



# THE LINK

## Newsletter



Rev. Gordon K. West, Associational Missionary  
Mrs. Nancy Evans, Administrative Assistant

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Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Friday 9:00 am.—1:00 pm.  
Other Hours by Appointment

February 2012

“Advancing God’s Kingdom”

Number 02



**For Future Reference**—We can only accept left over Sunday School Literature and Bibles to be taken to the Randleman Pilgrim Tract Society. At this time they can not accept anything else.



### Region 4 - NC Baptist Men presents a Missions Rally for Men, Women, & Youth

Come join us for a night of mission inspiration as we experience what God is doing through NC Baptist around the world. There will be worship, testimony, video, and information on mission opportunities.

Supper is at 6:00 pm and the Program is at 7:00 pm  
**Thursday, February 16**

Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church  
316 W Main St, Sanford, NC 27332

The meal is free, but we need to have an accurate head count. Register at [www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org) [Events/Regional Rallies/Mission Rallies] or contact the office at 800-395-5102 ext.5613 or by email at [kmorgan@ncbaptist.org](mailto:kmorgan@ncbaptist.org).

Registration is due by Monday, February 13.

### This is a reminder to schedule a Sunday School Leadership Training Conference for 2012.

Two conferences are offered:

1. Sunday School in a Transformational Church - A Conference for All Leaders.
2. Transformational Bible Study - Teaching Conferences for each age group: Preschool, Children, Student/Youth, and Adults

You can get a detailed description on the web site:  
[www.ncbaptist.org/sundayschool](http://www.ncbaptist.org/sundayschool)

Other conferences may be customized to fit your specific needs as requested.

### 2012 Ministerial Tax Issues and Compensation Planning For Church Employees

Thursday, February 23, 9:30am—12 Noon  
Sanford First Baptist Church, 919-774-4220

#### Leaders:

Don McLeod from GuideStone Financial resources, Dallas, Texas and Johnny Ross from NC Baptist State Convention, Cary, NC

Note from Johnny Ross; there is **no cost** for your key leaders to attend since Cooperative Program missions dollars allows us to schedule these training sessions. Some of your people have paid more than \$150 to attend an all day meeting on this topic that is NOT as creditable as this meeting. How do I know...because I have been to one of those meetings where incorrect information was shared and a strong push made for churches to purchase some very expensive products.

#### FOR:

This seminar is designed for pastors, staff ministers, secretaries, treasurers, church committees (especially personnel, budget/finance, stewardship), deacon chairs and other interested lay leaders.

#### Topics:

- ◆ What’s new for 2012
- ◆ Biblical basis for providing equitable compensation and the importance of church-provided insurance and retirement benefits
- ◆ Tax issues that affect ministers/churches and dangers of “package” or “lump sum” compensation
- ◆ Establishing written compensation policies for churches
- ◆ Best practices that are in compliance with IRS regulations for handling ministry-related expenses for ministers
- ◆ Determining and documenting housing allowance for ministers

In order to have enough resources, registration is requested by February 13. Call Betty Pleasant at the Baptist State Convention at (800)395-5102 ext. 5595. Reservation information should include the number attending from your church and the location you will be attending.



*“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us.*

*Then said I, here am I; send me.” (Isaiah 6:8; NIV)*

I am excited about the possible mission opportunities we are working on for this year. One would be to Kentucky, where we would be working in one of the poorest areas of our country. The other would return once more to Pennsylvania, where we will be working with Valley Baptist Church assisting them with their VBS. Valley Baptist will then send a mission team from their church back to our association to work with one of our churches assisting them with VBS. More details will follow soon.

It always amazes me that another year has already come and gone and here we are already looking at February in the new year. It seems like I just get used to one year when it is time for another. I’ve always heard that when you are busy, time seems to go faster. I think all of us could say “Amen” to that. I’ve also heard that as you get older, time seems to go faster, but we won’t mention that.

In many ways, 2011 was a tough year and the outlook for 2012 is unsure. But if we are not intentional about our living we will find ourselves knocking on the door of 2013 asking the same question...Where did the year go?

