

Exposure

FLORENCE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

JULY 2007

Prayer

Corner:

Please include the following prayer needs on your prayer lists and in your prayer times.

Churches without Pastors:

*Ariel
Calvary
Florence First
Immanuel
Pamplico First
Ridgecrest*

New Work:

*Hispanic
Ministry
Rise & Live
Pee Dee
Community
Fellowship*

*CLC Program
Teachers
Financial Needs*

*CEF - Good News
Club*

*Romania
Mission Trip
July 12-24*

*LifeChangers
June 24-29*



Romania Mission Trip

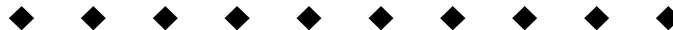
July 12 - 24, 2007

The July Romania Mission Trip will consist of a Medical Clinic, Children's Ministry and Evangelism. The medical clinics will be held at the following mission sites: Bicazu-Ardelean (Monday, July 16), Bicaz Chei (Tuesday, July 17), Borca/Farcasa (Wednesday, July 18), and Piatra Neamt (Thursday, July 19 and Friday, July 20). Please put these places and dates on your prayer calendar.

Pray for the financial situation of the Romania Mission Trip as the cost of the trip has increased. We also have a need for financial assistance for the cost of medicine.

Please pray for the following team members as they make preparations for the upcoming mission trip.

Rachel Baker	Beth Keefe
Christopher Broome	Zachary Keefe
George Chace	Millie Perry
Jennifer Danford	Amanda Spurling
Bob Dockery	Susan Spurling
Sandra Frye	Tim Spurling
Courtney Gainey	Ashley Taylor
Shane Gainey	Zachary Taylor
Frank Gribble	Craig Tedder
Jimmy Keefe	Sandy Weatherford



More VBS Dates

Greenwood	July 16 - 19
Unity	July 9 - 13

Youth on Fire
"Consumed"

Grace Baptist church
July 16-20

6 pm - 8:30 pm

For youth ages 7th - 12th grade
Activities will include:

- Special speakers - Allie Brooks, Larry Jackson, Small group chats, Messy games, Videos, Great music, FREE FOOD (both physical and spiritual)
- Special Friday Celebration with a luau and pig pickin' so bring the family. Invite your friends and enjoy the fun!!

Attention VBS Directors

Please remember to fill out your VBS Report as soon as your Vacation Bible School is finished. Please mail this report to our association as soon as possible. Also, the report is to be sent to the SCBC, LifeWay Christian Resources. **Please send this report even if your church did not use LifeWay materials.**

2007 Duffel Bags and Bibles for Foster Children

Once again the SC Woman's Mission Union is asking for our help in collecting Duffel Bags and Bibles for Foster Children. Approximately 8,500 children and youth will be involved with the foster care system throughout the year. There are 4,000 to 5,000 children and youth in the foster care system at any one given time in the year. In the eighth year of mission support, our goal is to collect 2,500 duffel bags and Bi-

ble by July 15, 2007. Please visit the SC WMU Website at www.scwmu.org for detailed information on the duffel bag./Bible project.

Thank You

Because of your graciousness we had some Ministry Health Kits left to share with the Chrysalis Center. The Chrysalis Center is a drug and alcohol rehab facility for women with children. Here is the thank you note that you received:

Dear Florence Baptist Association:

On behalf of the women and children of the Chrysalis Center, I would like to thank you for the care bags and other items that were donated to our facility.

Since funding sources have been depleted for some of our women, these bagged items will definitely help them during their stay at Chrysalis.

We appreciate you considering giving to us and is well appreciated.

Thelma W. Alexander
Director, Chrysalis Center

Attention WMU Directors

Plans are being made to hold the Fall WMU Training on Thursday, August 23rd. Please put this date on your calendar. Further details, including time & place, will be mailed to all WMU Directors in the near future.

July 2007

- 3 Ministers Conference
11:30 am;
Ryans
- 3 Associational Council Mtg;
FBA Office;
8:00 am
- 4 4th of July Holiday; Assn. Office Closed
- 12-24 Romania Mission Trip
- 12 Executive Committee Mtg; 7:00 pm;
FBA Office

August 2007

- 7 Ministers Conference;
11:30 am;
Ryans
- 9 Big Youth Thing;
Carowinds
- 23 Fall WMU Meeting; Time & Place TBA

**Connie Maxwell
Pee Dee Campus
Pee Dee Girls Home**

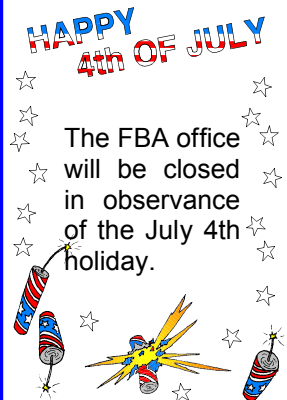
The Connie Maxwell Pee Dee Campus (*Pee Dee Girls Home*) is in need of paper towels, cups, and plates. If you would like to donate any of these items, please deliver them to 1924 Durant Avenue., 29505 (off of McCown). For directions call Leslie at 662-9417

**Big Youth Thing '07
At Carowinds
With David Crowder Band!!!
August 9, 2007**

Cost: \$30 (before July 26)
Includes park admission & concert

Lunch: \$16 (before July 26)
Includes drink/lunch wristband

For more information or to purchase tickets please call 1.803.765.0030 ext. 4200. You may also register on line at www.ystuff.org!



