The NEUSE BAPTIST NEUSE NEWS

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Ministry Staff & Spouses Appreciation Dinner February 3, 2023



KEITH'S THOUGHTS ON ASBURY



Something great happened at Asbury University on Wednesday, February 8th. Revival broke out! God showed up and the students were ready and they responded. Notice with me the picture above of the Asbury chapel, "Holiness Unto the Lord"! What an amazing and great call for us as Believers! Dr. Tom McCall a professor of Theology at Asbury Theological Seminary states in a *Christianity Today* article, "A few minutes before 10, students begin to gather in Hughes Auditorium for chapel. Students are required to attend a certain number of chapels each semester, so they tend to show up as a matter of routine. But this past Wednesday was different. After the benediction, the gospel choir began to sing a final chorus—and then something began to happen that defies easy description. Students did not leave. They were struck by what seemed to be a quiet but powerful sense of transcendence, and they did not want to go. They stayed and continued to worship. They are still there." As I write this article on February 16th, they are still there, around the clock, praying, singing, and testifying.

The same thing happened at Asbury, then Asbury College, starting on February 3, 1970 and started spontaneously. The dean of the college was to speak during the chapel service that day, yet he felt impressed to have a testimony service. All of a sudden, students started to flood toward the alter to pray. That is what they did for the next 185 hours as they prayed, sang, and testified. This revival spread to other schools and churches, that had an impact for many years ahead.

Dr. John Piper states about revival, "God as the giver of life and man as ever drifting towards lifelessness — what you get is the need for the hope of reviving, coming back to life — a fresh outpouring of God's live-giving Spirit on his people." One of my former professors states in *Light the Fire*, "Revival equals radical Christians—not the ho-hum, show-up-at-church-and-leave-unchanged kind, but the kind where you live consumed by the thought of honoring God and changing your world (xiv)!"

Over the course of the history of the church there have been many regional revivals, as well as two Great Awakenings which have a deeper impact on the country as a whole. My friends, God is on the move and changing lives. Yet, I wonder, are we ready for God to move? How would we respond, if God did something radical in your church?

I've got to be honest, as a Baptist I'm concerned. I read an article earlier this morning in the Baptist Press, written by Diana Chandler a staff writer for BP entitled, "Is Southern Baptist culture conductive to Asbury-type revival?" (https://www.baptistpress.com/resource-library/news/is-southern-baptist-culture-conducive-to-asbury-type-revival/).

Let me share with you this article:

"Asbury University counts the current Holy Ghost revival, now surpassing a week, among eight spontaneous spiritual outbreaks at the small Wesleyan-Holiness campus since 1905, including the 1970s revival that spread nationally.

No such continuous revival is counted as having been birthed among the six Southern Baptist seminaries and the numerous undergraduate colleges supported with Southern Baptist dollars.

(Keith's Thoughts on Asbury, cont.)

Is there anything in Southern Baptist theology, practice or culture that discourages the birth of such movements?

Both Tim Beougher and Bill Elliff, longtime students of revival who've attended and written about the Asbury event, shared their thoughts with Baptist Press. Both see components within and external to Southern Baptist life that tend to hinder revival. Beougher, the Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has studied revivals for more than 40 years.

'As far as I know, nothing has originated at a Southern Baptist seminary, although the 1995 revival did originate in a Southern Baptist church in Brownwood, Texas,' he said, referencing a revival that spread from Coggin Avenue Baptist Church to over 50 schools including Asbury.

'All of that started at a Southern Baptist church in Texas,' he said, noting a revival fire that sparked at Howard Payne University and Wheaton College before spreading to other schools. Beougher taught at Wheaton, an evangelical Christian school in Wheaton, Ill. 'I wouldn't automatically exclude Southern Baptists from this discussion.'

But Beougher references the late evangelist Roy J. Fish, who said Baptists fear revival because of a fear of excess.

'We see people that we think put too much of an emphasis on the Holy Spirit, so we drive off the ditch on the other side and pretend there isn't even a Holy Spirit,' Beougher paraphrased Fish, 'where we don't even mention Him.'