2012 is a year full of opportunity. We don’t need to look at it as another year to endure, but instead as an invitation that God will give us to engage in the work of His Kingdom. It is essential for us to look at 2012 with a clear sense that God is not only on the journey with us, but that He is leading us on mission. Every day is a unique gift of God, and we need to truly value it for the rare gift that it is.

One opportunity we have to join God in His kingdom work is Operation Inasmuch. The suggested dates for the state-wide effort are Saturday, April 28 or Saturday, May 5. This is a time to show our communities the love of Jesus Christ through practical ministry. As people see us performing acts of service, they will want to know why we are doing it. This will give us the chance to tell them about Jesus and make an eternal difference in their lives. Many of our churches have participated in Operation Inasmuch in the past. Let us plan on doing it this year as well.

If you have questions about OIAM, or would like help preparing and training your people to participate, feel free to give me a call. I’ll be glad to come and help with this viable ministry outreach.

Gordon



God did not address the call to Isaiah; Isaiah overheard God saying, “Who will go for us?” The call of God is not for the special few, it is for everyone. Whether or not I hear God’s call depends on the state of my ears; and what I hear depends upon my disposition. “Many are called but few are chosen,” that is, few prove themselves the chosen one. The chosen ones are those who have come into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ whereby their disposition has been altered and their ears unstopped and they hear the still, small voice questioning all the time, “Who will go for us?” It is not a question of God singling out a man and saying, “Now, you go.” God did not lay a strong compulsion on Isaiah; Isaiah was in the presence of God and he overheard the call of God, and realized there was nothing else for him to do but to say, in conscious freedom, “Here am I, send me.”

Get out of your mind the idea of expecting God to come with compulsions and pleadings. When our Lord called his disciples, there was no irresistible compulsion from outside. The quiet, passionate, insistence of His, “Follow me” was spoken to men with every power wide awake. If we let the Spirit of God bring us face to face with God, we too shall hear something akin to what Isaiah heard, the still small voice of God; and in perfect freedom will say, “Here am I; send me.” Author, Oswald Chambers

I often find myself going back to the words of Oswald Chambers because his teachings stretch the limits of conceited thinking to multi-faceted, as through the eyes of God applying His standards. I find myself daily humbled by God as the executive director for Reach Out. This is His ministry and He alone leads. Reach Out has some urgent and great needs and we need all His children to come together for His honor and glory. I have found out the heating and air conditioning in Suite A needs replacing, it is irreparable and we have been told not to even turn it on. The units in Suite B—where we are conducting most of our ministry efforts—is in similar physical condition. However, there is an exhaust leak (carbon monoxide) into the Center. We have installed CO detectors to let us know when or if the situation gets out of control. The smaller building’s air conditioning unit is almost totally rusted out and we will need gas connections to check the heating unit. The current systems are thirty years plus and have served us well. We are still in need of a good office copier; ours is still taped together and copies are getting worse all the time. We need your prayers regarding the sale of this building and the purchase of one in Sanford. If you want to receive a monthly e-letter send me your email address. We serve a mighty God who can do far more than we can even imagine!! We should always pray in this manner.

Renee Haugh, Executive Director, 919-898-2923

Wed. & Thur.-10am—3pm, and Fri.—11am—4pm.

POBox 186, Gulf, NC 27256

[reachoutpc@embarqmail.com](mailto:reachoutpc@embarqmail.com) [www.reachoutpc.com](http://www.reachoutpc.com)

