



NEUSE NEWS

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From Keith

I love being on mission together! As you read this, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will be in full swing. As you are well aware, this mission offering goes to support missions here in North America with NAMB missionaries, at colleges, & planting churches among a multitude of people groups that now call the United States home.

One of the parts that I am so encouraged with is that it takes all of us being on mission together because we are far better together than we are apart. This is true at the widest sense and it is true here at Neuse Baptist Association.

This is evident as I look out not only locally but also at the wider church. We no longer live in a world where the church is the significant voice. Think about this, locally here in Neuse Baptist Association region, we have consistently around 75% of individuals and families in our communities having no significant engagement with a church. Now imagine that number in the Northeast or the Pacific Northwest.

You ask, how do we turn this around? I'm so glad you asked. At the risk of oversimplifying, it comes down to three things:

- 1) We have to be serious about the Great Commission. This passage in Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus says, "Go therefore and *make disciples* of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age (ESV, emphasis mine)." I have spoken about this verse in many of our churches and if you have heard me teach on this verse, you know this passage hinges on two words: Make Disciples. My dear friends, we have to be serious about the Great Commission. We have to be serious in being a catalyst in our communities. We have to be serious with the attitude of 'whatever it takes'. Our world and our direct communities need Jesus. The question is, will this passage be the Great Commission or the Great Omission?

(Continued)

(From Keith, continued)

- 2) We have to take seriously accomplishing the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment. This passage in Matthew 22:36-39 Jesus says, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, ‘You shall *love the Lord your God* with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall *love your neighbor* as yourself (ESV, emphasis mine).” Like the Great Commission, I have also spoken about this verse in many of our churches. As the church and as believers we must be known by our love, our love for Jesus, our love for one another, and our love for the community around us. Jesus tells us in John 13:34-35, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
- 3) We need one another because we can’t do it alone. We must have churches networking together, encouraging one another, and helping one another if we are to accomplish the mission that is before us. Let’s be honest, the task is too big for one believer or even one church.

This is the mission and the best time to start is now. Even better, we find ourselves here at Easter when people are thinking more about Jesus and are more open to an invitation to church.

My friends, we have a mission, now let's go accomplish the mission.

Love to all,
Keith



A poster for "Worship Leader Training". The background is a black and white photograph of a person's hands playing a guitar. The text is white and teal. At the top, it says "April 24-26, 2025" and "Charity Rebuild Center Rose Hill, NC". Below that is a logo consisting of three horizontal bars of increasing height, followed by the words "WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING" in bold. A teal banner below the logo contains the text "IS WORSHIP HITTING THE RIGHT NOTE?". At the bottom, in white text, it says "Practical, proven training equips worship leaders with the understanding and tools to overcome spectatorship and renew transformative worship." and "Learn more at: RENEWINGWORSHIPNC.ORG/TRAINING".

This particular Worship Leader Training was planned specifically to help the churches in the Eastern NC Area.

If your church is struggling with Worship or if your worship leaders simply want to improve their ministry, this 3-day training is for you.

- **The cost:** \$75/person (includes all meals + lodging for those who don't wish to commute).
- **When:** Thursday-Sunday afternoon, April 24-26.
- Participants can go on to earn a certificate from Fruitland or SEBTS with additional work.

For more information visit renewingworshipnc.org/training or reach out to Kenny Lamm, Worship Ministry Strategist with NC Baptists at 919-951-5488.

The CHURCH NEWS Page

As Submitted by the Churches

Deep Run First (Michael Wright) WMU collected items for Lenoir Assisted Living during March. Youth are doing an Egg Your House fundraiser to spread Easter blessings and to raise funds for their programs. Folks can purchase bundles of plastic filled eggs and the Youth will deliver them and then hide them in the purchaser's yard — great way to surprise kids & grandkids! Church observed Week of Prayer for North American Missions, March 2-9. Several from the church volunteered to attend CPR training, to ensure there are CPR trained individuals at the church should the need arise. Annual Yard Sale took place March 1st with great attendance from the community. Monthly Food Bank served 67 families in February.

