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Numbers 14:20-21

**And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word:
But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.**

Words From Wesley

Hard to believe this is our last printed newsletter of 2021! This year, just like many others, has been unique unto itself. It wasn't 2020, but it certainly was not 2019, that is for sure. It is beginning to set in that we will never be going back to what was in 2019. Just like after September 11, 2001 changed our lives forever, so has COVID. Thank you all so much for your patience as I continue to make my way around to everyone for worship and fellowship. My goal is to worship with everyone by the end of 2021.

I would encourage you to go to our YouTube Channel and subscribe. We are trying to put up helpful content. One of those has been our resource of the Quarter. The final Quarter's Resource, in some ways, came out of last quarter's resource. In Rainer's book, "Post Quarantine Church," he talks about how the church will be smaller. Mainly smaller in number. However, I want to challenge us to think small. Thinking small does not mean thinking little. That's what Karl Vaters challenges the church to do in his book, "The Grasshopper Myth." It simply means that we trust God with what he has given us! See this quote from Vater's book.

"We've come to realize that our small size is not a problem to be fixed but a strategic advantage that God wants us to use. We're heading out with vision, faith and courage into places God wants us to go. Places giants cannot tread."

I pray that you will join us for those two sessions. One will be October 12, and the other will be December 9. Both at 6:00pm We plan to offer both in person and online options.

Next year, you will begin to see us change or shift our current strategy. Currently we are glorifying God by encouraging churches to be about the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20) and demonstrating the Great Commandment (Luke 10:27) by **Connecting** churches together, **Equipping** churches to make disciples, and **Mobilizing** churches to impact lostness. You will hear more about this at our 2021 Spring Meeting. Our new strategy will involve **Mobilizing** churches to impact lostness, **Maximizing** the gifts and leadership of every church to make disciples and develop leaders, and **Multiply** disciples, leaders, and churches!

Three Forks Baptist

Association Churches

Beech Valley

Bethel

Brushy Fork

Clark's Creek

Cool Springs

Cove Creek

Emmanuel

First Baptist Boone

First Baptist

Blowing Rock

Greenway

Howard's Creek

Laurel Fork

Laurel Springs

Meat Camp

Middle Fork

Mt. Calvary

Mt. Vernon

Oak Grove

Perkinsville

Pleasant Grove

Poplar Grove

Proffitt's Grove

Rutherford

South Fork

Stony Fork

Tabernacle

The Heart

Three Forks

Union

Willow Valley

Wilowdale

Zion Hill

Fall

Semi -Annual

Meeting

October—November—December—2021

Together With All the Saints

Ephesians 3:18-19 —.....may be able to comprehend with all saints with is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

The Three Forks Baptist Association will hold its fall Semi-Annual meeting on Tuesday, October 26 at Brushy Fork Baptist Church. We will be having a meal this year, which will be provided by Brushy Fork. The message for the evening will be delivered by Rev. Harold Bennett.

The meal will begin at 5:30 and the business meeting will begin at 6:30. There will be no charge for messengers and guests this year, but please be sure to RSVP no later than October 21 if you plan to be joining us for the meal. If you are more comfortable attending the meeting virtually, there will be an online option for the evening. Messengers will be able to vote virtually. A link for virtual messengers will be sent out prior to the meeting. If you would like a virtual link, please send a link request to office@3forksassoc.org no later than October 21.

The voting items for the evening will be the 2022 budget and the nominating report. A copy of both has been sent to all Three Forks Baptist Association churches. If you are a messenger, or if you are just interested in seeing the reports, please either contact your church for a copy, or contact us at 3forksassoc.org or 828-264-4482 and we will be happy to get a copy of those reports to you.

We look forward to seeing you at our Fall meeting.

Week of Prayer for Associations

The week of prayer for Baptist Associations will be October 18-24. The theme this year is "The Gospel for All". Please take time each day during the week of prayer to pray for the ministry of Three Forks, and for all other local Baptist Associations as we seek to equip, connect, and mobilize churches to ensure that the Gospel reaches everyone locally, regionally, and around the world.



Week of Prayer for Your Local Baptist Association

THREE FORKS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Phone: 828.264.4482 email: office@3forksassoc.org
Visit us on the web: www.3forksassoc.org
Office Hours: Mon-Thur. 8:30am-2:00pm



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@3forksbaptistassoc



@ThreeForksBaptAssoc



YouTube

On the Calendar

October 26— Fall Semi-Annual Meeting
November 1—ACP due to TFBA office
November 7—World Day of Prayer—2:00—Greenway
November 8-9—NC Baptist Annual Meeting
November 15—ACP due to NC Baptist
November 18—Executive Council Meeting
November 25—TFBA office closed for Thanksgiving
December 24—January 3—TFBA office closed for Christmas and New Year’s

Looking Ahead

January 25—Executive Team Meeting
March 29—Deacon Training
April 26—Spring Semi-Annual Meeting

Church Anniversaries

October

1873—Laurel Springs—148 years
1898—Clark’s Creek—123 years

November

Three Forks—1790—231 years
1841—Stony Fork—180 years
1905—Middle Fork—116 years
1938—Rutherwood—83 years
1941—Tabernacle—80 years

Annual State Meeting

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will hold it’s annual meeting November 8-9 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro NC. The theme for this year’s meeting is “On Mission Together”. The Convention Sermon will be given by H.B. Charles of Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church of Jacksonville, FL.

To register for the Annual Meeting please visit

https://ncannualmeeting.org/registration/

Hunger Ministry

Please remember to support the food pantry at Greenway, the Hunger and Health Coalition and their partnership with First Baptist Boone, and the various Little Free Pantries/Blessing Boxes throughout our community.

