



# 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

January 2012

“Advancing God’s Kingdom”

Number 01

### *Sandy Creek Baptist Association Executive Board Meeting*

*At Bethany Baptist,  
503 Alton King Rd. Gulf  
January 30, 2012  
7:00—7:20 pm*



The Executive Board is made up of two representatives from each church. These representatives can vote on associational business on behalf of their churches.



### Sanctity of Life Sunday is January 15, 2012

“I will give thanks to You for I am

fearfully and wonderfully made.”  
Psalm 139:14



*Celebrating Their Life Together*

**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 use anything else.



### *Sandy Creek Baptist Association Winter Training Event*



*At Bethany Baptist,  
503 Alton King Rd. Gulf  
January 30, 2012  
7:30—9:00 pm*

Kenny Lamm,  
(Worship & Music Senior Consultant of the NCBSC)  
will be our guest speaker for this Winter Training event entitled,

### **“Worship Basics”**

- **The Basics of Worship:** What is this thing we call "Worship"?
- **Copyright Licenses:** Is our church complying with the law in our worship & music ministry?
- **Choir Rehearsal Basics:** What can I do to improve my times of rehearsal?
- **Worship Styles:** What style(s) of worship should our church offer? How do we get there?

### **Here are a few upcoming dates to remember for 2012.**

- January 15.....Sanctity of Human Life
- January 16.....Pastor’s Conference
- January 22.....Baptist Men’s Day
- February 13-19...Focus on WMU
- February 24-26...Coastal Women’s Retreat
- March 4-11.....Week of Prayer for N.A.M.
- March 10.....SCBA RA Race Day
- March 16-17.....Region 4 Disaster Training
- March 25.....SCBA Bible Drill
- April 8.....Easter
- April 23.....SCBA Spring Meeting
- May 13.....Mother’s Day
- June 17.....Father’s Day

## From My Heart



During 2011, 14 different churches were without a pastor. By the end of the year, three had called pastors, three had called an interim, one is being led by men within the church, and the rest are still looking. Please be in prayer for these churches as they search. Pray that they will be patient as God leads them to the man He is preparing even now. Pray that they will not become despondent or discouraged as time passes. Pray that they will still see God working in them and through them during this time. Pray for me as I try to work with them and assist them during their search.

One thing I encourage churches to do when they are without a pastor is to look again at their vision. What does God want them to do in their community? How has God gifted them to ministry in their community? Just as our physical vision can diminish over the years, so can our spiritual vision. The cares and worries of life, stress and pressure from within and without, successes, failures, routines, these things and more can cause our vision to slowly fade. One day we wake up and we can't really put into words God's will (direction) for our lives. In addition to that, neither can we see how God has equipped us to be involved in His work. Things have become blurry. Only a fresh vision from the Lord will enable us to do what He has truly called us to do.

What is God's vision for your church? You don't have to be without a pastor to look at your vision. Beginning a new year is a wonderful opportunity to renew that vision. In what direction does He want you to move this New Year? I pray that God will pour out His Spirit upon you anew and a fresh. I pray that He will give you renewed courage and power to reach a lost world for Jesus. I pray that He will use you to reap a great harvest of souls for His kingdom.

2012 is the year for the next state-wide emphasis called *Operation Inasmuch*. The dates to choose from (though you can do it at any time) are April 28<sup>th</sup> or May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if your church is going to participate, and also give me the name of your coordinator. This needs to be done as soon as possible to make it more fruitful and effective.

Our Winter Training Event will be held on Monday, January 30. It will begin at 7:30 PM following the Executive Board Meeting at 7:00 PM. Kenny Lamm, worship consultant with the NCBSC, will be with us leading in a workshop entitled, "Worship Basics." This event will be held at Bethany Baptist Church and is for pastors, music ministers, choir directors, musicians, and everyone who works with the music ministry in your church.

On a personal note, our son, Matthew and his fiancé, Erin, were married on November 5. It was a blessing to perform their wedding. I am happy to report that it went well. Please pray for them as they begin their new life together.

God bless you.

Gordon



## REACH OUT CRISIS Pregnancy Center



*"Listen to Me O house of Jacob, all you who remain of the house of Israel, you whom I have upheld since you were conceived, and have carried since your birth. Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you...Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is none like Me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please". (Isaiah 46:3-4, 9-10; NIV)*

What a proclamation from God! The one true God, not like the lifeless idols that had to be carried around, speaks to our hearts telling us He created us and cares for us. His love is so enduring that He will care for us throughout our lifetime and even through death. Isaiah confirms the sole lordship of God. God is unique in His knowledge and in His control of the future. His consistent purpose is to carry out what He has planned. We must remember our commitment to Him.

As we begin a new year, let us remember the love and commitment of our one true God of the universe and commit ourselves to His service. Sometimes I get discouraged by the seeming success of the unsaved compared to the diligence of all who serve in the Pregnancy Resource Centers world-wide—I feel the pain and heartache as we continuously struggle to make ends meet while battling in the legal realm to retain the last few vestiges of our legal rights. This scripture tells us not to worry because His consistent purpose will be accomplished as He planned. Praise His name for such blessings.