Emmaus (Jim Willoughby) Church's goal for this year's AAEO is \$1500. Monthly Senior Luncheon will be April 10 at Noon at the church; all seniors aged 50+ are invited at no cost. Women on Mission will sponsor a food giveaway on April 12. Emmaus will be joining Trinity & Tehillah churches on April 17 for a community Maundy Thursday observance at 7PM. The public is invited. Egg Hunt is planned for Saturday, April 19 beginning at 10AM. Easter Sunday services on April 20 will begin with a Sunrise Service (time TBA) and at 10:45 AM, the choir will present their cantata, *I Surrender All*.

Gateway (Thayer Stamper) Ladies will enjoy Ladies Craft Night for ages 14+ on Friday, April 11 at 7PM at the church. Good Friday Worship & Communion will be at 7PM on April 18. Barbecue Chicken Plate Sale will be Saturday, April 26 to raise funds for Gateway Students. Plates will be \$12 and include half bbq chicken, potato salad, green beans, bread and dessert. Guys' Overnight Camping @ the Cliffs is planned for the weekend of May 16.

Kinston First (Jon Hoover) Golfing for Guatemala Golf Tournament / Mission Trip Fundraiser will take place Saturday, April 5 at the Kinston Country Club. Entry fee is \$100/golfer and includes the use of a golf cart. In June, Kinston First will send 21 members on a mission trip to Guatemala where they will partner with Impacto Ministries to minister to children and the elderly to address pressing needs while sharing the love of Christ. The church family enjoyed a Chili Cook Off on March 16, and the winner took home the "King of FBC Chili" Trophy. This was also a Guatemala Mission Trip Fundraiser.

Love Memorial (Richard Toler) *Pastor Richard retired from the USDA in March, after 36 years of employment, and will now serve as Love's full-time Pastor. Congratulations!*

Revival Services were held March 9-12 with Guest Speaker Dr. Michael Cloer, Mission Strategist for Cape Fear Network of Baptist Churches. Baptist Men's breakfast was on March 9th. 5th Sunday Night Sing was enjoyed March 30th. Women's Brunch is planned for April 5 at 9AM with Guest Speaker Beverly Weeks of Cry Freedom Ministries. Secret Church "The Gospel of Matthew" will take place April 11 from 6:45PM-1:30AM. Call the church office to register; \$10 includes Matthew study guide and refreshments. Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Wayne Memorial Park at 6:45AM on April 20. Church will participate in Camp Meeting at Falling Creek Community Church, April 27-30 at 6PM Sunday and 7PM Monday-Wednesday. TSM (youth) will have their Yard Sale at 7AM on May 3 and are currently accepting donations to sell; contact the church office. All proceeds go towards the Memphis Mission trip this summer. TSM will also be hosting a Golf Tournament on Friday, May 9 at Lane Tree Golf Club in Goldsboro to raise money for the Mission Trip; registration begins at Noon and lunch is provided. Cost to participate is \$70/player and anyone interested should contact the church office.

Pinkney (Steven Gay) Gospel group *The Brown Family* from Wallace, NC brought the message in song on March 16 during evening worship. A time of fellowship was enjoyed afterward. Youth are collecting donations on behalf of Kitty Askins. Outdoor Work Day was held March 22.

Rivermont (John Morton) In March, Youth began having an evening meeting every other Sunday night. A Spaghetti Benefit for Carly Humphrey, sponsored by the Youth, was held March 22. A formal Benefit for Carly will be held May 16 at the church, and will be a BBQ / BBQ Chicken plate sale for \$13. Carly is a member of the community battling a rare, incurable form of cancer.

Rosewood (Tim Lipp) Dove Award winning band *Sidewalk Prophets* performed a special acoustic concert at the church on Friday, March 28 which was open to the public. Youth Sunday was observed March 30.

