

**MACON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**110 DORAUL STREET**  
**FRANKLIN, NC 28734**

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 US POSTAGE PAID  
 FRANKLIN, NC 28734  
 PERMIT #33

## **AUGUST CALENDAR**

July 30-Aug 3	Windy Gap VBS 6:00—8:00 PM ALL ages Welcome ServeNC
August 3-10 August 6-9	Riverbend VBS 5:30-8:00 PM All Ages/Adults too!
August 12	24 Hour Prayer Vigil for Revival 6:00 PM
August 13—16	REVIVAL 7:00 PM at Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
August 19	Good News Club Training FBC Franklin 10:00 —2:00 PM

### **CONTACT US:** **Macon Baptist Association** **110 Doraul Street** **Franklin, NC 28734**

Phone (828) 524-3215  
[www.maconba.org](http://www.maconba.org)  
 E-mail: [mba@dnet.net](mailto:mba@dnet.net)  
 Gary Holland, Director of Missions  
[gholland@dnet.net](mailto:gholland@dnet.net)  
 (828) 371-2301

### **Our Churches:**

<i>Aquone</i>	<i>Longview</i>
<i>Bethel Hill</i>	<i>Mashburn Branch</i>
<i>Biltmore</i>	<i>Mount Harmony</i>
<i>Black Mountain</i>	<i>Mount Hope</i>
<i>Briartown</i>	<i>Mountain Grove</i>
<i>Buck Creek</i>	<i>Newman Chapel</i>
<i>Burningtown</i>	<i>Oak Dale</i>
<i>Cartoogechaye</i>	<i>Oak Grove</i>
<i>Clear Creek</i>	<i>Pine Grove</i>
<i>Community</i>	<i>Pleasant Hill</i>
<i>Cowee</i>	<i>Prentiss</i>
<i>Coweeta</i>	<i>Ridge Crest</i>
<i>East Franklin</i>	<i>Riverbend</i>
<i>Elijay</i>	<i>Rose Creek</i>
<i>Franklin First</i>	<i>Shortoff</i>
<i>Goldmine</i>	<i>South Macon</i>
<i>Higdonville</i>	<i>Sugarfork</i>
<i>Highlands Central</i>	<i>Tellico</i>
<i>Highlands First</i>	<i>Walnut Creek</i>
<i>Holly Springs</i>	<i>Watauga</i>
<i>Iotla</i>	<i>Wells Grove</i>
<i>Liberty</i>	<i>West Franklin</i>
<i>LifeSpring</i>	<i>Windy Gap</i>

## **Macon Baptist Messenger** **News for the 46 MBA Churches** **Sharing the Light of Christ** **AUGUST 2023**

"IF MY PEOPLE"

"REVIVAL"

AUGUST 13TH- AUGUST 16TH 2023

MACON COUNTY, NC & BEYOND

Let revival start in your heart today!

2 Chronicles 7:14

**Prayer Warriors & Community Choir**  
**Members desired.**

**Contact Colman Buchanan**

For more information contact:  
 Mike Wilson @ 828.482.2093  
 or Colman Buchanan @ 828.347.5653

**Dr. Greg Matthis**  
 Senior Pastor

**Mudcreek Baptist Church**

**August 13th-16th 2023**

**7:00 PM**

Revival Location:

Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts  
 1028 Georgia Rd. Franklin, NC 28734



**Please join us in twenty-four hours of  
 prayer for our revival.**

We will begin at 6:00 PM on Saturday the 12th of August and continue without ceasing until Sunday the 13th at 6:00 PM just prior to the Revival. You are encouraged to pray where you are, or if moved, you may pray outside the Performing Arts Center.

Call or text Emily Chastain at 828-200-6277 to sign up for a time slot.

**Monthly Message: Guest Contributor**  
**Rev. Keith Ashe**  
**Coweeta Baptist Church**



**Who are you?**

I think most believers really don't believe that we are engaged in battle with an unseen, yet very powerful enemy.

Satan, the enemy of God, is also the enemy of the people of God. His desire for us is to defeat us, destroy us, and devour us. Satan wants you to believe you are useless, a nobody, and someone with no hope, but Apostle Paul remind us of our identity in Ephesians chapter 1 & 2

**I am blessed** 1:3 "blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

**I am chosen** 1:4 "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love."

**I am adopted** 1:5 "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,"

**I am accepted** 1:6 "To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."

**I am forgiven** 1:7 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace,"

**I am sealed** 1:13 "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise,"

**I am revived** 2:1 "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;"

**I am loved** 2:4 "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,"

**I am saved** 2:5 "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, by grace ye are saved;"  
So you tell your enemy that you are someone through Jesus Christ.



