



NEUSE NEWS

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FROM KEITH

You know that feeling, right?

The one where you're working hard, doing amazing things, but deep down, you wonder if you're making the biggest impact you can. The truth is, you're not meant to go it alone. Your church isn't an island.

What if we told you there's a whole network of people just waiting to lock arms with you?

Everything you want—a bigger reach, more powerful ministry, and a deeper community—exists on the other side of fear. The fear of asking for help. The fear of reaching out.

The best part is that you don't have to take on more work. Instead, you can make what you already do go further.

The Power of Partnership

Imagine building a fire. If you rub two sticks together by yourself, you might get a spark, but it takes a lot of effort and can be slow.

Now, picture a friend bringing kindling and someone else bringing logs. That small spark quickly turns into a big bonfire that warms everyone nearby.

That's what missional partnerships are all about. When we partner, we're not just sharing a meal; we're sharing resources, ideas, and a common goal. We're working side by side to advance the gospel in ways we could never do alone.

Partnerships allow you to:

* Reach new people. Maybe your church is great at local outreach, but another church has a mission team that serves internationally. Partnering means you can be a part of both.

Continued

FROM KEITH, Continued

* Strengthen your team. When you connect with other leaders, you get fresh ideas and new energy. It's like a shot of adrenaline for your ministry.

* Multiply your impact. A little help from one church and a little help from another can add up to a huge impact in your community and around the world.

Building these partnerships is not a sign of weakness. It shows wisdom, strength in unity, and a strategic approach.

The Partnership Pipeline

So, how do we make this happen?

It starts with Vision. What are you dreaming about? What is the one thing God is stirring in your heart? Then, you share that vision with others, and you look for connections.

At the Associational Annual Meeting, we're kicking off this pipeline. This isn't just a meeting; it's an opportunity to connect and start building those partnerships.

* Theme: "Serving Side by Side"

* Where: The Way Church in Kinston.
(1205 Lynn Dr., Kinston, NC 28504)

* When: Sunday, October 19, at 6 PM.

Don't miss this chance to take the next step: connect with other leaders, start a conversation, and explore partnership opportunities. Bring your questions, share your vision, and discover how you can join forces for greater impact.

A Story of Partnership

We've invited a special guest who lives and breathes this kind of partnership.

Pastor Luis Martinez is the founder and missionary of Impacto Ministry in Guatemala. He's seen firsthand how partnerships transform lives. His ministry is a living, breathing example of what happens when people come together for a common purpose.

He'll share his story, and you'll walk away with not only inspiration but practical ideas for how you can start building your own partnerships.

The association is here to help you. We exist to foster these connections and to help you take that next step.

Your vision is a part of a bigger plan. Let's make it happen, together.

See you on Sunday, October 19th!

In Christ and In Partnership,

Keith

The Go Collective

New Program for College Students/Young Adults

"Our goal is to help every church send their college students and young adults on mission", said Alex Hugo, College Ministry Strategist with NC Baptists.

The **Go Collective** is a new program that will equip students from December-May through reading, mentorship, and teaching over Zoom calls and retreats before sending them on summer mission trips through GenSend and the IMB.

NC Baptists will cover the costs of the equipping portion and will offer partial scholarships to students during their summer mission trips. For every week that a student is on the field, NC Baptists will provide \$100, up to 8 weeks. They'll also match any funds that the sending church is willing to contribute, up to \$300.

Interested college students/young adults ages 18-24 are encouraged to apply online by **October 21**.

Be sure to visit their website for more information. For printed newsletter readers, visit ncbaptist.org/ministries/college/go-collective/.

NBA Churches, make sure to share this new endeavor with the missions-minded college students and young adults in your church! If any students from NBA apply and are accepted, let the NBA Office know so that we can celebrate their commitment in future editions of Neuse News.

3rd thursday of the month



**PASTORS
LUNCH
& LEARN**



noon @ nba office

The CHURCH NEWS Page

As Submitted by the Churches

Davis Grove (Alex Ellis) Homecoming celebration was held Sunday, September 28 followed by a fellowship luncheon in the Family Life Center.