Monthly Emphases

October

October is pastor appreciation month, and October 10 is pastor appreciation Sunday. Lifeway has some great ideas for how to appreciate your pastor. Visit <https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/pastor-ideas-for-pastor-appreciation-month-in-october> for ideas, or let us know what you are planning to do for your pastor, so we can share your ideas with others through our weekly email update.

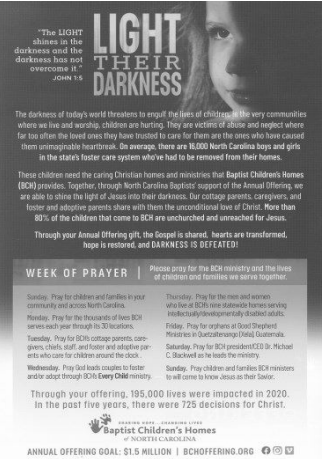
[A Prayer for Pastors from faithfulteaching.com](#)

“Bless us with your presence as we come together before you. ... Continue to bless our clergy with your wisdom and strength. Lead them higher, closer to you, so they may also lead us. We thank you for blessings on them and within our church.”

November

November is the month of the Annual Offering for Baptist Children’s Homes of North Carolina.

Visit bchoffering.org to find out more about Baptist Children’s Homes, and to watch stories of children who have been helped through this ministry.



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December is the month of the annual Lottie Moon Christmas offering. 100% of money donated to Lottie Moon goes to support missionaries engaged in the work of spreading the Gospel internationally. Please pray for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering, and prayerfully and generously give.

Due to gifts given in 2020:

422 New Missionaries

18,380 New Churches

86,587 People Baptized

144,322 New Believers

769,494 Heard the Gospel

Source: imb.org



Happy Birthday | Happy Anniversary!

October Birthdays:

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7 th | Joe London | Howard’s Creek | Associate Pastor & Youth Minister |
| 16 th | Barry Nealy | Retired | Director of Missions |
| 21 st | Sheri Wilder | South Fork | Youth Pastor’s Wife |
| 28 th | George Wright | Mt. Calvary | Pastor |

October Wedding Anniversaries:

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1 st | Charlie & Stephanie Martin | Bethel | Pastor & Wife |
| 23 rd | Mike and Sandra Townsend | Meat Camp | Pastor & Wife |

November Birthdays:

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3 rd | Ray Greene | Willow Valley | Pastor |
| 5 th | Ron Hayes | Oak Grove | Pastor |
| 6 th | Staci Norris | Perkinsville | Pastor’s Wife |
| 8 th | Akesha McMillan | Laurel Springs | Director of children’s ministries |
| 15 th | Allan Perry | Pleasant Grove | Pastor |
| 15 th | Travis Suits | Laurel Springs | Pastor |

December Birthdays:

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 17 th | Betty Russell | Mt. Vernon | Associate Pastor’s Wife |
| 20 th | Stephanie Martin | Bethel | Pastor’s Wife |
| 28 th | Kevin Combs | Cove Creek | Pastor |

December Wedding Anniversaries:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 27 th | Todd and Alicia Houston | Mt. Vernon | Pastor and Wife |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------|

Resource of the Quarter -

“Grasshopper Myth: Big Churches, Small Churches and the Small Thinking that Divides Us,” by Karl Vaters

“The *Grasshopper Myth* takes on many of the unbiblical beliefs we’ve held about church growth, church size and “success” in ministry. And it offers some healthy alternatives. Ultimately, it’s about rediscovering a New Small Church filled with hope, passion and the innovative spark of the Holy Spirit.” - Karl Vaters, Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, Fountain Valley, CA.

Thursday, October 12 and Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 6:00pm. (Pastors at 10:30am)
Contact the TFBA office if you’d like for us to order you a copy of the book, cost is like \$15.00. You may also order on Amazon, by searching for “Grasshopper Myth,” or “Karl Vaters.”

Appalachian Christmas Outreach

*The Appalachian Coalfields Ministry, sponsored by Baptists on Mission (NCBM), seeks to meet physical and spiritual needs of people living in the Appalachian Area. Working with scores of ministry centers and small churches in five Appalachian states, we help mobilize volunteers and resources to meet needs. One of the greatest ministry needs in this area occurs around Christmastime. NCBM is calling on churches statewide to respond to this need through **Appalachian Christmas Outreach 2021**. Our goal is to collect 18,000 backpacks of items to be distributed to Appalachian children in areas of need in late November and December 2021. **Statewide collection date will be Saturday, November 6**. Collection areas will be set up across the state for churches to bring their backpacks. (From baptistsonmission.com)*

Our Association goal this year is to collect 500 backpacks. We will have some backpacks and Bibles available free to our churches. To find out more about how to fill your backpacks, go to <https://baptistsonmission.org/Mission-Projects/United-States/Appalachian-Coalfields/Appalachian-Christmas-Outreach>

Local drop off will be at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church on Saturday, November 6, 9am-3pm. You may drop off before then at the Association office during office hours.

Spring Semi-Annual Meeting

The Spring Semi-Annual meeting will be held on April 26, 2022. The theme for the meeting will be “Light On the Mountain: Celebrating God’s Blessings Since 1790,” and will be held at Watauga High School, Music from Chosen Road, Guest Speaker,

High Country Impact

We had 12 churches participating in High Country Impact this year. To view pictures from the day visit our website at <https://www.3forksassoc.org/mobilize>