Johnston Baptist Association

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Johnston Baptist Association

Semi-Annual Fall Meeting

One Hundred Sixteenth Annual Session
Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Pisgah Baptist Church

Theme
"JBA Churches: Pushing Back the Darkness"

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John *1:5*

Meeting Agenda

Pre-Service Music

Call to Order ..... Rev. Mark White, Moderator, Clayton First

- Adoption of the Order of Business ..... Program Committee
- Welcome and Opening Prayer ..... Rev. Brian Beasley, Pisgah
- Congregational Music ..... Rev. Brian Beasley, Pisgah

Emergency Chaplains ..... Rev. Ralph Thompson, NC Baptist State Convention

Associational Missionary Report ..... Rev. Kelton Hinton, JBA Associational Missionary

Special Music ..... Rev. Brian Beasley, Pisgah

Organizational Reports ..... Rev. Mark White, Moderator, Clayton First

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Miscellaneous Business ..... Rev. Mark White, Moderator, Clayton First

Recognition of Visitors and New Pastors ..... Rev. Mark White, Moderator, Clayton First

"JBA Churches: Pushing Back the Darkness" Slideshow Presentation

Sermon Scripture Acts 4:23-31 ..... Blake Jordan, Faith

Sermon ..... Rev. Eddie Jordan, Faith

Recognition of New Officers ..... Rev. Mark White, Moderator

Benediction and Prayer for New Officers ..... Rev. Lester Bledsoe

*The memorial candle is lit in remembrance of all the church members we have lost this past year.

A Resolution of Appreciation

Whereas, this the 116th session of the Johnston Baptist Association has been so graciously hosted by Carter's Chapel Baptist Church and Pisgah Baptist Church; and

Whereas, our Program Committee has provided for our inspiration, education, and edification; and

Whereas, our elected and employed leadership have provided distinguished and devoted service through the past year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Johnston Baptist Association, meeting in annual session this twenty-third day of October, 2018, does express its gratitude to God for His manifold blessings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appreciation be expressed to the people of Carter's Chapel Baptist Church and Pisgah Baptist Church for their gracious hospitality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express heartfelt gratitude to our elected and employed leadership for their distinguished and devoted service this past year; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves anew to greater living and greater service as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Program Committee

Your JBA Program Committee respectfully submits the following report: The 2019 Spring Semi-Annual JBA meeting will be held on Monday, May 20, 2019 and our 2019 Fall Semi-Annual JBA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, as set in the associational constitution and by-laws.

The Committee has received invitations from the following churches: Spring Meeting at Hephzibah Baptist Church and Fall Meeting at Thanksgiving Baptist Church.

We suggest the following be named as preacher for the annual sermon next Fall: Pastor Steve Roy of Hocutt Baptist Church with Pastor Dwayne Batten of Princeton Baptist Church serving as the alternate.

Spring Semi-Annual Meeting Report

Submitted by: Rev. Steve Grice, JBA Clerk

On May 21, 2018, the JBA held its Semi-annual Spring Meeting at Carter's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. The evening meeting began with Moderator, the Reverend Mark White, who called the meeting to order. We had a large gathering and attendees were welcomed and the meeting began with an opening prayer. Several churches were presented with recognition certificates to celebrate growth and baptisms across the JBA.

It was a pleasure to vote on and add the Church at Clayton Crossings to our family of churches. Pastor John Sanders was presented and received with great enthusiasm and excitement. We look forward to networking with this congregation in many future endeavors.

Shawn Payne, our local Appalachian Christmas Outreach Coordinator was happy to share that the JBA has once again partnered with this ministry by purchasing 300 backpacks and Bibles to be filled and distributed to the children of the Appalachia region. Again this year, a team will travel to West Virginia and personally deliver the backpacks.

At the close of the evening, attendees were invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship at the meeting's conclusion.

General Board Report

Submitted by: Rev. Steve Grice, JBA Clerk

The General Board of the Johnston Baptist Association met four times in the 2017-2018 associational year.

An integral part of our Board Meetings this year covered the addition to the existing office building. Plans were made, submitted, and approved to proceed with Stephenson General Contractors in Smithfield. They quickly began the project and completed it in less than four months. Three new offices as well as a storage/work room were added. The next phase in the project is to begin updating the original office. New carpeting, fresh paint, and other needed updates are scheduled to begin as soon as possible.

This past year, Eastern North Carolina was hit hard with severe weather. Hurricane Florence caused extensive flood and wind damage. We have been able to help with construction and mud-out teams from area churches. There are still many homes that need repairing in other neighboring counties. The NC Baptist Men are diligently working to restore as many homes as possible. Teams have been encouraged to register through their website and volunteer with the clean-up and rebuilding efforts.