Deep Run First Youth and children enjoyed a Back to School Splash on August 19. *Blessing of the Backpacks* with prayer for the upcoming school year was observed August 24. Special Guest Speaker for WMU was a representative from SAFE Lenoir County. Personal hygiene and cleaning products were collected and given to this organization at the meeting. "Friends in Faith" enjoyed a lunch outing to Longhorn, August 21. August's Community Food Bank served 56 families. Items were collected for Kitty Askins in Goldsboro, as part of September's outreach ministry.

Emmaus (Jim Willoughby) "Thank You" to all who visited Emmaus's food booth at the Wayne County Fair this year. Community Missions outreach continues to provide food for the Southern Wayne HS football team and Kitty Askins during October and November. Monthly Senior Luncheon for those 50+ will once again take place on October 9 at noon; all are invited. Homecoming Celebration is planned for October 19 at 10:45 with fellowship meal following. Trunk or Treat will be held October 31 from 6-8PM. Food Giveaway is planned for November 15, time TBA. Free breakfast items will be served. The Senior Luncheon on November 13 will include Wayne County Sheriff Larry Pierce with a special presentation on Elder Scam Abuse. Emmaus will join with Trinity and Tehillah for a Community Thanksgiving Service on November 25 at 7:00. Hanging of the Greens Service will be observed November 30 at 6:00. Looking ahead, *Highway Revival* will present a Christmas concert on Sunday, December 7 at 6:00 pm; a love offering will be received.

Falling Creek (Robert Ellis) Annual Christmas Talent Show is set for December 7 at 5PM. Homecoming Celebration was September 21 with former pastor, Billy Webb as guest speaker.

Gateway (Thayer Stamper) A special service to dedicate the new multi-purpose building, The Thomas Building, named for Ray and Autrey Thomas, will be observed during a special 10:30 service on October 26. That same evening, the church family will enjoy a pig pickin' and fall festival. Mission Monday will be held at Panera Bread on October 20; the public is invited. 10% of the total sales of the night will be donated to ministry partner, Harvesters International. Men's

Prayer Breakfast is planned for Saturday, October 18 and Ladies Craft Night is planned for Friday, October 10.

Goldsboro First (Adam Street) See the announcement for the Dinner & Variety Show to benefit Night to Shine at the end of the Church News segment on next page. **Volunteers needed** to help build ramps in Goldsboro & Wayne County on Thursdays; please call the church office for more information about Helping Hands Ramp Builders — 919-735-3591. Family movie night with a viewing of "The Forge" was enjoyed September 12. Revival with guest speaker Jonathan Lotz will be held October 19-22.

Jordan's Chapel (Ray Smeltzer) Homecoming Celebration will take place Sunday, October 5 at 11:00 AM with a fellowship luncheon following worship. Items to assemble a "Pill Bottle Fishing Kit" were collected in September and will be part of the church's contribution to OCC Shoeboxes.

Love Memorial (Richard Toler) On September 18 Love was privileged to host the NABS Luncheon. K21 Men's Bible study meets Thursdays at 7 pm. Pastor Richard recently started a bi-weekly Bible Study on Thursdays at 10 am. On September 28, Love served breakfast and had worship at the Wayne County Agricultural Fair for the fair workers. Love also parked cars at the fair as an outreach to the community. On October 12, Love will have their 62nd Homecoming Worship at 10 AM with a fellowship meal to follow. Sonshiners senior adults group will have a cookout on October 16th. Fall Festival for the community will be Friday, October 31; soup & sandwiches will be served.

Mount Nelson (Jimmy Dale) Women enjoyed their annual Tea Cup Ladies Conference on September 6. The theme was "When Strivings Cease" and time of devotion was shared by Anna Morris. The event was free and open to the public.

Pineview (Wes Johnson) Community Yard Sale to raise funds for OCC — Saturday, October 4, 7-11AM. Spaces are \$20; call 919-221-2703 to reserve your spot. Trunk or Treat will be held, 5:30-7:00 PM on October 31.

Rivermont (John Morton) Men enjoyed a quarterly fellowship, September 7. Rev. Fred Cranks brought the Message during morning worship on September 21. "Fall Family Fun Day" is planned for Saturday, October 11. Pastor Appreciation Day, with a fellowship luncheon following morning worship, will be observed Sunday, October 12.