Sandy Bottom (Rick Mondell) Five candidates were Baptized on March 16; to God be the Glory! The church family had an enjoyable

Continued

CHURCH NEWS, Cont.

(Sandy Bottom) Valentine's Banquet with a steak supper and all the trimmings. Choir sang at Gray Branch FWBC revival service on March 25. Egg Hunt is planned for April 12 at 11AM.

Snow Hill First (Brick Crowder) Beast Feast Men's event was held March 22nd. The event included a raffle, wild game dishes, and a special message just for men. All proceeds collected from the event benefited Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Greene County Schools and other local ministries. Egg Hunt is planned for April 19 and will include games, inflatables, face painting, food and 3,000 eggs to hunt.

The Way (Carlos Peralta) Annual Yard & Bake Sale will be held Saturday, April 12 from 7-11 AM at the church. There will also be vendors from Avon, Pampered Chef, Paparazzi Jewelry, Color Street Nails and more. Proceeds benefit Youth summer camp 2025. *Gaylon Pope & Sweet Water* will be performing on Sunday, May 4 at 10:30 at the church. A covered dish luncheon will follow.

Trinity (Dave Fishman) A group will be traveling to The Rudy Theatre on April 5th to enjoy the Easter Jubilee matinee show, followed by a meal at Cracker Barrel. Church will host a combined Maundy Thursday service with Emmaus and Tehillah churches on April 17. Service starts at 7PM and will include Bishop Anthony Slater of Tehillah sharing God's Word. There will also be special music, communion, and refreshments following the service; all are invited to attend. Easter worship opportunities include Son-Rise Service (outside, weather permitting) at 7AM with refreshments after and morning worship at 11AM. Homecoming Celebration will be May 4 at



April Birthdays

Vernon Braswell, Golds. 1st Interim — 4/10
Ron Varner, New Life — 4/11
Carlos Peralta, The Way — 4/11
Jamal Hyman, Abide — 4/13
Glen Phillips, Retired Pastor — 4/23
Tim Gore, Fremont — 4/30

April Ministry Anniversaries

Greg Kincaid, Neuse — 25 years
Richard Toler, Love Memorial — 18 years
Carlos Peralta, The Way — 7 years
Scott Wright, New Hope — 1 year

Meals of Love for Kitty Askins

We invite our area churches, civic groups, and individuals to make a meal to share with our patients, their families, and staff at Kitty Askins Hospice Center. It will mean so much to them!

Meals can be shared one time, or your group can sign up to provide meals on a weekly, monthly, or quarterly basis. Meals should feed 30-35 people, please.

To sign up or to learn more, please contact our Patient Experience Coordinator:

RACHEL TURNER
CELL: (919) 583-4470
OFFICE: (984) 345-2783
EMAIL: rturner@3HC.org

Fill the TANK

April 27, 2025

FILLTHETANKNC.ORG

65+? Lonely? Need to talk?

NCBAM's Hope Line is here for you!

866-578-4673

NCBAM NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST AGING MINISTRY

MINISTRY POSITIONS

Senior Pastor

First Baptist Church of Goldsboro, NC
Compensation package based on experience.

The ideal candidate will possess a heart for ministry, a deep knowledge of the Bible, and a strong commitment to the Baptist faith and values. As the primary leader of our church, said individual will provide biblical preaching, spiritual guidance, and leadership for our church family, while helping us grow in our mission to serve God and our community.

This posting has been edited due to space constraints. To see this posting in its entirety, please visit [NBA's website](#).

