

Exposure

FLORENCE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2007

Prayer

Corner:

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

Churches without Pastors:

*Ariel
Kingsburg
Immanuel
Florence First*

*Hispanic
Ministries*

*Rise and Live
Pee Dee
Community
Fellowship*

*CLC Program
Volunteers
Financial
Needs*

*CEF - Good News
Clubs
Delmae Club
begins
March 1*

*Grief Recovery
Program*

The Greater Pee Dee Community Prayer Breakfast

Friday, March 30, 2007

Florence Civic Center - 7:00 - 8:15 am

Featured Speaker: Dr. Tony Evans
Senior Pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship
in Dallas Texas and President of The Urban Alternative

Sponsored by the Florence Family YMCA
Along with Pee Dee Area Businesses and Churches

For more information call 665.1234 or visit www.florenceymca.org.

Statewide Disaster Relief Training Conference

Rock Springs Baptist Church, Easley

March 2 & 3, 2007

Returning Volunteers: \$10 registration fee

New Volunteers: \$15 registration fee

Costs reflects registration fees, meals, and disaster relief training materials. You will be responsible for making your own housing arrangements at a local motel. Make your check payable to South Carolina Baptist Convention and mail to SCBC, Disaster Relief Group, 190 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, SC 29210. You can also register on-line at www.scbaptist.org. For more information email brendalugmayer@scbaptist.org.



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NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

March 4-11, 2007

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National Goal: \$57,000,000

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Hispanic Ministry Update
By: Rev. Marcus Elizondo

January 20th was a date we had been waiting for a long time. Many of the dreams and hopes were fulfilled that day. We, in the Hispanic ministry, had worked very hard for several years, and the moment had come for us to see the rewards. The request had been made for two Christian brothers who were pastoring to be ordained. Martin Mata is serving as Pastor at Cristo Vive Hispanic Mission in Soccastte, and Jose Luis Carreon is pastoring at Nueva Vida Hispanic Mission in North Charleston. These two families came out of our Hispanic work in Alianza, Hemingway.

Rev. Faustino Bañuelos, Pastor of Tabernaculo Hispano in Latta; Rev. Martin Mata, Pastor of Cristo Vive at Soccastte; Hno. Luciano Medina, Pastor of Emanuel; Rev. Jose Luis Carreon, Pastor of Nueva Vida at North Charleston and me had planned this service for several months, but could not make it happen.

The students from our Hispanic seminary extension finished their two courses in December (The book of Hebrews and Christian Leadership). We finished the semester with ten students. With that in mind we planned to do the ordination and the giving of the certificates the same date, January 20th, 2007.

When we came together at Union Baptist Church, we had over 120 present.

There were people from North Charleston, Soccastte, Hemingway, Florence, Kingstree, Pamplico, Latta, Aynor, and Gresham. Brother Henry Simmons helped in presenting the certificates to the students, Brother Grover Mixon lead us in the final prayer in the ordination. The Pastor from First Charleston made the presentation of the Bible to Rev. Jose Luis Carreon, I presented Rev. Martin Mata the Bible from our Church and Adrian Allen dismissed us in prayer.

The questions to the candidates for ordination were carried out by Pastor Luciano Medina, Rev. Faustino Bañuelos and I. The message to the candidates was presented by Rev. Faustino Bañuelos. The special music was presented by a group from Iglesia Tabernaculo Hispano and from Emmanuel.

After the service, we had a Baptist Hispanic dinner and fellowship. We had a great time sharing the good things the Lord had done in the Hispanic ministry.

I am very happy to share with you that the Hispanic Seminary Extension is doing very, very, very good. We have enrolled for the Spring semester 20 students and we are teaching two new courses (the book of James and Evangelism). This is the highest we have ever had and we give God the glory and you the opportunity to rejoice with us in this great success. Thank you for your, prayers and financial support, may the Lord continue to bless you and your ministries.

March 2007

- 1,8,15 Grief Recov-
22, 29 ery; 6 pm;
FBA Office
- 2-3 Disaster
Relief Trning;
Rock Springs;
Easley, SC
- 4-11 Season of
Prayer for
North Ameri-
can Missions
- 6 Ministers
Conf. Ryan's;
11:30 am
- 16-18 Disciple Now
Weekend;
Calvary

April 2007

- 3 Assn. Council
Mtg; FBA;
8:00 am
- 3 Ministers
Conf.; Ryan's;
11:30 am
- 6 **Good Friday;**
Assn. Office
Closed
- 12 Executive
Committee
Mtg; FBA;
7:00 pm
- 15 Assn. Bible
Drill
- 23 **Migrant Bags**
Due in Assn.
Office
- 28 State Bible
Drill; Florence
First

2007 Ministry Health Kits

Thank you for providing ministry health kits for these forty plus years as a mission support project.

The standard ministry health kit should include:

- 1 Toothbrush
- 1 Toothpaste (6 ox.)
- 1 Soap (4.5 oz bath size)
- 1 Washcloth
- 1 Bath towel
- 1 Comb

Place items in a two gallon zip lock bag and return to the associational office by April 23rd.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to Rev. and Mrs. Jim Hewitt, Pamplico First, in the death her grandmother; Rev. and Mrs. Henry Simmons, DOM, in the death of his uncle; Rev. and Mrs. Frank Gribble in the death of his grandmother.