**EVERY CHURCH.**  
**EVERY COMMUNITY.**

**AUGUST 3-10, 2024**

**ServeNC is an opportunity for every NC Baptist church to serve its community in Jesus' name.**

Commit your church to one week of being on mission together in your community. Let's make a huge impact serving from the mountains to the coast, August 3-10,

To register your church on website: [ncbaptist.org](http://ncbaptist.org) Click on Serve NC and follow to sign-up. You are also able to download information to share with your church.

**From Paul Langston:**

Missions Mobilization Consultant  
Baptists on Mission  
Office (919) 459-5611  
Mobile (919) 604-4778



Hello Friends of Baptists on Mission,

I hope that you are all doing well and are seeing God use you in powerful ways.

Baptists on Mission would like to encourage you to begin planning to join over 1000 churches across the state mobilizing on August 3-10, 2024 to share Christ's love in practical ways. We believe that as churches move out of our seats and into the streets to serve we can build relationships with individuals and entire communities that open the door to Gospel conversations. Every church can mobilize people of all ages, often seeing more than half of your active church members making Christ visible.

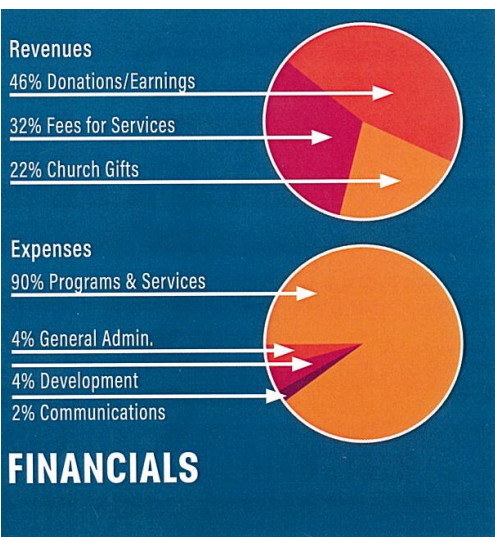
We are updating our email list and will be promoting Serve NC for August 3-10, 2024 in the coming months. We will offer training for churches to plan their Serve NC event, county coordinators to help mobilize churches in each NC county, and will share celebration stories of how God works through these projects.

## MACON COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

When your church gives to your local association, the money goes to support the day to day operations of the office (utilities, salaries, office expense, maintenance and insurance) as well as Mission Ministries as outlined and in your Annual Operations Budget. Budgets are approved in the October Quarterly Meeting and monitored by your Finance Committee Quarterly.

## BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

The Baptist Children's Home annual offering is taken in November. The proceeds from this offering is broken down as follows:



When a donation is made to the Children's Home, it is applied to all the NC Homes according to those percentages.

If funds are specified for the Broyhill home, it is split to the Drake Cottage, Moody Home and Broyhill home.

## ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING

In 1895, an offering was first collected for the work of the Home Missions Board. In 1934, this offering was renamed the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions to honor the work of Annie Armstrong as a tireless advocate for giving, praying and going to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with those who did not know him.

Today, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goes to train, resource, and send more than 2,400 missionary families across the United States and Canada. **One hundred percent of gifts** given to this offering goes directly to the missionaries for their use in the field. None goes to administration.



## REVITALIZE NORTH CAROLINA



**Pastoral ministry is tiring, draining and exhausting during normal times. A pastor's health is vitally important, and events of the past few years have been especially taxing on pastors, their families and their ministries.**

The "Replenish" retreat, for pastors and their families, is designed to help pastors replenish their marriage, their ministry and their mission.

Through encouraging teaching and free time together, pastors and their wives can learn and apply principles for restoring joy and passion to their marriage, family and ministry at the beautiful coastal setting of Fort Caswell.

### Cost

\$99 per room (Lodging will be at Smith Conference Center)

Local (guests not lodging) = \$69

If you would like to extend your stay at Fort Caswell, you may do so. Please contact Gabby Seel first to receive your room assignment and then you may contact Fort Caswell to make those arrangements.

**Please Note:** Childcare will only be provided during the Main Sessions and for Tuesday night's "Date Night."

## A Good News Club® meets kids right where they are

In schools (yes, schools!), community centers, churches, and neighborhood homes, teachers who are screened, trained, and equipped lead action-packed Good News Clubs every week, delivering the timeless truths of the Bible in exciting, engaging ways. Children learn the Gospel, and many come to know Jesus as their Savior.