Please pray for Reach Out as we are in need of a new copier. We need peer counselors, board members, administrative assistants, our diaper fund is extremely low—can you donate to this fund? We are now looking for another office in Sanford as the one we hoped to get is now being leased. I have identified another property that would work well; please pray that the current owner will be open to working with us in this venture. The air conditioning unit in Suite A does not work any longer (cools half of our 3700 sq. ft. building) and will need work or replacing. Also, the smaller building (753 sq. ft) has no heating or air conditioning which likely needs replacing. These are large financial and equipment needs. Pray for His provision for His ministry.

Renee Haugh, Executive Director, 919-898-2923

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

POBox 186, Gulf, NC 27256

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

CHURCHES	November	YTD
Antioch	\$ -	\$ 1,875.00
Bear Creek	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Bennett	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Bethany	\$ 800.00	\$ 3,200.00
Bonlee	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Brookdale	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Brush Creek	\$ -	\$ 1,734.68
Cool Springs	\$ -	\$ 2,760.00
Cornerstone	\$ -	\$ -
Cumnock	\$ 104.16	\$ 1,145.76
East Sanford	\$ 752.13	\$ 8,195.17
Emmaus	\$ -	\$ 5,100.00
Fall Creek	\$ 350.00	\$ 3,850.00
Fellowship	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,650.00
Flat Springs	\$ -	\$ 3,003.00
Filipino American	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Goldston	\$ -	\$ 2,062.50
Good News	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,100.00
Gum Springs	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Hickory Grove	\$ -	\$ 1,820.00
Hickory Mountain	\$ -	\$ 400.00
Hunt Springs	\$ 330.00	\$ 3,181.73
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	\$ 4,152.50
Mays Chapel	\$ -	\$ 840.00
Moncure	\$ -	\$ 1,136.62
Moons Chapel	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Mount Olive	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
New Life Praise	\$ 50.00	\$ 550.00
New Life Hispanic Mission	\$ -	\$ -
New Salem	\$ -	\$ 775.00
Oakley	\$ 635.35	\$ 6,353.50
Pittsboro Baptist	\$ 710.06	\$ 7,520.91
Pleasant Hill	\$ -	\$ 1,135.85
Primera Iglesia Bautista	\$ -	\$ -
Rives Chapel	\$ -	\$ 750.00
Roca Fuerte	\$ -	\$ -
Rock Springs	\$ -	\$ -
Rocky River	\$ 838.22	\$ 8,898.28
Sandy Branch	\$ 954.96	\$ 9,749.03
Sanford, First	\$ 6,250.00	\$ 25,000.00
Shepherd's Flock (w/c)	\$ -	\$ -
Siler City First	\$ 375.00	\$ 4,125.00
Tramway	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,000.00
Tyson Creek	\$ -	\$ 2,950.00
<b>TOTAL CHURCH INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 14,527.38</b>	<b>\$ 138,529.53</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 450.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,190.00</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 14,977.38</b>	<b>\$ 141,719.53</b>
Expenses This Month	\$ 12,635.77	
Expenses To Date	\$ 138,425.66	
Budget Requirements Per Month	\$ 13,436.42	
Budget Requirements To Date	\$ 147,800.62	
<b>SCBA FUNDS</b>	<b>11/30/2011</b>	
BB&T Checking **	\$ 23,488.13	
BB&T Restricted **	\$ 33,855.66	
BB&T (World Missions)	\$ 4,601.09	
Capital Bank - CD	\$ 36,413.40	
BUDGET 2011	\$ 161,237.00	

**SCBA WMU:** January 1, 2012—page one in a 366 page journal (yes, 366--it's leap year!) entices us to do better, be better by changing our habits so that we will be more like Christ by year's end. This is God's will for His children (Romans 8:28-29), but New Year's resolutions and human will power are not the way to achieve this transformation. Failure is built into this methodology since our heavenly Father never intended us to do this in our own strength. Rather Philippians 1:6 assures us we can be "confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it."

According to Ephesians 5:18, we are to "be filled [present tense] with the Spirit." This is not a one time event, but a repeated experience (Acts 2:4; 4:31) requiring agreement with God about our sin and dedicating ourselves to Him daily. If we choose to obey this way, we can be filled with the Spirit and daily reflect the character of Jesus. My prayer is that we all will choose to begin each day of 2012 filled with the Spirit and by "the working of His mighty power..." (Ephesians 1:19-20) be about the business of being transformed into the image of God's Son. Then, I believe we will see "great and inaccessible things, which [we] do not know" (Jeremiah 33:3), which we cannot know unless filled with the Spirit of God.