*We Are Grateful!
May Contributions*

Church	May	Budget YTD
Ariel	124.00	530.00
Beulah	150.00	300.00
Calvary	1,862.73	8,160.66
Cartersville	.00	973.94
College Park	.00	1,652.31
Coward	360.00	2,104.16
Ebenezer	.00	3,158.52
Elim	600.00	3,000.00
Evergreen	793.29	3,089.09
Florence 1st	1,156.56	2,637.89
Grace	592.69	2,991.94
Greenwood	402.17	1,945.58
Hebron	100.00	500.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	4,812.00	5,110.00
Immanuel	.00	2,086.06
Kingsburg	.00	.00
Korean	80.00	320.00
LifeSpring	.00	.00
Mizpah	691.20	2,967.42
Mt. Zion	.00	1,200.00
New Hope	.00	.00
Northgate	552.20	2,584.74
Oakdale	348.75	1,487.29
Pamplico 1st	651.29	651.29
Pee Dee Community	50.00	200.00
Peniel	.00	300.00
Quinby	229.75	715.33
Rehoboth	.00	.00
Ridgecrest	668.00	3,059.00
Rise & Live	.00	25.00
Sardis	.00	.00
South Florence	.00	5,038.31
Southside	2,533.71	12,580.17
Sparrow Swamp	452.47	1,971.06
Tans Bay	.00	258.60
Timmonsville 1st	.00	1,250.00
Union	208.33	1,041.65
Unity	228.65	952.21
Willow Creek	.00	372.79
TOTALS	17,647.79	75,215.01

Support Associational Missions
Think - -
3% Basic
4% Glory
5% Hallelujah

Happy Birthday

- 13 Rev. Phillip Gandy (P), Rehoboth
- 28 Rev. Peter Rivera (AP), Immanuel

Happy Anniversary

- 2 Doyle (P) & Mary Frances Jones, Oakdale
- 2 Joe (P) & Linda Proctor, Hebron
- 5 James (P) & Doris Brown, Rise & Live
- 7 Frank (P) & Karen Gribble, College Park
- 14 Rev. Ed (MM) & Julie Self, Ebenezer
- 27 Burton (P) & Suzette Welsh, Sardis
- 30 Eddie (AP) & Louanne Stewart, Elim
- 31 Bob (P) & Debbie Dockery, Mt. Zion

Around the Association

Florence First...Has called Lisa McBride as Ministry Assistant. We welcome Lisa to our association.

Oakdale...Celebrated its 25th Anniversary on Sunday, May 25th. The theme for the day was "Thanking God for the Past; Trusting God for the Future."

Elim...The GA's of Elim Baptist Church were pictured in the May 2007 issue of GA World. They were delivering Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.

Northgate...Celebrated Senior Adult Day during the morning worship service on May 20th. The day gave an opportunity to express appreciation to senior adults for their service in the kingdom of God throughout the years. The worship theme was "Abiding in Christ" and included two powerful testimonies along with special music and the reading of an original poem by a senior adult church member.

College Park...In an effort to minister to the needs of Hispanic attendees a bi-lingual service was held on June 10th.

Kingsburg...Has called Rev. Darryl Davids as bivocational pastor. We welcome Rev. Davids and his wife, Beth, to our association.

Pamplico First...Rev. Jim Hewitt, pastor, has resigned.

Hebron...Two groups of missionaries will be commissioned on July 8th for trips to Florida and Jamaica. Prayer Pals have been praying for mission efforts. Prayer Pillows were given to the men on Fathers Day/Baptist Men's Day.

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Florence, S.C.
Permit No. 34

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JULY, 2007

Perspectives by Henry Simmons

Children often play the game of “secrets.” They will say, “I want to tell you a secret.” There is power in knowing something that nobody else knows. Telling secrets from a child’s standpoint is a way of inclusion and exclusion. Recently, a trusted friend shared with me the danger and harm that can come from keeping secrets.

Some families play the game. Something bad happened or someone misbehaved so the family decides that this will never be shared. They don’t want the family to be embarrassed. Often the keeping of the secret brings dysfunction. Individuals are marred and shamed by what they never talk about. A root cause of much dysfunction is the keeping of secrets.

Unfortunately, churches sometimes try to do the same things. A leader will do something that seems or is terribly wrong. Other leaders try to quietly handle the matter to avoid bringing embarrassment or conflict to the church. An example could be that a church leader mo-

lests a child. In some cases, the leader is immediately dismissed but no information is shared with the church body. Sometimes, the church goes so far as to refuse to face the legal consequences of such action. Law requires, in this case, for the incident to be reported to authorities. Failure to do so will have legal consequences for the church.

However, the wrongdoing does not have to be so blatant. It may be something less dramatic but the consequences for the church may cause serious harm. The keeping of secrets causes mistrust of leadership. Not knowing and not having truth causes church membership to wonder and to guess at what has happened and to create reasons for the actions taken. Suspicion arises and people may start to question the motives of church leaders. Frustration soon follows. Unless there is intervention, conflict may break out. If this cycle continues, every decision by the church

will be affected.

Information is a friend not an enemy. Wise sharing of information leads to trust. Sometimes what must be shared is not pleasant and may bring some embarrassment. However, the sharing of truth frees the congregation to deal with real issues. If the incident has consequences that could bring litigation if the facts are communicated in the wrong way an attorney should be consulted. Appropriate facts should be told and promises should be made to communicate further when possible. Handling of the incident should be committed to an appropriate group in the church. This could be a specially appointed crisis team. This group will have a spokesman who will give the church information as necessary.

Appropriate handling of truth leads to trust. Trust leads to cohesiveness and wise decision making. Eliminating the keeping of secrets is really worth the effort. I heard a wise Director of Missions many years ago say, “Trust the Lord and trust the people.” It sounds like a plan for me.