## Where does our money go???

Now that I have been blessed to serve as the Secretary for the Macon Baptist Association for six months, I still struggle to put certain pieces of the puzzle together. After attending the Finance Committee meeting in July, it became evident that there may be others who might not have a clear vision of just how, what and where the money donated goes and what it is used for. My hope is that by putting this informational summary together, that we may all have a better understanding.

### NORTH CAROLINA MISSION OFFERING

N.C. Baptists have a long history of compassion and generosity that is evidenced by a willingness to give of their time, talents and treasure to advance the gospel. I've witnessed these efforts firsthand as N.C. Baptists come together in numerous ways to meet physical and spiritual needs in the name of Jesus.

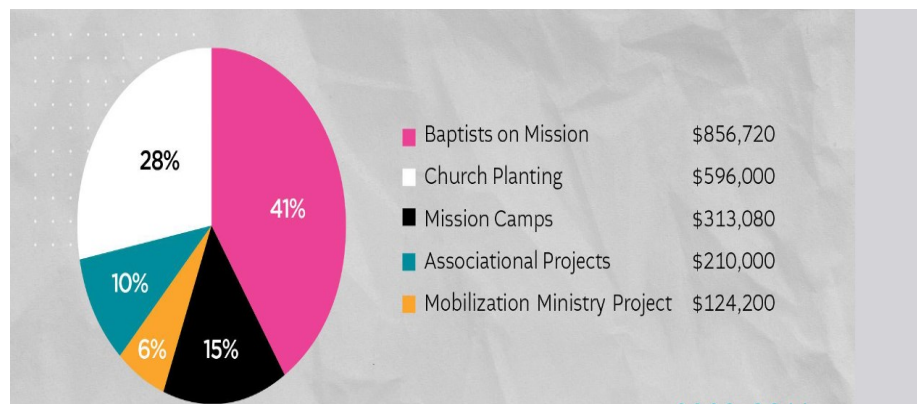
Navigating the brokenness of our world by offering help and hope in Jesus' name is at the heart of the North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO). This annual offering supports a variety of vital ministries right here in our state with an impact that extends across the country and around the world. The offering supports disaster relief and the 19 different ministries of Baptists on Mission, church planting, missions partnerships, mission camps, and work in local Baptist associations.

I'm thankful that here in North Carolina, God has blessed us with what I believe is the best disaster relief team and group of volunteers in the country. They stand ready to respond at a moment's notice in our state and beyond when natural disasters and other calamities strike.

In addition to disaster relief, NCMO supports 18 other ministries of N.C. Baptists on Mission. This includes our fleet of mobile dental and health screening units that are used by churches and associations to reach out to their community. These units are staffed by health professionals who volunteer their time to minister and serve. Every patient who is seen through this ministry not only receives quality care, but they also hear of the saving love of Jesus.

Written by: Todd Unzicker 2022 Executive Director/Treasurer, Baptist on Mission

NC Baptist on Mission is supported by a special offering (**State Mission Offering**) that is taken once a year in **September**. Your donations are applied as follows:



10% of your State Mission Offering comes back to the Macon Baptist Association and is used for local mission projects. 41% goes to Baptist on Mission.

**The theme for 2023 is  
“Relief for today. Hope for tomorrow.”  
and the offering goal is \$2.5 million.**

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Romans 15:13 (HCSB)*

How to contact:

BAPTIST ON MISSION:  
PO Box 1107, Cary, NC

Web site:

BAPTISTS ON MISSION.ORG

Facebook:

NCMISSIONS

Instagram:

BAPTISTONMISSION

You can request a copy of their annual publication to be sent to you— it is a wealth of information!



## Regional Rallies to be Held in August

Next month, Baptists on Mission will host a series of Regional Mission Rallies across the state. These rallies (10 of them) are a great way to get your church aware of and involved in Missions! They will be held on August 21, 22 or 24. Check the link below for the location that is closest to you. The rallies will highlight the variety of opportunities NC Baptists have to be involved in missions. There will be worship, short testimonies, mission videos, and a prayer time for missions. Everyone interested in missions is encouraged to attend. A main focus of these rallies will be state, national, international mission opportunities (including Disaster Relief) and the NC Missions Offering.

A meal is provided at the Mission Rallies at no charge, but reservations are necessary to ensure an accurate meal count. **The cut-off date for reserving a meal for each Rally is one week prior to the event.** To register, go to the link below, then click on the "Details/Register" button of the regional rally that you want to attend and register the number of people who will be coming with you. You can also register by phone by calling Melanie Crawford at 919-459-5596. The meal will begin at 5:45 pm, followed by the program from 6:50 pm-8:30 pm. Please go ahead and sign up and bring a group from your church!