CHURCHES	December	YTD
Antioch	\$ 625.00	\$ 2,500.00
Bear Creek	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Bennett	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Bethany	\$ -	\$ 3,200.00
Bonlee	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Brookdale	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Brush Creek	\$ 584.45	\$ 2,319.13
Cool Springs	\$ -	\$ 2,760.00
Cornerstone	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Cumnock	\$ 104.24	\$ 1,250.00
East Sanford	\$ 752.13	\$ 8,947.30
Emmaus	\$ -	\$ 5,100.00
Fall Creek	\$ 350.00	\$ 4,200.00
Fellowship	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,800.00
Flat Springs	\$ 1,001.00	\$ 4,004.00
Filipino American	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00
Goldston	\$ 590.00	\$ 2,652.50
Good News	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,200.00
Gum Springs	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,000.00
Hickory Grove	\$ -	\$ 1,820.00
Hickory Mountain	\$ -	\$ 400.00
Hunt Springs	\$ 427.44	\$ 3,609.17
Iglesia La Roca Mission	\$ -	\$ -
Jonesboro Heights	\$ -	\$ 3,840.00
Joy	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Juniper Springs	\$ -	\$ 2,400.00
Kingdom Builders of Christ	\$ -	\$ 25.00
Loves Creek	\$ 377.50	\$ 4,530.00
Mays Chapel	\$ -	\$ 840.00
Moncure	\$ -	\$ 1,136.62
Moons Chapel	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Mount Olive	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
New Life Praise	\$ -	\$ 550.00
New Life Hispanic Mission	\$ -	\$ -
New Salem	\$ -	\$ 775.00
Oakley	\$ 1,270.63	\$ 7,624.13
Pittsboro Baptist	\$ 1,219.58	\$ 8,740.49
Pleasant Hill	\$ 509.46	\$ 1,645.31
Primera Iglesia Bautista	\$ -	\$ -
Rives Chapel	\$ 125.00	\$ 875.00
Roca Fuerte	\$ -	\$ -
Rock Springs	\$ -	\$ -
Rocky River	\$ 858.52	\$ 9,756.80
Sandy Branch	\$ 1,626.84	\$ 11,375.87
Sanford, First	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00
Shepherd's Flock (w/c)	\$ -	\$ -
Siler City First	\$ 375.00	\$ 4,500.00
Tramway	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Tyson Creek	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,450.00
<b>TOTAL CHURCH INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 12,846.79</b>	<b>\$ 151,376.32</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 250.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,440.00</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 13,096.79</b>	<b>\$ 154,816.32</b>
Expenses This Month	\$ 13,309.88	
Expenses To Date	\$ 151,735.56	
Budget Requirements Per Month	\$ 13,436.38	
Budget Requirements To Date	\$ 161,237.00	
<b>SCBA FUNDS</b>	<b>12/31/2011</b>	
BB&T Checking **	\$ 24,662.73	
BB&T Restricted **	\$ 31,789.67	
BB&T (World Missions)	\$ 4,601.09	
Capital Bank - CD	\$ 36,413.40	
BUDGET 2011	\$ 161,237.00	

**SCBA WMU:** February 1, 2012---32 days into the New Year, into the possibility of becoming more like Christ. A possibility that will become our reality, if we are willing. God has goals for His children recorded throughout Scripture: hear His voice and follow Him (John 10:27); believe Him and do greater works (John 14:11, 12); abide in Him and bear much eternal fruit (John 15:4, 5, 16); all be as one as He and the Father are one (John 17:21); and to be a living sacrifice and use our gifts (Rom. 12:1, 2, 6) to name a few. Let us be in a state of constant prayer for each other that the changes God brings to our lives will be a light to the lost and an encouragement to the saved. That we each will be to God and to all men the "fragrance of Christ" as we diffuse "the fragrance of His knowledge in every place" (1 Cor. 2:14, 15).

February 14, Valentine's Day, offers an opportunity for us to tell family and friends that we care expressed with cards, candy, or any number of electronic communications. Take the opportunity to encourage someone who may be struggling spiritually or with various trials of life. Visit someone who is home bound or in a nursing home, plan a mission project that will reach or help someone, and "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:16). Then resolve to make this a regular way of ministry and not just on a certain day of the year. Ask God to give you insight for ministering to members of your church family, your community, and beyond.

If we are willing and truly seeking, God will work in us and through us in ways we can only try to imagine. Believe and do greater works...not for salvation, but as an act of living faith according to James 2:18 and Hebrews 6:9-10. As Christians "we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:10).