'He said we have become so afraid of strange fire, that we would rather remain cold than open ourselves to be warmed by the fire of God.'

While Southern Baptists and Wesleyan-Holiness believers have doctrinal distinctions, Beougher doesn't believe that's the reason Asbury attracts so much revival.

'We definitely have doctrinal distinctions related to baptism and church government,' he told Baptist Press. 'Wesleyan-Arminians believe you could lose your salvation. Some of them believe you can obtain complete sanctification in this life.'

'There are some theological distinctives, but I don't know that I would attribute it as much to those theological distinctions as just, they've experienced this in the past,' Beougher said.

'They have a hunger to see God work and they're crying out to Him. And I think God loves to answer those kinds of prayers.'

Elliff, Directional Pastor of The Summit Church in Little Rock, Ark., doesn't see anything in Southern Baptist theology that discourages revival.

'I think we have some practical heart beliefs that hinder it,' Elliff told Baptist Press.

'Part of it is Southern Baptists have been very successful. If you're real successful in church planting and growth, we were the largest, etc., etc.,' Elliff said, 'you tend to feel you don't need God to come in a sweeping movement of revival. I think success sometimes is our enemy in that way.'

Across America, Christians are not students of revival and awakening. Christians don't expect the phenomena.

'The reason I've pursued that for the last 50 years is because I was in a moment in the Jesus Movement, in a season where I saw revival and awakening,' Elliff said. 'I got the taste in my mouth so I've studied it all my life, read about it, experienced it, pursued it.'

Perhaps many pastors, he said, believe we can build churches based on intellect, without the work of the Holy Spirit and without prayer.

'There's a real emphasis right now on theological correctness. I agree with that; I'm all for that,' Elliff said. 'But also, I agree that we need to encounter God, experience God. It's not just in the head. It's in the heart. There's more than just learning about God. Paul said I give up everything so that I might know, experientially, God.'

Both Elliff and Beougher see elements at Asbury University that encourage revival.

'It seems to me -I'm not an authority on this -it seems to me that that particular school has an openness to this, a bent towards this. They want to see God come,' Elliff told Baptist Press.

'They believe in experiential spirituality, and I do too. And I'm not talking about charismatic theology, as much as just heart theology ... and heart experience. And there's a deep emphasis on prayer, and on surrender.'

(Keith's Thoughts on Asbury, cont.)

Elliff also sees a faith component in the mix at Asbury.

'They are looking for and expecting God to move because of their past,' Elliff said. 'I think across the board in America, because we haven't seen a nationwide movement since 1970, and prior to that 1904 in the Welsh revival that dramatically affected America, because we haven't seen that personally, most of us, then we don't pray big.

'We can't fathom that 15 percent of the population could come to faith in two years like it did in the first great awakening. So, we don't even ask for it.' Beougher believes many Christians, let alone Southern Baptists, fear revival because of the change it brings.

'True revival begins in agony. It doesn't begin with laughter; it begins with tears,' Beougher said, referencing comments from the late revivalist J. Edwin Orr. 'And Orr said revival is like judgment day. The Spirit of God just shines His searchlight on our hearts and anything out of keeping with God's Word and God's will is exposed, and we're forced to deal with it.

'I think that's a big reason why people fear revival, is because they know those hidden sins are going to come to light. God's going to shine His searchlight on it, and it's going to mean change.'

While Beougher is not ready to call the Asbury revival the third great awakening, he said 'every believer ought to be on their knees in prayer, praying for God to do something. Our churches desperately need revival. Our nation desperately needs awakening. We ought to all be crying out to God, asking Him to do something new.

'If this movement becomes a spiritual awakening, it won't just be Christians talking about it,' Beougher said. 'Everyone in America will know what's going on, because it will be transforming our culture.'

Beougher wrote his master's thesis on the 1970 Asbury Revival and its impact on Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and coauthored with Lyle W. Dorsett, "Accounts of a Campus Revival: Wheaton College 1995."