<https://baptistsonmission.org/events/region-rallies>

**The date scheduled for Regions 10 is Friday, August 21**

**First Baptist Church of Andrews**

**5:45 PM to 8:30 PM**



### **GOOD NEWS CLUB TRAINING**

**First Baptist Church**

**Saturday, August 19**

**10:00 AM—2:00 PM**

**Lunch will be provided.**

Gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering are used to train and resource missionaries in church planting and compassion ministries. Gifts are also used to create evangelism resources. New churches are being planted, hurts are being healed and lives are being transformed by the gospel because you give.

## **LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is an annual offering collected by Southern Baptists **to support international missions**. The offering was officially named in 1918 by Woman's Missionary Union in honor of the missionary to China who urged churches to start it and give sacrificially.

Lottie Moon was sent as a Southern Baptist missionary to China from 1873 to 1912. She saw firsthand the world's greatest problem — LOSTNESS. Meeting so many people who had never heard the gospel compelled her to write letters to American churches describing the need for a greater missionary presence.

She pleaded for increased prayer and financial support to send and sustain more missionaries. This challenge became known as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®.

The offering represents 59 percent of IMB total annual support. Every penny you give to the offering goes directly to support missionaries, including salaries, medical care, housing, transportation, and children's education.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is a registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union



### **New Web Site**

Thanks to a generous donation of time and tech knowhow from Eric Norrod, the Association has assembled a team to design a new website. Sue Ann will be trained on how to update and maintain the new site.

We are currently seeking people with photography skills to take pictures of the churches in the association. If you would be able to help, please contact the Association office at 828-524-3215.

We also need to verify that we have the most up to date contact Information for all the churches.

Thank you and stay tuned as exciting changes are coming!

## WMU NEWS:

# Abound

**Saturday, August 12**

**Lighthouse Baptist  
Church Sylva**

**9am-12pm**

- An event to encourage and train mission leaders to be effective and fulfill their calling in their local churches.
- The opportunity to hear trained speakers, receive up-to-date information, and connect with others who are on mission.
- A time to share and receive fresh ideas for serving in your local church
- Register at WMUNC.org—Click on Leadership Development tab
- Cost: \$15- includes '23-'24 Missions Leader Planning Guide

**Christmas in August** is a simple and easy way for a children's group or a church to help our North American Mission Board (NAMB) missionaries receive needed supplies to make a difference in the areas they are serving.

- Select a missionary from the list at [wmu.com/christmasinaugust](http://wmu.com/christmasinaugust)
- Promote a collection of the items needed (Collect ONLY specific items)
- Pray for the items to be used effectively by the missionary
- Collect and celebrate the activity—a Christmas party in August!
- Pack items in sturdy boxes and send to the missionary. Follow mailing instructions and addresses on the WMU website.

## NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST AGING MINISTRY



NCBAM was established in 2009 as a ministry of Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina. The mission of NCBAM is to provide "help for the journey" to seniors 65+ in ways that help maintain independence and quality of life. The ministry now has 14 outreaches. In this and future newsletters we will highlight many as they may benefit your church congregations.

North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry (NCBAM)  
P.O. Box 338  
Thomasville, NC 27361  
(877) 506-2226  
[www.ncbam.org](http://www.ncbam.org)

### Operation Red Bag:

Are your meds putting you at risk?



#wevegotyourback

**Improper use of medicines poses significant risks.** Health professionals cite medication mismanagement as the number-one risk to the health of individuals over the age of 65. This age group consumes more than 30% of all prescription medicines—taking two to seven medications daily. As part of its Priority #1: Pre-

vention initiative, NCBAM hopes to place Red Bags into the homes of as many aging adults as possible.

### What is a Red Bag?

The red, insulated bag is a perfect place to keep medicines. Having all medicines in one place makes it easy to take medicines to doctor appointments. Storing all medicines (except temperature-sensitive ones) in the bag at all times and keeping the bag in a visible, central place helps emergency personnel locate medicines if a crisis occurs. Temperature-sensitive medicines will store safely for a limited time.

### More Information:

Red Bags are ordered in quantities of 50 or more for \$3.00 each (includes shipping). Order forms are available at [www.ncbam.org/redbag/](http://www.ncbam.org/redbag/) For more information, or to order by phone call 877-506-2226.