Children's Director

First Baptist Church of Goldsboro, NC

First Baptist Church of Goldsboro is seeking a Children's Director who will minister to children on Sundays, Wednesdays, and will devote 2 hours to ministry on Thursdays. Ideal candidate will be a female. Position is part-time. Interested candidates are advised to send a resume with cover letter to:

office@fbcgoldsboro.org

Church Office Administrator

Rosewood First Baptist Church
Part-Time, Monday - Friday, 9AM - 1PM
Pay Negotiable

Candidate needs to be proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Publisher, Excel, PowerPoint), Canva, Adobe Acrobat (pdf.), and File Management. Duties include office receptionist, publish weekly bulletin, prayer lists, record attendance and tithes given, assist pastoral staff, record and send memorial letters, mail bulletins to shut-ins, order curriculum for Sunday School and WMU, order office supplies and materials for committees as requested.

This posting has been edited due to space constraints. To see this posting in its entirety please visit [NBA's website](#).

YOUTH MINISTRY

**Does your church offer it?
Do you need help with it?
Interested in beginning it?
Need direction?**

YOUTH MINISTRY TRAINING / Q&A
Saturday, April 26
10:00 AM
@ NBA Office



1 DAY SATURDAY MISSIONS DAYS

LOCAL MISSIONS FOR ALL AGES!

MARCH 29: Oak Ranch, Broadway | APRIL 5: Carreron Boys Camp, Carreron
APRIL 12: Camp Duncan, Aberdeen | MAY 10: Kennedy Home, Kinston
MAY 17: Odum Home, Pembroke

SEE INFO ON THE BACK TO HELP YOU OR YOUR GROUP GET READY! ➔

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN ONLY ONE DAY!

Friends of Children is a one-day, Saturday missions opportunity for your church to tackle projects at one of **Baptist Children's Homes' (BCH)** statewide ministry locations. There are projects for all ages making this a perfect way for your youth, small group -- any group -- to be the hands and feet of Jesus while seeing the BCH ministry up close.

What you need to know:

- You will work alongside BCH's children & staff.
- You are served a free lunch at noon.
- Check in begins at 8:30 a.m. on the event day.
- Preregistration is highly encouraged.
- For group reservations, contact Kristyn, our Volunteer Director, at the info below.
- Individual volunteers register at bchfamily.org/foc

Contact Kristyn Butts at kbutts@bchfamily.org or 336-943-3862. More info at bchfamily.org/foc



Find your
Spot.

THERE'S ALWAYS A SPOT FOR YOU!

For **Baptist Children's Homes** mission opportunities for individuals and groups throughout the year, visit our volunteer site at bchfamily.org/volunteer



We recently digitized our hard-copy Newsletter files. As I was scanning the newsletters, I thought how neat it would be if we could offer our Association and our churches a glimpse back at some of its history. With that in mind, I bring you a segment we'll run for the next few months:

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Seventy ago: The Associational BTU Rally was held in La Grange, with an attendance of **253!** Reports indicated that Neuse Association placed 6th in the State for BTU (Baptist Training Union). The goal would be to have BTU in each of the Association's 29 churches.

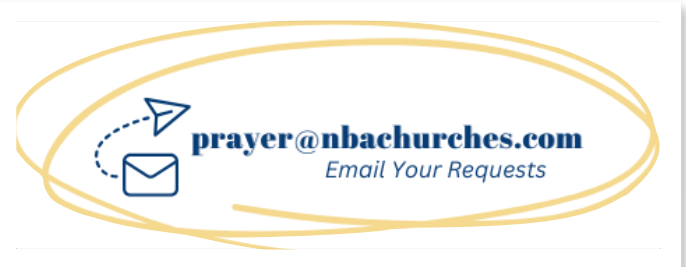
Fifty years ago: Emmaus called Andrew Moon as their Pastor; Jordan's Chapel called Linwood Brock as theirs. Neuse Chapel was constituted as a church on April 6, 1975. Mt. Nelson purchased a 7-acre lot for future expansion and Rosewood added 6 pews for additional seating in their sanctuary.