Don't forget: February 12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, WMU NC Heck Jones Offering and Week of Prayer; 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Focus on WMU; and on the 18<sup>th</sup>, Children's Ministry Day. March 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, NAM emphasis for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®; 17<sup>th</sup>, Children in Action Day, CMV; 24<sup>th</sup>, Girls in Action Day, CMV; 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>, Missions Blitz Week, CMV; and 31<sup>st</sup>, Spring Work Day, CMV. Seek God's will and make plans accordingly.

My prayer for us all: "that [we] may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...Now may the God of hope fill [us] with all joy and peace in believing, that [we] may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 15:4, 13). Amen. Happy Valentine's Day!

SCBA WMU Director: Susan T. Ferguson, (919) 742-4993,  
[fergusonst@earthlink.net](mailto:fergusonst@earthlink.net)

**Ladies Day Out at Oakley Baptist Church**



**March 3, 2012**

**"Walk Worthy"**

**Colossians 1:9-12**

**Speaker: Tara Furman**

Registration is \$10.00 if paid by February 24<sup>th</sup>, after February 24<sup>th</sup> the registration fee will be \$15.00

Call the church office at 919-742-2095 for more information or to register.



**BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES**  
 OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED  
 PROUDLY SERVING OLDER ADULTS SINCE 1951

**Founded in 1951**  
 Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, is one of NC's most respected providers of long term care.

**They offer:**

- ◆ Independent Living
- ◆ Assisted Living
- ◆ Memory Enhanced Residence
- ◆ Short Term Rehabilitation and Long Term Nursing Care.

The Week of Prayer and Special Offering is February 5—12, 2012. If you would like more information or if you are interested in making a donation to the NC Offering for Older Adults, contact Joan Hyde at 336-725-0202 or email [jhyde@brh.org](mailto:jhyde@brh.org). Their website is: [www.brh.org](http://www.brh.org)

With four retirement communities throughout the state, Baptist Retirement Homes of NC, Inc. provides all levels of care for Older Adults, including special programs for Older Adults with dementia-related disorders like Alzheimer's Disease. Baptist Retirement Homes is a not-for-profit, church-related long-term care organization. The four homes are listed below.

- \* Brookridge Retirement Community, Winston-Salem, NC 336-759-1044
- \* Taylor House, Albemarle, NC 704-982-4217
- \* The Gardens of Taylor Glen, Concord, NC 704-788-6510
- \* Western NC Baptist Retirement Home, Asheville, NC 828-254-9675

Rising costs and decreasing federal and state financial assistance have made maintaining a high standard of care increasingly difficult. In fact, many people who may have been able to pay for their care are finding themselves in financial need.







We are looking at possible mission trips to Pennsylvania (July 7-14), Kentucky and more for 2012.

More details will follow in the LINK, in future bulletin inserts and on our website [www.sandycreekba.com](http://www.sandycreekba.com).

Other trips are also available through our state convention. 1-800-395-5102 <http://ncbaptist.org/>

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**Sandy Creek Baptist Association**  
 (Affiliated with SBC and NCBSO)  
 2807 Sandy Creek Church Rd  
 Sanford, NC 27330-9458

February—Calendar of Events-		
5-12		Week of Prayer & Offering for Older Adults - Baptist Retirement Homes
6	10:30am	Pastor's Conference at Bear Creek Baptist
7	2:30-4:30pm	SCBA Sec. Sisterhood Mtg. at Siler City First
8	9:30am	Missions Development Council Meeting
16		Region 4 Missions Rally at Jonesboro Heights
23	9:30-12noon	Taxes Workshop with Johnny Ross at Sanford First
March—Calendar of Events-		
4-11		Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
10		SCBA RA Race Day at Sanford First Baptist
11		Daylight Savings Time Begins-Turn your clocks up one hour.
16-17		Region 4 Disaster Training in Wake County
25	3pm	SCBA Bible Drill at Jonesboro Heights Baptist
31		State RA Race Day at Lawndale BC, Greensboro