### *Hot off the Press:*

## **The Annual Church Profiles for 2023 have just arrived in our office.**

***This year there are three ways to submit your data:***

- There is the standard form that you are all familiar with.
- There is a newly revised short form that may be easier for smaller churches to complete.
- You may also submit information for the ACP with a new online digital form at [ncbaptist.org/acp](http://ncbaptist.org/acp).

The Annual Church Profile is the primary tool to collect statistical and other data from churches. In addition, this helps our Association Office to maintain updated contact data.

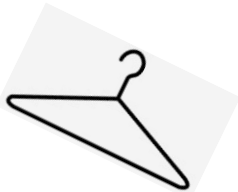
**Our deadline for submission is November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

### **SECOND MILE MINISTRY**

Second Mile is a benevolence ministry of Holly Springs Baptist Church that ministers to people through a holistic approach to meeting needs. Meeting basic needs for food, clothing, gas for transportation to medical appointments and help with utilities in emergency situations allows us to be the hands and feet of Jesus while opening doors for sharing the good news about Him.

Second Mile is open on Mondays from 10:00 AM -1:00 PM  
except for holidays.

For additional information please contact Judy Budnick at 828-347-2118.



### **COWEETA CLOTHES CLOSET**

Located at Coweeta Baptist Church, the Clothes Closet is open on the first Thursday of the month from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. If you have any clothing you would like to donate, or if you would like to help support this ministry in anyway, please contact the church at 828-369-7508.

### **MACON COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES**

# **SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR**

**Receive resources and  
information from governmental  
agencies and community  
organizations at this FREE event!**

**AUGUST 31, 2023  
4:00PM-6:00PM  
CRAWFORD SENIOR CENTER**

**DOOR PRIZES! GIVEAWAYS! SNACKS!  
PLUS - LOTS OF INFORMATION!**



For more information, or if you are interested in participating,  
please contact:

Jennifer Hollifield

828-349-2060

[jhollifield@maconnc.org](mailto:jhollifield@maconnc.org)



## NEWS FROM BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

### 62nd ANNUAL WESTERN AREA CONFERENCE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th - 4PM BROYHILL HOME IN CLYDE NC

Bring your church group and celebrate what God is doing in the lives of NC children and families served at Baptist Children's Homes' (BCH) western area ministries!

#### Event Details

The evening will feature live gospel music, a free barbecue meal and, most of all, the opportunity to meet the boys and girls and special needs adults whose lives you help change! NC children and families find the hope of Christ and healing from abuse and neglect they have endured. Broyhill Home and all of Baptist Children's Homes' many ministries throughout North Carolina, South Carolina and Guatemala would not exist without the dedication of friends like you and the goodness of God -- we are founded on faith and built on love.



#### Event Schedule

4:00PM - Cottage Tours  
4:00 & 4:30PM - Annual  
Offering Video  
Viewings  
4:45 - 5:45PM - Gospel  
Singing  
5:00PM - Free Barbecue  
Dinner  
5:45PM - Special Program  
Begins\*

#### RSVP FOR THE EVENT

TO ENSURE WE HAVE PLENTY OF FOOD FOR YOU AND YOUR GUESTS, PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY BY FILLING OUT THE FORM ON LINE OR CALLING 828-627-9254.

#### From Tom Nahlen:

I want to begin with praise. I am sitting here looking at two Visas for Dee Dee and me. As an American, we cannot go as a tourist, but we qualify for one of the twelve reasons that an American can go to Cuba, which is "Support of the Cuban People." All this means is that we must spend our time with Cuban nationals, stay at a privately owned residence or hostel, eat at privately owned restaurants, spend time with people, and not do touristy things. We must also keep receipts showing that we supported the Cuban people.

We leave in less than three weeks. I am looking forward to this trip because I will be doing exactly what I believe I have been called and gifted to do. I will be equipping nationals who are already involved in ministry and who have little to no opportunities for Biblical training. The pastor I will be working with has several congregations under his care, and we are both praying that this visit will be the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship.

Let us support Tom and Dee Dee in our prayers while they make this journey to Cuba for the Lord's work.

**Highlands Central Baptist Church** is offering the following if your church has the need:

Primera Bravo II Auto Printer and

Primera Bravo II CD Publisher. (used to make CD copies).

Please contact either Dan Robinson at (828) 371-2579 or the Association office.



#### ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON FACEBOOK?

Please let us know of events and information that you would like us to post on the Macon Baptist Association page. Also, please invite others to follow us as we will be increasing our use of this social media format to post announcements, information and updates.