CHURCH NEWS, Continued

Rosewood (Tim Lipp) Following a major fire in a local apartment complex that displaced numerous residents and families, Rosewood First and the other Community Churches United of Rosewood arose to help meet the needs of their neighbors. A list of specific needs was distributed across Wayne County and individuals along with several NBA Churches donated items with Rosewood First serving as a collection point. Effort to assist these residents is ongoing.

Snow Hill (Brick Crowder) 3rd Annual Dinner Theater to support local missions is planned for November 7 & 8 at 6PM; tickets are \$30. New Members Sunday was observed September 21, with a luncheon just for them following morning worship. Deacons worked together to install a new basketball court with cement pad for youth and students to enjoy. Three individuals were baptized on September 14; to God be the Glory! Members of the church provided breakfast for the first FCA Huddle of Greene County Middle School on September 10.

Trinity (Dave Fishman) Baptism waters are stirring again as two new members who are also candidates for baptism will soon be baptized. Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 18 from 10 am to 2 pm. This will be a time of fellowship, fun, games, a bouncy house, and food – all are welcome to join. On Tuesday November 25 Trinity will join Emmaus and Tehillah Ministries for their Annual Joint Thanksgiving Celebration.



Night to Shine
TIM TEBOW FOUNDATION
Dinner & Variety Show
October 17th, 2025
DINNER 5:30 PM
SHOWTIME 6:15 PM
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE
\$20 DONATION IN ADVANCE
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL
SCAN ME
50/50 RAFFLE

Ministry Position

Deep Run First Baptist is seeking a dedicated and compassionate Pastor who feels called to guide our congregation, preach the Word of God, and lead our church in spiritual growth and community outreach. The ideal candidate will work closely with our deacons and congregation to build upon our established foundation while steering us toward future growth. All applicants can send resumes to: drfbpastorsearch@gmail.com

Or to:

PO Box 67
Deep Run NC 28525
Attn: Pastor Search Committee

October Birthdays

Carla Kincaid, Neuse — 10/4
Allison Crowder, Snow Hill First — 10/18
David Thacker, Immanuel — 10/26
Richard Toler, Love Memorial — 10/27
Berk Tinsley, Anointed Vision — 10/28
Wes Johnson, Pineview — 10/28
Charity Johnson, Pineview — 10/29
Rudy West, Calvary — 10/31

October Ministry Anniversaries

Jon Hoover, Kinston First — 12 years
John Wiggins, La Grange First — 9 years

November Birthdays

Glenn Bunch, Supply Pastor — 11/5
Wendy Parker, NBA Office Mgr — 11/7
Adam Street, Goldsboro First — 11/8
Angelia Shepherd, Restoration Church — 11/11
Jimmy Dale, Mount Nelson — 11/22

November Ministry Anniversaries

Frederick Parker, New Beginning — 26 years
Ray Smeltzer, Jordan's Chapel — 19 years
Jim Willoughby, Emmaus — 16 years
David Thacker, Immanuel — 4 years
Brick Crowder, Snow Hill — 3 years
Rick Whaley, Northview — 3 years

CANVA DESIGN ESSENTIALS

for Ministry

FREE Seminar for NBA Churches

- ✓ Design Skills Not Required
- ✓ Learn to Create Impactful Visuals
- ✓ Ideal for Anyone in Church Ministry
- ✓ RSVP Required
- ✓ Please Bring Own Laptop or Tablet