'Ultimately, I think we have to fall back on the sovereignty of God,' Beougher told Baptist Press. 'I think G. Campbell Morgan said it well. He said, 'We cannot cause the wind of the Spirit to blow, but we can set our sails to catch the wind when it does blow.'"

My friends, God is on the move and changing lives, yet, do we have our sails set to "catch the wind"? Put another way, are we ready for God to move? How would we respond, if God did something radical in your church? I pray that we eagerly desire to see God move. I pray that we would be both ready for the Lord to move and respond with joy when it He does. My friends, I pray for revival, will you join me praying for revival?

Love you all, Keith

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Applications for the Russell & Joeann Ault Scholarship of Neuse Baptist
Association are now being accepted through April 1st.

Current High School Seniors and those pursuing college degrees are encouraged to contact the NBA Office to request the link to the Application.

Previous award recipients are eligible to re-apply.



The CHURCH NEWS Page

As Reported by the Churches

Adamsville (Pete Williams) Keenagers had a wonderful time shopping at The Pottery and eating at Cracker Barrel in Smithfield in February. Valentine's Fellowship was held 2/10, with great food and fellowship. *Mac McRoy and the South Point Band* played Bluegrass Music for a concert on 2/12. Local missions projects included a collection of diapers in January, to support Wayne Pregnancy Center, and paper products in February to support Kennedy Home. Community Veterans Group meets each Tuesday from 10-12 in the Fellowship Hall. They share ways to help our Veterans receive any available assistance. Anyone who is a Veteran is welcome to attend. On March 11 at 7PM, church will host Westly Pritchard and friends and *Adoration Quartet* with a free concert.

Emmaus (Jim Willoughby) Our sincerest sympathy is extended to Pastor Jim & Mrs. Jeannie, on the recent passing of Jeannie's father, Max Rich on February 9. Final LMCO total was \$3,097, exceeding the church's \$1500 goal. PTL! Mission & Ministry Breakfast is planned for 3/4, to plan ways to meet needs in the local community. Several of the men of the church faithfully volunteer to help build ramps headed by the ramp ministry of First Baptist Goldsboro. A spring revival has been planned for April 23-26, and VBS is planned for July 16-20.

Falling Creek (Robert Ellis) The church family has been faithfully involved in several local missions projects: collection of clothing and supplies for Kennedy Home; school supplies for students at Grantham Middle School; and blankets and coats for a homeless ministry in Goldsboro. Valentine's Banquet was enjoyed 2/10. A representative from the Gideons is scheduled to speak on 3/5. Easter plans are also being made for the church family to enjoy and take part in.

Love Memorial (Richard Toler) An Ingathering for Wayne Pregnancy Center was held at the end of January, and a collection of diapers, wipes and bottles was received. In early February, Sonshiners gathered to watch *I Heard* the Bells, and later in the month they met for a Planning Luncheon to plan activities for the remainder of the year. Men's Breakfast was held 2/18. Twenty-four married couples enjoyed the "Art of Marriage" event the weekend following Valentine's Day at LMBC. Before and throughout February, Awana leaders collected an offering for the Africa Schools Project, and Focus on Missions Sunday was celebrated on 2/19. Youth Group "TSM" attended Winter Jam in Greensboro, 2/25-26. Baptist Men plan to attend the East Coast Men's Conference at Englewood Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, March 10-11. Spring Revival is planned for March 12-15 with speaker Dr. Michael Cloer, AMS for Cape Fear Baptist Association. Love Ladies will enjoy a retreat to Oak Island, March 24-26.

Pinkney (Steven Gay) A Valentine's Banquet was held 2/11, with guest speaker Keith Hudson. Priscilla Shirer's *Elijah* will be the focus of the next Ladies Bible Study, which will begin 3/19. Men's Ministry build a wheelchair ramp for a member's daughter on 2/14. The church family continues to enjoy their weekly Fellowship Meals at 6PM prior to Wednesday Night Bible Study.