Twenty-five years ago: Rivermont hosted the NBA Bible Drill competition; the Annual Track Meet was held at South Lenoir HS; Seven Springs' Homecoming was featured on UNC-TV and FamilyNet featured a segment, "After the Storm" that also featured Seven Springs.

Twenty years ago: A Crosswalk Fair/Youth Rally was held at the NBA Office. WMU held their Annual Spring Celebration at Seven Springs Baptist, with guest speaker Hannah Poe (daughter of DOM at that time, David Leary). Calvary-Goldsboro reported their men's basketball team was on a winning streak.

Ten years ago: NABS enjoyed a day trip to WRAL Gardens. A Neuse Association Choir was formed, coordinated by Mona Knowles of New Hope. Trinity Pastor Johnny Sasser resigned due to health reasons, and Homecoming was held at Trinity with guest speaker and future Pastor, Dave Fishman.

Five years ago: There was no newsletter published in April 2020 due to COVID shut-downs, the absence of a DOM and Wendy recovering at home from foot surgery.



Latest Update From the NBA Prayer Ministry Team:

We have continued our prayer for each NBA Church and have gone to each facility to pray for the pastor & his family, the church families, as well as the ministry provided by God's people at each church. As we have entered our Easter Season, and our focus in on our North American Missionaries and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, here are some thoughts for praying for outreach and mission efforts:


- *Pray for believers to answer Christ's call in the Great Commission (Psalm 2:8)*
- *Pray for congregations to prayerfully send witnesses out into the harvest fields (Acts 13:1-3)*
- *Pray for the Good News to spread rapidly among the lost through evangelism and mission efforts (2 Thessalonians 3:1)*
- *Pray for intercessors to be raised up and strive together in prayer for others that are on mission (Romans 15:30)*

Praying for you as we serve Him,
Your Prayer Ministry Team

NBA Executive Board Meetings 2025


Monday, April 14
Monday, September 8
Annual Meeting: Sunday, October 19x

All meetings will begin at 6:00 PM
and will be held at the NBA Office.



**BECAUSE OF
CHURCHES
ACROSS NC**

BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES
IS ABLE TO PROVIDE MEALS
AND THE MESSAGE OF
JESUS TO CHILDREN.



**FOOD
ROUNDUP**
BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

PARTICIPATE BY VISITING BCHFOODROUNDUP.ORG OR CALL 336.474.1277

*While donations of food and household supplies are a generous way of participating in the Food Roundup for Baptist Children's Homes, **Walmart gift cards of any amount** are also a convenient means of ensuring that these needs are met at Kennedy Home.*

Gift cards can be taken directly to the office at Kennedy Home, or they can be brought to the NBA Office and we will deliver them to Kennedy Home on your church's behalf.

(25) April

PRAY FOR
Africa
NC / MIDDLE EAST



NCBAPTIST.ORG/P4N



The Equip Network

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary believes that some theological education is best done in partnership with the local church. As part of the Distance Learning office, The Equip Network empowers churches and ministry organizations to offer accredited and accessible courses to students at the highest level of theological training. The Equip Network weds the seminary experience with real life ministry opportunities to provide students with the most integrative ministry training available. Students can fulfill their remaining degree requirements through our integrative online, hybrid and/or campus-based classes.

Beginning in the **Fall of 2025**, The EQUIP Network will offer classes to SEBTS students & church laypersons **here at the Neuse Association Office**. Students who are enrolled with SEBTS can earn up to 36 credit hours through The Equip Network, and laypersons can audit any class offered for **free**, as long as at least **one** SEBTS-enrolled student also takes the course. The courses offered beginning in January 2024 at the NBA Office will be:

- Bible Exposition I: Hermeneutics and Preparation Practice
- Personal Discipleship and Disciple-Making Practicum.

For more information, visit: <https://www.sebts.edu/academics/the-equip-network/>, or call Keith at the NBA Office.