10.6.25 6:00 PM @ NBA Office
Light Meal Provided



Call to Sign Up:
252-566-9478



Email to Sign Up:
wendy@nbachurches.com

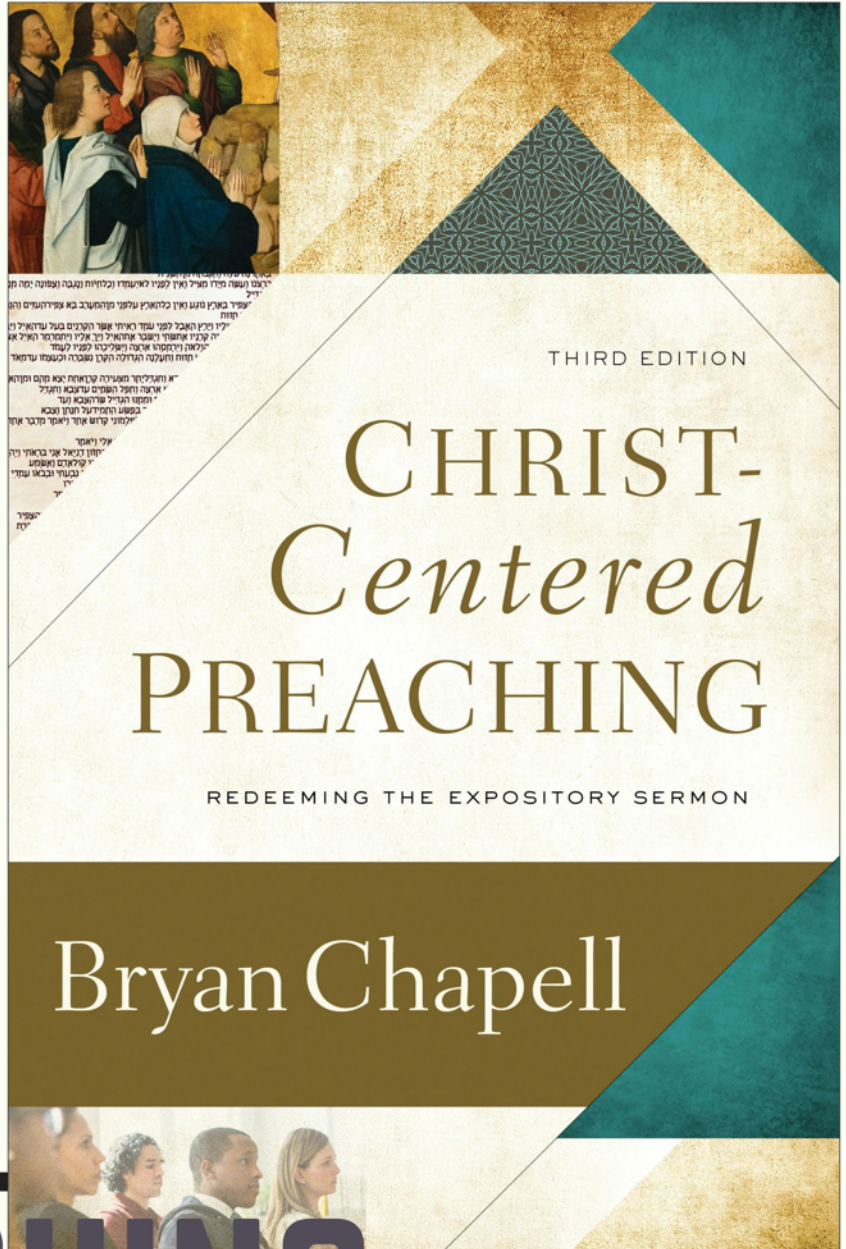


NEUSE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

October through April
2nd and 4th Tuesdays
12 Sessions
Time: TBD (Based on
Group)

NBA: Resource Training
Center

SHARPENING, ENCOURAGING, EQUIPPING



PREACHING COHORT

"This book is a necessary resource for all who feel the weight of and embrace the privilege of exalting Jesus through biblical preaching."
-Jim Shaddix

COST: \$75 INCLUDES BOOKS,
SNACKS, AND SUPPLIES

THIS COHORT WILL REQUIRE A
COMMITMENT OF THE
PARTICIPANT

Explore the Land and Lessons of the Bible with GTI Study Tours

**Jordan/Israel Study Tour with Arbel Ministries
June 6-18, 2026
Cost: \$5,990.00 all inclusive**

Led By:
Arbel Ministries,
Mark Whitehead,
and Pastor John Wiggins
(La Grange First Missionary Baptist Church)

Join GTI Study Tours on an 11-day, all-inclusive Jordan, Israel Study Tour.

You will be immersed in the land and lessons of the Bible as you're led on a journey through Scripture while your local guide and driver will bring the past and present culture of Jordan and Israel alive to all your senses.