Rivermont (John Morton) A church-wide Valentine's Luncheon was enjoyed after morning worship on 2/12. A Fellowship Luncheon was also enjoyed by ones who were able on Tuesday, 1/17 at Noon, preceded by an hour of crafts for those who were interested. Church continues its campaign to raise funds to resurface its parking lot.

Rosewood (Tim Lipp) Youth group, "Amplified Youth", hosted a Valentine's Banquet on Saturday, 2/11 at the church. Women's group, Commissioned Hearts, sponsored a Chilli & Soup Cookoff Luncheon at the church on 2/19 to raise money for missions. A luncheon to honor Interim Pastor Dr. Cam Jorgenson was held 2/26 after morning worship.

Snow Hill First (Brick Crowder) A "Beast Feast" wild game supper men's event is being planned for March 18 at the church. WMU hosted an "All In" Ladies Event on 2/18, which consisted of a time of food, fellowship and worship. Event guest speaker was Pastor Brick's wife, Allison. New youth group "The Hill" kicked off on 2/9, for students in 6th-12th grades. At their inaugural event they enjoyed Bible Study, small groups, the Super Bowl, food and fellowship. "FBC Kids" kicked off on 2/8 for kids K-5th grade, preceded by Family Night Supper at 6:15, which will take place each Wednesday night. Couples within the church were invited to enjoy a "Sunday Night Supper" on 2/5, which included a Conversation on Marriage with Brick & Allison Crowder. Attendees enjoyed a baked potato bar with dessert along with games and were blessed by the inspirational message & encouragement by The Crowders.

Trinity (Dave Fishman) Three baptisms were celebrated on 2/26 with an adult, teen and child making a public profession of their faith. Movie Night is set for March 5 at 6PM showing the new Kendrick Brothers movie, *Lifemark*, with popcorn and drinks. Homecoming Service will be held March 19 with Rev. Vernon Braswell bringing God's message. Service will begin at 10:30AM and will conclude with a Fellowship Luncheon. Spring Bazaar, hosting various hometown small businesses, will be held at the church on April 1 from 10AM—2PM. This will be an opportunity to reach out to the community.

Current Church Ministry Openings

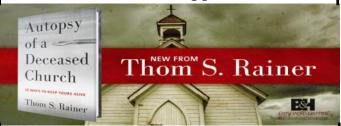
As Submitted by the Churches

- ⇒ Seven Springs Baptist Church, Seven Springs, NC is prayerfully seeking a full-time Pastor. We are a conservative body of Believers who trust in the inerrant Word of God. We seek a Pastor that will support our church ministries and be a shepherd to our congregation. Our church seeks a Pastor with a minimum of five years experience as a full time Pastor. Please send resumes to:

 Seven Springs Baptist Church PO Box 55

 Seven Springs NC 28578
 or via email: chrisssbc2022@gmail.com
- ⇒ Community Baptist Church is seeking a Pianist. Please mail Resume to:
 Community Baptist Church,
 351 Antioch Ch Rd,
 Goldsboro NC 27534
 or call Pastor Michael Lewis at 919-222-6685 and leave a message.
- ⇒ **Spilman Memorial Baptist Church** (601 Madison Avenue, Kinston), is accepting applications for a **music director** to lead our traditional church music program. This person needs to be able to play the piano and/or organ. The church currently has Sunday morning worship and weekly choir practices. For more information or to submit a resume and letter of interest, please email *info@spilmanbaptist.org*

Autopsy of a Deceased Church Deacon Retreat Opportunities



Keith is available to facilitate in-house Deacon Retreats for our churches, beginning in May. Using Thom Rainer's *Autopsy of a Deceased Church*, the retreat would consist of a video-based study with workbooks and could take place on a Friday evening through Saturday mid-day schedule, at the individual church. This would be a great opportunity for the Deacons to enjoy time together in study & fellowship, to enhance the ministry of their local church.

For more information about the *Autopsy of a Deceased Church* curriculum, click on this link or visit churchanswers.com.

For more information about what a Deacons Retreat could look like for your church, or to schedule a retreat, call Keith at the NBA Office.