Please visit our new website **florencebaptistassociation.com** to view more information regarding upcoming associational events. If you have something you would like to have posted on the web site contact Rev. Frank Gribble at pastor@acaringchurch.com

*We Are Grateful!
Jan. Contributions*

Church	January	Budget YTD
Ariel	102.00	102.00
Beulah	.00	.00
Calvary	2,039.11	2,039.11
Cartersville	.00	.00
College Park	.00	.00
Coward	772.21	772.21
Ebenezer	1,682.64	1,682.64
Elim	.00	.00
Evergreen	.00	.00
Florence 1st	.00	.00
Grace	1,045.67	1,045.67
Greenwood	607.60	607.60
Hebron	.00	.00
Hoffmeyer Rd	298.00	298.00
Immanuel	1,291.29	1,291.29
Kingsburg	.00	.00
Korean	.00	.00
LifeSpring	.00	.00
Mizpah	716.90	716.90
Mt. Zion	600.00	600.00
New Hope	.00	.00
Northgate	553.53	553.53
Oakdale	308.35	308.35
Pamplico 1st	.00	.00
Pee Dee Community	.00	.00
Peniel	.00	.00
Quinby	.00	.00
Rehoboth	.00	.00
Ridgecrest	.00	.00
Rise & Live	.00	.00
Sardis	.00	.00
South Florence	1,645.54	1,645.54
Southside	3,269.79	3,269.79
Sparrow Swamp	466.91	466.91
Tans Bay	86.66	86.66
Timmonsville 1st	625.00	625.00
Union	208.33	208.33
Unity	218.72	218.72
Willow Creek	.00	.00
TOTALS	16,538.25	16,538.25

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

Happy Birthday

- 5 Rev. Dennis Sartain (P) Mizpah
- 5 Rev. Rick Estes (MM), Southside
- 13 Rev. Howard Allen (P), South
Florence
- 15 Rev. Marcus Elizondo (P) Hispanic
Ministries

Happy Anniversary

- 4 Jeffrey (MY&C) & Dori Allen, South
Florence
- 10 Ronnie (MM) & Denise Rogers, Elim
- 20 Teresa (Children's Dr) & Burl Godwin,
Southside
- 21 David (P) & Connie George,
Cartersville
- 22 Gerald & Francis McKay, retired
- 23 Mark (MM) & Rachel Spurling,
Northgate

Around the Association

Union...Congratulations to Mrs. Carolyn Weaver who has served as Minister of Music for the past forty years.

Calvary...Eight Charter Members of Calvary were honored in the morning worship service and at lunch on Feb. 4th. Calvary celebrated its 58th Anniversary on Feb. 6th.

Unity...Has called Rev. Charles Larrimore as Pastor. We welcome Rev. Larrimore and his wife, Marlene and daughter Maryann, to our association.

Florence First...Congratulations to Florence First in receiving an award by the Florence Family YMCA in appreciation of their support of their Youth Basketball Program.

Pee Dee Community ...Is collecting NEW teddy bears to be given to local police officers; to be used in crisis situations with children who have been traumatized by abuse, injury, or death in the family. The teddy bears need to be NEW, 12-16 inches, and **non-seasonal**. If you would like to contribute to this effort please bring bears to the FBA office.

Coward...Will host its 5th Annual Golf Tournament on March 24th at Sumter National. For more information, contact Travis Cox, 389.3956 or Craig Tedder, 319.4003.

Hebron...Hosted a Valentine Banquet with special musical guest Ronnie Rodgers.

Nonprofit Org.
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Return Service Requested

MARCH, 2007

Perspectives by Henry Simmons

Henry Blackaby reminded us that we are to discover what God is doing and join Him. He said that the discovery of what God is doing is God's invitation to join Him. In the fifth chapter of John, Jesus heals a man who has been sick for 38 years. The religious leaders of the day get upset because he is healed on the Sabbath. Jesus tells them, *"The Son is not able to do anything on His own, but only what He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, the Son also does these things in the same way. For the Father loves the Son and shows Him everything He is doing, and He will show Him greater works than these so that you will be amazed."* John 5:19-20 HCSB Jesus standard method of operation is to see what the Father was doing and to join him. If Jesus demonstrated this method do you suppose that he would want us to do the same thing?

For the past several days, this whole idea has been on my mind. I have been reminded of this truth from several different sources. I have begun to get the idea that God is trying to tell me something. Could it be that he is asking me to stop and reflect on what he is doing

around us? Last week, I had the opportunity to have lunch with Debbie and Randy Murray, missionaries in Southeast Asia. He bubbled with excitement as he talked about how God is involved in Church Planting Movements in India and all over the world. The Murrays have witnessed more than 1500 come to Christ in a very short period of time with the formation of more than 150 churches. In many parts of the world, churches are starting so rapidly and growing so fast that no one is able to keep track of what is going on.

Recently, I have been in meetings where we have discussed how the work of the Christian Learning Centers is growing and how it appears that several new centers could be started next Fall. Churches will have the opportunity this summer to be involved in working in Summer programs with at risk children. Good News clubs are being started in several schools this Spring and next Fall in conjunction with Child Evangelism Fellowship and several of our churches. Tony Evans will speak at a prayer breakfast in a few weeks. He has an emphasis on churches

adopting schools.

Last Fall, I felt God leading us to make prayer a major emphasis in our association. A few days ago we had a prayer retreat at the Associational Office. This week I got an invitation to a prayer meeting of pastors that is inter-denominational. Others have resumed an emphasis in inter-denominational prayer meetings.

I could go on but that is enough to make the point. There is significant movement of God. If we want to see the blessings of God we will join him in what he is already doing. Churches should give consideration to planting churches. The great movement of God in the world today is planting house churches like in the New Testament. Should we consider planting indigenous small churches or cell groups all across our community? God is at work reaching students. Should we be finding our niche in making that happen in our schools and churches? God is moving people to prayer. God is up to something great in the future. Shouldn't we be seeking his face through prayer. What would it be like if churches strengthened efforts to move people to pray?