Unlike other Holy Land tours, this Study Tour is solely focused on bringing Scripture to life through first-hand experiences in the places the stories actually happened. An all-inclusive trip ensures you're free to focus on each moment without worrying about lodging, tips, transportation, entrance fees, food or water.

Visit <https://gtitours.org/trip/arbel26> for more information, trip itinerary, and a description of what is included in the trip cost. Pastor John Wiggins is happy to answer any questions or provide a group presentation and give a detailed overview of the trip as well, and can be reached at 252-286-1163.



GO Certificates

(Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary)

SEBTS offers non-credit video-based theological training at your own pace — designed to impact your ministry and increase your biblical knowledge in an efficient and attainable package.

Earn your GO Certificate after completing 5-7 courses, depending on the Certificate you are striving for. Each course takes about 6 weeks to complete, can be completed on any device, and can be completed on your own time.

Earn the following GO Certificates:

- Certificate in Biblical Studies & Theology
- Certificate in Christian Ministry
- Certificate in Church-Based Counseling
- Certificate in Christian Apologetics
- Certificate in New Testament Studies
- Certificate in Ministry to Women
- Mini Certificate: Small Group Leader Training (4 courses, \$100 total cost)

The cost to complete each GO Certificate is approximately \$679, but *Neuse Baptist Association is willing to reimburse 50% of the total cost of pursuing your GO Certificate, provided you:*

1. *Notify us when you begin your coursework,*
2. *Complete the coursework within one year of start date,*
3. *Provide a copy of your GO Certificate to the NBA Office for verification.*

In addition: Individuals who wish to take advantage of a GROUP SIGN-UP will receive 25% off, provided they sign up by October 9 or January 8. To take advantage of this option, please contact the NBA Office.

GO Certificates are great if you wish to expose your church to richer biblical content or just want to study for your own personal gospel witness.

For more information about GO Certificates, visit <https://cert.sebts.edu/>.

For more information about NBA's GO Certificate Reimbursement offer, reach out to Keith or Wendy at the NBA Office.

➔ *Churches, please be sure to notify us when your members decide to pursue their GO Certificate so that we can share it in future newsletters!*

We recently digitized our hard-copy Newsletter files. Join us as we take a glimpse at some NBA History.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

70 years ago: It was reported in “The Neuse Bulletin” that Emmaus pastor Rev. E.L. Roberts announced on Homecoming 1955 that the church would soon increase its gifts to the Cooperative Program by 50%. Kennedy Home received new church furniture, Madison Avenue would soon begin a new building campaign with TA Loving Co. of Goldsboro, and Fremont voted to begin building an “Educational Plant”.

50 years ago: “Fremont will observe its second Homecoming on October 11 (1970). The first one was 44 years ago, in 1926!”

25 years ago: Two mission teams from NBA traveled to Alaska as part of the NC Baptist & Alaska Baptist Partnership. Nine NBA churches plus other local individuals were represented in the two teams.

20 years ago: “Neuse Baptist Association is proud to announce that two of the five North Carolina State Advisory Actions Panelists for 2005-2006 are from NBA. They are Lauren Robinson and Kassie Rapp of Falling Creek Baptist Church.”

10 years ago: Tom Murray, SAM (Summer Association Missionary) reported on a successful year of ministry to Wayne & Lenoir County Fairs, Cliffs of the Neuse worship services, and Fall Music Festivals. The Wayne County Fair was interrupted by severe weather and was closed on three days due to flooding. *(Tom Murray passed away December 30, 2024).*

5 years ago: Proposed amendments to the NBA Constitution would change the Annual Meeting from two nights to one night and clarified the announcing of Executive Meetings by the NBA Office. With Covid still being an issue, NC Baptists announced they were looking into alternative plans for their 2020 Annual Meeting.



From the Prayer Ministry Team:

Why pray? What good does it do? Have you ever been asked those questions? If so, or just for your own understanding, here are some answers and reasons:

Last newsletter we mentioned
(1) Communication with God and
(2) Spiritual Growth.
This month let us elaborate a little more.

Prayer builds our relationship with God. It is a direct line to God. Through it, we speak to God as a Father (just as Jesus did). It's not just about asking for things (blessing, healing, peace, protection, or wisdom). It's about spending time with God, sharing our heart and learning to listen to Him.