Established in 1978 as the World Hunger Fund, Global Hunger Relief (GHR) is an initiative of the Southern Baptist Convention dedicated to combating hunger and sharing the Bread of Life. When your church contributes to the Global Hunger Offering (or, World Hunger Fund), a portion of those proceeds supports NC Baptist Hunger Relief efforts — and a portion of that supports Hunger Ministries within Neuse Baptist Association! Consider initiating a regular Global Hunger Relief Offering within your church, if you do not already. For more information, visit https://www.globalhungerrelief.org/

Annual NBA Project: Men's Personal Care Bags for Migrant Workers

Each year, NBA Churches join together to provide 60 Personal Care Bags for *male* migrant farm workers who come from Mexico to work during the summer at Tull Hill Farms in Kinston.

- 1. Choose an item from below that your church will collect or purchase 60 of.
- 2. Notify NBA of that item (to prevent over-spending and to ensure another church hasn't selected it.)
 - 3. Collect/purchase items and then drop them off to NBA **before Memorial Day**.

 Please purchase full-size items only, not travel-sized.

ITEMS STILL NEEDED:

60 Bath Towels

• Gently-used Men's Long-Sleeved Button-down Shirts (No limit to the number of button down shirts; will take as many as can receive).



DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, March 4 Village Baptist Church

(Fayetteville NC)

8:30AM—3:00 PM

Cost: \$40

Ages 18+

Participants registered on a first-come, first-served basis. Training class size is limited. Registered Volunteers will be contacted approximately 1 week before the event with any additional information.

Cost includes PDF training manual, hat, shirt, ID badge, background check (if needed), meal, and temporary accident insurance. NON-REFUNDABLE. Credit Card/Checks accepted.

Note: The training is designed to be as realistic as possible. Flexibility is key to having a good experience. Please do not register for this training if you cannot stay for the entire event.

For more information, contact Tracey Ford at <u>tford@ncbaptist.org</u> or call 919-459-5606.



Location: Charity Mission Center (1333 W Charity Rd, Rose Hill NC) Thursday March 9 — Saturday March 11

Is worship not hitting the right note? Practical, proven training equips worship leaders with the understanding and tools to overcome spectatorship and renew transformative worship.

To learn more, visit: <u>ncbaptist.org/events/worship-leader-training</u>



CONSTRUCTION TRAINING

Saturday, March 11 Charity Mission Center

(Rose Hill NC)

9:00 AM—3:00 PM Cost: \$10

Students • Adults

Learn valuable construction skills such as how to hang and finish drywall, install flooring, lay out and frame walls, and more! This is a great training for students, women and men.

The cost of attending the training itself and lunch is \$10.00. There is an option to stay overnight at Charity on March10-11 (Friday -Saturday). The cost of training with overnight housing/meals is \$21.00

For more information, contact Paul Langston at <u>plangston@ncbaptist.org</u>; call 919-604-4778; or click here: <u>https://baptistsonmission.org/bom/construction-training/construction-skills-training-at-charity-mission-center---spring-2023/6286</u>



March 18, 2023

Presented by NC Baptists

Location: Charity Mission Center (1333 W Charity Rd, Rose Hill NC) 9:30 AM — 12:00 PM

As believers, we are responsible for creating a safe and secure environment for the people around us.

This conference is open to anyone who wants to know more about preventing sexual abuse, recognizing the grooming process, creating and enforcing policies and much more within your ministry context. All ministry and organizational leaders, staff and members will benefit from the information presented.

Visit: ncbaptist.org/events/safety-and-security-training/



Sunday, April 16

CFULLIA

CILIA

Statewide Baptism Emphasis





Contributions from Churches — January 2023		
	Jan 2023	YTD2023
CHURCHES Adamsville Anointed Vision Bethel	100.00	100.00
Cabin Calvary Goldsboro Calvary Kinston Casa del Dios Community Davis Grove	200.00 100.00 500.00 61.29	200.00 100.00 500.00 61.29
Deep Run First Emmaus Falling Creek Fremont	378.84 370.76	378.84 370.76
Gateway	1200.00	1200.00
Goldsboro First Grainger	500.00	500.00
Horeb International Immanuel Jordans Chapel	85.00	85.00
Kinston First La Grange First Love Memorial Madison Ave	598.53	598.53
Mount Nelson Neuse New Beginning	9209.96 1690.00	9209.96 1690.00
New Hope New Life Northview Nueva Amanecer	507.00	507.00
Pikeville First Pineview Pinkney	1000.00 242.95	1000.00 242.95
Rivermont Rosewood First	548.97 278.05	
Sandy Bottom Seven Springs Snow Hill First	300.00	300.00
Spilman Memorial The Way Trinity Union	200.00 250.00 1108.95	200.00 250.00 1108.95
Total CHURCHES	19430.30	19430.30

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8

Designated Funds	(YTD Balance)
Vans ('16 & '08) Use Miscellaneous Donations Payments for Trainings NCMO % Rebate Handy Man Donations Hunger Fund Bldg Capital Improvements Block Party Trailer Ministry Total Des. Funds '23	99.34 200.00 0.00 0.00 300.00 0.00 0.00 599.34
Rollover Funds	
NCMO Rebate	4191.68
Hunger Fund	1.05
Capital Improvement	8400.02
Misc. Donations Rollover	1446.38
BPT Rollover	1280.46
Handy Man Donation Fund	10087.16
Vans Use Rollover	4.15
Total Rollover Funds	<u>25410.90</u>
Designated Funds Total	26010.24



March Birthdays

Mike Collier, Retired Pastor — 08
Greg Kincaid, Neuse — 10
Jeff Russ, Cabin — 14
Carol Carter, Grainger Interim's Spouse — 21
Jim Willoughby, Emmaus — 22
Norm Davis, Retired Pastor — 23

March Ministry Anniversaries

Ron Varner, New Life — 11 years Michael Lewis, Community — 7 years Dave Fishman, Trinity — 2 years

We wish to incorporate our **Pastor's Wives** into our Birthday list! It is never our intention to leave anyone out, so feel free to drop an email to Wendy@NBAChurches.com to help ensure that YOUR Pastor's Wife receives the proper newsletter shout-out when her day comes!

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) is the primary way Southern Baptists fund missions in North America. One hundred percent of gifts given to AAEO go to the field to support more than 2,400 missionary families serving across the United States and Canada. transformed by the gospel because you give.

What's Coming Up On Our Calendar?

March 2023

- 04 Disaster Relief Training Opportunity, Village Baptist Church, Fayetteville NC
- 11 Construction Skills Training, Charity Rebuild Center, Rose Hill, NC
- 12 Daylight Saving Time Starts
- 14 Pastors Lunch; Noon @ NBA
- 15 Submissions due for April newsletter
- 20 NBA Leadership Council Meeting @ NBA Office

May 2023

- 09 Pastors Lunch, Noon @ NBA Office
- 13 Friends of Children Day @ Kennedy Home
- 14 Happy Mother's Day!
- 15 Submissions due for June/July newsletter
- 15 NBA Leadership Council Meeting
- 26 Due date for items collected for Men's Personal Care Bags
- 29 Memorial Day; NBA Office CLOSED

April 2023

April is Food Round-Up Month for Baptist Children's Homes

- 01 Deadline to apply for Ault Scholarship of NBA
- 07 Good Friday; NBA Office CLOSED
- 09 Easter Sunday
- 11 Pastors Lunch, Noon @ NBA Office
- 14 –15 NC Baptist Missions Conference, Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte NC
- 15 Submissions due for May newsletter
- 16 "Fill the Tank" Sunday
- 24 NBA Executive Board Meeting, 6PM @ NBA Office / RTC
- 28-29 Women's Missions Conference (Formerly Missions Extravaganza),
 Lawndale Baptist Church, Greensboro NC

Dr. Keith Hudson, Association Mission Strategist (AMS) — <u>Keith@NBAChurches.com</u> Wendy Parker, Office Mgr. — <u>Wendy@NBAChurches.com</u>

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