EASTER



NEUSE BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

April 14

6:00 PM @ NBA Office



ANNUAL PROJECT

PERSONAL CARE GIFT BAGS
FOR SEASONAL FARM
WORKERS



NBA Churches work together to provide personal care items for seasonal farm workers in Kinston arriving from outside the USA. The items get sorted into reusable shopping bags and distributed to the workers in June. **This year we are providing 100 bags** to meet the need.

WHAT'S STILL NEEDED?

Any number of:

- Gently-used, clean, button down long-sleeved shirts in sizes Small, Medium, Large & XL
- Gently-used Ball caps or sun hats/visors

ITEMS DUE TO NBA OFFICE BY **MAY 23, 2025**

Special thanks to Pedro & Gabriela Trejo and Iglesia Bautista Nuevo Amanecer for their help with this project!

**Contributions from Churches,
February 2025**

Churches	February 2025	YTD 2025
Abide		
Adamsville	200.00	300.00
Anointed Vision		
Bethel		
Cabin		
Calvary	400.00	400.00
Casa del Dios	325.00	325.00
Community		
Davis Grove		
Deep Run First		
Emmaus	358.96	775.14
Falling Creek	788.26	1192.96
Fremont		500.00
Gateway	1200.00	2400.00
Goldsboro First	1215.00	1215.00
Grainger		
Horeb		
Immanuel	109.00	201.50
Jordan's Chapel		
Kinston First		
La Grange First		527.00
Love Memorial	404.69	1123.93
Madison Avenue	402.35	1055.10
Mount Nelson	1002.64	20112.72
Neuse	2511.12	3645.53
New Beginning		
New Hope		
New Life	57.27	167.52
Northview		
Nueva Amanecer		
Pikeville First		
Pineview		
Pinkney	304.12	636.36
Rivermont	458.92	1606.75
Rosewood First		387.36
Sandy Bottom		
Seven Springs		300.00
Snow Hill First	2367.40	3797.75
Spilman Memorial		350.00
The Way		250.00
Trinity		
Union		
Total CHURCHES	12104.73	41269.62



**NBA Churches
VBS Dates
for
2025:**

**Jordan's Chapel — June 8-10
Deep Run First — June 16-18
Sandy Bottom — June 16-19
Emmaus — June 22-26
Seven Springs — July 13-18**

Reach out to us with your church's VBS dates & we'll add them to this list.



On Our Calendar

April 2025

01 — Ault Scholarship Applications Ends

10 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn — Noon @ NBA Office

14 — NBA Executive Board Meeting, 6PM @ NBA Office

15 — Submissions Due for May Newsletter

18 — Good Friday, NBA Office CLOSED

20 — Easter Sunday

24-26 — Worship Leader Training @ Charity Rebuild Center, Rose Hill NC

26 — Youth Ministry Training / Q&A — 10AM @ NBA Office

27 — Fill the Tank Sunday

May 2025

08 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn — Noon @ NBA Office

10 — Friends of Children Day @ Kennedy Home

11 — Happy Mother's Day!

15 — Submissions Due for June/July Combined Newsletter

19 — NBA Leadership Team Mtg — Noon @ NBA Office

23 — Items due for Annual Project

26 — Memorial Day, NBA Office Closed

June 2025

08-10 — SBC Annual Meeting — Orlando, FL

12 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn — Noon @ NBA Office

15 — Happy Father's Day!

16 — NBA Leadership Team Mtg — Noon @ NBA Office

July 2025

04 — Independence Day — NBA Office CLOSED

10 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn — Noon @ NBA Office

15 — Submissions Due for August Newsletter

21 — NBA Leadership Team Mtg — Noon @ NBA Office

August 2025

2-9 — ServeNC Week

14 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn — Noon @ NBA Office

15 — Submissions Due for September/October Combined Newsletter

18 — NBA Leadership Team Mtg — Noon @ NBA Office

Non-Profit Organization
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176 Piney Grove Ch Rd
La Grange NC 28551