Prayer follows Jesus' example. He prayed regularly, especially in key moments of His life (choosing His disciples, readying for the cross, etc.). He also teaches us how to pray (Matthew 6:9–13) demonstrating the priority of prayer.

Remember: draw near to God, and He will draw near to you (James 4:8).

Wondering About the ACP?

The Annual Church Profile (ACP) will be available beginning **January 1, 2026**. The data submitted will be for the January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 church year. This is a new change instituted by the SBC to make the process easier for all.

**Contributions from Churches,
August, 2025**

Churches	August, 2025	YTD 2025
Abide		500.00
Adamsville		650.00
Anointed Vision		2000.00
Bethel	3302.75	3302.75
Cabin		1929.18
Calvary		400.00
Casa del Dios		955.00
Community		
Davis Grove		
Deep Run First		
Emmaus	392.56	2644.14
Falling Creek	328.50	3127.78
Fremont		500.00
Gateway	1200.00	9600.00
Goldsboro First		1215.00
Grainger		500.00
Horeb		
Immanuel	109.00	855.50
Jordan's Chapel		900.00
Kinston First		1750.71
La Grange First		1054.00
Love Memorial	395.88	3763.40
Madison Avenue	514.60	4229.95
Mount Nelson	2648.88	30472.10
Neuse	953.20	11593.14
New Beginning		
New Hope		1000.00
<i>New Life</i>		<i>644.43</i>
Northview		
Nueva Amanecer		400.00
Pikeville First		
Pineview		
Pinkney	295.63	2602.29
Rivermont	549.66	5074.03
Rosewood First		387.36
Sandy Bottom		2198.45
Seven Springs	300.00	2550.00
Snow Hill First	1274.90	10303.03
Spilman Memorial		350.00
The Way		250.00
Trinity		750.00
Union		800.00
Total CHURCHES	12265.56	109252.24



**October 5 | 9:30 AM | Zoom
For More Information**



**NC Baptist Annual Meeting 2025
November 10-11, Koury Convention Center**

Free Hymnals & Pew Bibles

Kinston First has recently updated their Hymnals and pew Bibles and now have 400 Hymnals and 200 pew Bibles to donate to a local church or ministry in need. The Hymnals are inscribed with "First Baptist Church, Kinston". The Bibles are mostly NIV, not inscribed. If interested, please call the church office at 252-527-1114.



Coming Up on the Calendar *(All events will be at NBA Office unless stated otherwise)*

October 2025

- **Pastor Appreciation Month**
- **New Preaching Cohort Begins** for registered participants

01 — NBA Finance Committee Mtg., 2:30

06 — Canva Design Essentials for Ministry, 6PM

Please Register!

16 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn, Noon

19 — NBA Annual Meeting, 6PM @ The Way Church (1205 Lynn Drive, Kinston 28504)

November 2025

02 — Daylight Saving Time Ends

10-11 — NC Baptists Annual Meeting, Koury Convention Center, Greensboro

11 — Veteran's Day *(NBA Office Open)*

15 — Submissions due for December & January (combined) Newsletter

17 — NBA Leadership Team Mtg, Noon

20 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn, Noon

27-28 — Happy Thanksgiving! (NBA Office CLOSED)

December 2025

- Churches with active Hunger Ministry are encouraged to apply for a Hunger Grant through NC Baptists during December. The grant must be used to support Hunger outreach/ministries. Deadline to apply is December 31.

15 — NBA Leadership Team Mtg., Noon

22-26 — NBA Christmas Holidays, **Office Closed**

24-25 — Merry Christmas!

31 — New Year's Eve

January 2026

01 — Happy New Year! (NBA Office CLOSED)

12 — Leadership Team Mtg., Noon

15 — Submissions due for February Newsletter

15 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn, Noon

19 — MLK, Jr. Day (NBA Office CLOSED)

February 2026

01 — Ault Scholarship Application Opens

09 — NBA Executive Board Mtg., 6:00 PM

15 — Submissions due for March newsletter

19 — Pastors' Lunch & Learn, Noon

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La Grange NC 28551

NEUSE NEWS  NEUSE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION