can and must achieve tomorrow.

This election had many firsts and many stories that will be told for generations. But one that's on my mind tonight is about a woman who cast her ballot in Atlanta. She's a lot like the millions of others who stood in line to make their voice heard in this election except for one thing - Ann Nixon Cooper is 106 years old.

She was born just a generation past slavery; a time when there were no cars on the road or planes in the sky; when someone like her couldn't vote for two reasons - because she was a woman and because of the color of her skin.

And tonight, I think about all that she's seen throughout her century in America - the heartache and the hope; the struggle and the progress; the times

we were told that we can't, and the people who pressed on with that American creed: Yes we can.

At a time when women's voices were silenced and their hopes dismissed, she lived to see them stand up and speak out and reach for the ballot. Yes we can.

When there was despair in the dust bowl and depression across the land, she saw a nation conquer fear itself with a New Deal, new jobs and a new sense of common purpose. Yes we can.

When the bombs fell on our harbor and tyranny threatened the world, she was there to witness a generation rise to greatness and a democracy was saved. Yes we can.

She was there for the buses in Montgomery, the hoses in Birmingham, a bridge in Selma, and a preacher from Atlanta who told a people that We Shall Overcome. Yes we can.

A man touched down on the moon,

a wall came down in Berlin, a world was connected by our own science and imagination. And this year, in this election, she touched her finger to a screen, and cast her vote, because after 106 years in America, through the best of times and the darkest of hours, she knows how America can change. Yes we can.

America, we have come so far. We have seen so much. But there is so much more to do. So tonight, let us ask ourselves - if our children should live to see the next century; if my daughters should be so lucky to live as long as Ann Nixon Cooper, what change will they see? What progress will we have made?

This is our chance to answer that call. This is our moment. This is our time - to put our people back to work and open doors of opportunity for our kids; to restore prosperity and promote the cause of peace; to reclaim the American Dream and reaffirm that fundamental truth - that out of many, we are one; that while we breathe, we hope, and where we are met with cynicism, and doubt, and those who tell us that we can't, we will respond with that timeless creed that sums up the spirit of a people:

Yes We Can. Thank you, God bless you, and may God Bless the United States of America



PASTORAL VACANCY

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, located at 1400 Fitch Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina has a pastoral vacancy. The predominately African-American, 300 plus member congregation is seeking a pastor who meets the following criteria:

- Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist Minister
- Must be an effective communicator who possesses and applies comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology
- Must have a college/seminary degree
- Must have at least six years ministerial and preferably at least six years pastoral experience
- Must be versatile and able to relate to a diverse age group within the congregation, emphasizing spiritual growth and development
- Applicant(s) must submit to and pass a criminal background check and furnish a credit report

How to Apply

All interested and qualified persons should submit a resume, letter of interest, biographical sketch and two letters of recommendation to:

The Pastoral Search Committee
Morning Star Baptist Church
P. O. Box 12835, Winston-Salem, NC 27117

Pulpit Vacancy

Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church
Ivanhoe, North Carolina

Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church has a vacant pastoral vacancy. The church was established in 1880 and has a long rich heritage of Christian service to the community. Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist Minister
- Must have a college and seminary degree
- Must be versatile and able to relate to a diverse age group within the congregation
- Willing to follow Baptist Doctrine and polity
- Willing to work with the community at large
- Provide a vision for the church and display strong leadership ability

All interested persons should submit a resume to the following:

Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.
C/O Pastoral Search Committee
9364 Wildcat Road
P. O. Box 66
Ivanhoe, NC 28447

Deadline for Resumes: June 1, 2009

PASTORAL VACANCY

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
94 NC 37 N • Gates, NC 27937

Qualifications:

- Licensed and Ordained Minister in the Baptist Denomination.
- Pastoral experience.
- Degree from an accredited Seminary or School of Theology.

All interested persons should submit a resume to:

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
c/o Deacon Robert Williams, Chairman
PO BOX 91
Gatesville, NC 27938

- Deadline for all submissions is January 31, 2009.

PASTORAL VACANCY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

ROXBORO, NC

First Baptist Church of Roxboro, North Carolina, is a church with approximately 200 members, seeking a pastor who meets the following criteria:

- LICENSED BAPTIST MINISTER
- HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA/GED WITH SEMINARY STUDIES FROM AN ACCREDITED SEMINARY SCHOOL
- POSSESS AT LEAST (3) YEARS OF PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Interested persons should send resume to:

First Baptist Church
Attention: Pastoral Search Committee
14 Main Circle
Roxboro, North Carolina 27573

Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.
Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,
and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster send address and all communications
for publication and inquiry to
Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,
603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.

CHURCH MUSICIAN

Union Baptist Church of Lexington, North Carolina,
is seeking devoted Christian musician. Skills must
include reading music and teaching parts.

Call Ninette Diggs
336-243-1648 to inquire

State License No. 6276

55 Years of Experience

JONES, GEN.CONTRACTOR, THOMAS L.

Post Office Box 241 • Laurinburg, N. C. 28353 • Phone 910-277-0274

"When Building is Done Better, We'll Do It"

To Minister, Trustee and Church Members,
Dear Christian Leader and Friends,

It is my hope that I will be a help to you in your next building project. Although you may not have a plan that exactly fits your needs, I may help you find a starting point to develop your own path.

I have built and designed more than 40 churches in my 55 years of general contracting. The quality of construction, design, and landscaping should create a meaningful setting which is an inspiration to its members and the community.

When you consult with me, my first step is a detailed inquiry of the various programs at your church. This enables me to understand my services. Our first meeting is to get acquainted and find out your needs.

The second step is providing a master plan of your entire church property and renderings or models of the proposed buildings.

The third step is preparing your construction drawing which include:

- Sound systems
- Design plans
- Energy saving heating and cooling
- Special lighting effects
- Structural design
- Specifications (in laypersons language)

I have found that coordinating all of these design phases through one firm avoids costly delays, misunderstanding and mistakes during constructions.

There are many phases in church planning and design which require a specialist in that field. When you start your next building program, I hope you will give me a call.

At Your Service
Thomas L. Jones

The Baptist Informer

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 500,000 Baptists
(USPS 042-680)

Rev. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Mrs. Portia H. Brandon, Managing Editor

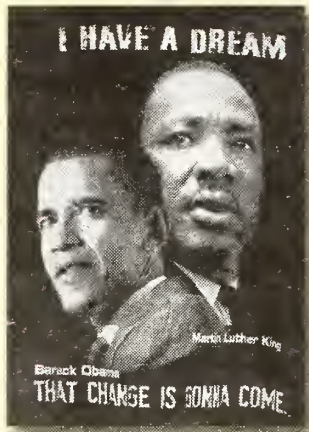
Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.

Postmaster send addresses & all communications for publications & inquiry to
Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526

THEME: "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor
of righteousness..." (II Corinthians 6:7)

BAPTIST Informer

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



2009 GBSC MLK Banquet

Friday, January 9, 2009

Embassy Suites Hotel Resort & Convention Center
5400 John Q Hammons Dr., NW, Concord, NC 28207

1.704.455.8200 Fax 1.704.455.8201

GBSC rate: \$131.00 plus tax

HOST PASTOR - Dr. Henry C. McNeill

HOST CHURCH - First Baptist Church, Kannapolis, NC



Saturday, January 10, 2009

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention

One Day Session

Embassy Suites Hotel Resort & Convention Center

5400 John Q Hammons Dr. NW, Concord, NC, 28027

Tel" 1-704-455-8200 Fax 1-704-455-8201

BAPTIST Informer

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680



Equipping the Saints for the WORK OF MINISTRY

When a church is not properly organized and operating effectively, you will typically find inefficiency, inconsistency, lack of accountability, misunderstanding of responsibilities and authority levels, confusion regarding policy making, inadequate internal controls over operations, management by exceptions, unethical business practices, and legal and financial exposures... just to name a few. The present day requirements for orderliness and efficiency within the local church are quite obvious and we continue to see them being magnified through governmental and public scrutinizing eyes as each day passes. (The Frieze Resource Library)

REFERENCES:

Dr. W.L. Parrish II, Executive Director
American Baptist Churches of the South - Baltimore, Maryland

"The FRIEZE RESOURCE LIBRARY is a must for every church, particularly those with multi-staffing. We use these resources in our regional office and are extremely pleased. I highly recommend this library to any church leader who is responsible for providing management and administrative oversight to His church."

4/1/2009
SE Baptist Theo Seminary
114 N Wingate St
Wake Forest NC 27587-2553 520 716