Dates to remember in February: 13<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> Focus on WMU week, and 18<sup>th</sup> Children's Ministry Day. In March, plan ways to encourage nurses and to support NC BNF (Paula Tutherow, [ncbnf@wmunc.org](mailto:ncbnf@wmunc.org)); in April, register for MissionsCAROLINA August 4-8 in Clinton, NC (Cheryl Cruickshank, [dcandcc@embarqmail.com](mailto:dcandcc@embarqmail.com)); in May, plan ways to honor local active military and veterans (Faith Boehmer, [militarymissionswmunc@gmail.com](mailto:militarymissionswmunc@gmail.com)); and for June plan a project to raise money for audio visual equipment for Camp Mundo Vista (Tammy Tate, [ttate@wmunc.org](mailto:ttate@wmunc.org)).

In NC 5.6 million people are lost and in need of someone to tell them about Jesus. Anticipate God's divine appointments remembering "you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood...called...out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9) as you greet each new day. We are His witnesses (Isaiah 43:10, 11), the light of the world, all to the glory of God (Matthew 5:14-16). If we are filled with the Spirit, we will see God's glory in 2012 as never before.

Praying for a Spirit filled UNHINDERED New Year!

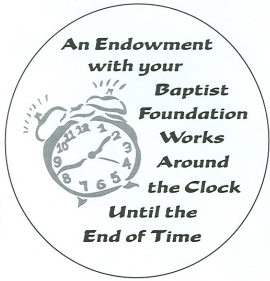
Director: Susan T. Ferguson, (919) 742-4993,  
[fergusonst@earthlink.net](mailto:fergusonst@earthlink.net)

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**Coastal Women's Retreat: February 24—26**  
**At 100 Caswell Beach Rd,**  
**Fort Caswell, Oak Island, NC**

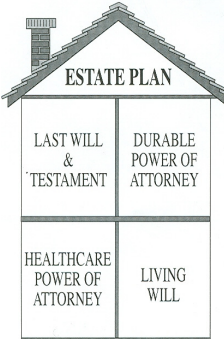
**Speaker:** Phyllis Foy, a missionary with the NAMB.  
**Worship Leader:** Stage 2 Ministry "Cindy Johnson"  
**Other Highlights:**

- ◆ Large group Worship & Fellowship
- ◆ Seminars for personal & spiritual growth
- ◆ Personal quiet time
- ◆ Time for relaxing, recreation & shopping
- ◆ Two nights lodging & four meals included.

**Contact:** Joan Carter at 910- 278-9501 or  
[jcarter@fortcaswell.com](mailto:jcarter@fortcaswell.com)



**The North Carolina Baptist Foundation, Inc.**  
**Central Office, 1-866-922-2574**  
[cfox@ncbaptistfoundation.org](mailto:cfox@ncbaptistfoundation.org)



The North Carolina Baptist Foundation is an agency of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina committed under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to serving North Carolina Baptists and others in generating an increased awareness of Christian estate stewardship principles as a means of financially undergirding churches, institutions, and mission endeavors on a permanent basis.

And further, the Baptist Foundation staff and board of directors are committed to being scrupulously moral, legal, efficient, and accurate in carrying out the intent of each donor and trustor whose funds are placed under management of the Foundation as a means of sustaining a tangible and perpetual involvement in presenting the Gospel, meeting human needs, and strengthening all bodies of Christian fellowship where Christ is the Head.

As the oldest of all the state Baptist Foundations, 90 years old in 2010, we have a long and distinguished history of assisting North Carolina Baptist individuals and churches in stewardship matters. Let us know how we can assist you, your family, your church or association in the days ahead.



**NC BAPTIST FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**Church Loan Program**

- ◆ Church loans for many purposes
- ◆ Competitive interest rates
- ◆ Consulting services at no cost
- ◆ Customized loan services

**Church Growth Investment Fund**

- ◆ Above market rates
- ◆ \$1,000 minimum investment
- ◆ Available to churches and individuals
- ◆ Demand Certificates/Timed Certificates

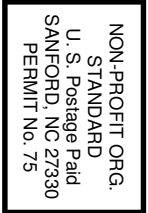
*Baptist partnering with other Baptist for the Kingdom*

**Mission Trips are being planned for 2012**

We are looking at possible mission trips to New England, Eastern Pennsylvania, Kentucky and more.

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

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



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

| <b>January—Calendar of Events-</b>  |             |                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2                                   |             | SCBA Office Closed for New Year's                                     |
| 3                                   | 2:30-4:30pm | SCBA Secretary Sisterhood Mtg. at Brush Creek                         |
| 15                                  |             | Sanctity of Human Life Sunday                                         |
| 22                                  |             | Baptist Men's Day                                                     |
| 30                                  | 6:00pm      | Executive Council Mtg. at Bethany                                     |
| 30                                  | 7:00pm      | Executive Board Mtg. at Bethany                                       |
| 30                                  | 7:30pm      | Winter Training with Kenny Lamm at Bethany                            |
| <b>February—Calendar of Events-</b> |             |                                                                       |
| 5-12                                |             | Week of Prayer & Offering for Older Adults - Baptist Retirement Homes |
| 7                                   | 2:30-4:30pm | SCBA Sec. Sisterhood Mtg. at Siler City First                         |
| 8                                   | 9:30am      | Missions Development Council Meeting                                  |
| 23                                  | 9:30-12noon | Taxes Workshop with Johnny Ross at Sanford First                      |