Kelton, as well as pastors in the Clayton area, continue to work to identify areas that need a Kingdom presence. The State Convention released a report that named six communities in Johnston County that are in the top 250 most lost areas in our state. These "Pockets of Lostness" are often found close to existing churches. So, there are boundless opportunities to reach them. Many of them are apartment dwellers that cluster and live closely together. More work will be done in the coming years to strategize and plan ways to bring the gospel to them.

We were pleased to add the Church at Clayton Crossings to our fellowship this year. This church continues to bless the Clayton area in myriad outreaches and evangelism efforts. We are grateful to add Pastor John Sanders and that wonderful congregation to our JBA family!

Our ministry at JCC continues to thrive and touch the lives of students from all walks of life. Each week brings about excitement and optimism as they gather to talk about the things of God. Many of them have no church experience at all. Students of all ages, backgrounds, nationalities, and ethnicities are involved with our campus ministry. Many of you are part of that outreach by purchasing meals for the weekly study and purchasing items for exam "care packages". Thank you for sharing the love of Jesus to so many!

As always, we are humbled and blessed to partner with such amazing churches. Each year, volunteers give selflessly to ministries and outreach opportunities all throughout the year. You feed teachers, prayer walk school campuses, provide meals for students involved in Campus Ministries, fill thousands of shoeboxes for OCC, provide nourishment for children on the weekend through Backpack Buddies, make blankets for hospice patients, and the list goes on! Well done good and faithful servants!

Associational Missionary Report

Submitted by: Dr. Kelton Hinton, JBA Associational Missionary

"**JBA Churches: Pushing Back the Darkness**" will be our theme for the next few years. This phrase accurately depicts what our churches are all about. You can read about the particulars in other parts of this Book of Reports. See especially Dwayne Batten's report and the one on the JCC Campus Ministry. I want to fill you in on some of the background issues our churches are facing.

Pockets of Lostness. As I noted last year, we have six "Pockets of Lostness" identified here in the JBA. Two of those made it into the "Top 100" in all of North Carolina! What does that mean? It highlights the areas of the state with the highest demographic growth that have not seen a concurrent growth in the number of local churches. Clayton and 40/42 made the "Top 100," but Four Oaks, Smithfield, Selma and Thanksgiving FD Rd also made it into the "Top 250" in the state! I would like to pull together the churches in those areas to see what can be done about changing that statistic!

Multi-Housing situation. One of the "discoveries" we made in investigating Clayton's inclusion in the "Top 100" list, was the proliferation of apartment complexes in the area. This influx of high-dollar rental units is a new phenomenon for our local churches, almost all of which currently target only families in "single-family, detached dwellings." Statistics tell us that, nationwide, 54% of the American population live in a multi-housing situation and that 95% of them are unchurched! This then represents THE most "lost" parts of our communities! (Think: apartment complexes, mobile home parks, government subsidized housing and even some gated communities!) We have had to educate ourselves on how to reach this new and young population, the very people we are needing in our churches! Let me come and speak to your church about how you can lead out in a ministry that may be a huge blessing to you and your community!

Growing need for church plants. I recently read in the paper that Johnston County is slated to again be THE fastest growing county in NC from 2020-2030. Much of this growth will be in the northern half of the county as the "outer loop" around Raleigh is completed between Wendell and Apex, passing between Clayton and Garner. As these areas of the county are developed we will be needing land to begin new churches to reach the newcomers. If you (or someone you know), can make 4-5 acre plots of land available to the JBA for future church plants, please let me know so that we can see how to make that transaction a reality.

Financial growth. This year we have been able to add on to our JBA office building in preparation for future expansion of our work with our churches. We would very much like to add key staff to help us make a greater impact on our area. THANK YOU for your increased contributions this year to our budget. Please continue to push towards a minimum of 3% of your undesignated offerings to go towards local mission needs and causes. Once we meet that threshold we should be able to begin adding some staff.

State of the churches. Many people ask, "How are things going?" and I will say, "They're going great!" and proceed to talk about one of the many ways the JBA is making a difference in people's lives. However, to be honest, all is not well in Zion. Some of our churches are growing and thriving

while others are struggling. There have been a few more moving over to the "struggling" column in recent years. One of the ways to address this programmatically is to take another look at the Sunday School (see their report on page 17). There is tremendous unmet potential in that arena with MANY benefits! In fact, I have noticed over the years that worship attendance still follows the Sunday School attendance trends, usually in the year following, showing its continued importance for setting growth records.

Church Revisioning. For churches needing more help I continue to lead out in the Church Revisioning Process offered to churches during their interim period between pastors. This process has proven very beneficial, helping many churches begin a new trajectory of growth. Size is of no consequence. As long as a church has hope, they have a future!

Turnaround Pastor Bootcamp. For those pastors wanting to turnaround their congregation I have resources to help identify their exact areas of need as well as the benefit of Revisioning conversations with pastors in an on-going dialogue. This year we hosted our first-ever Turnaround Pastor Bootcamp with tremendous results! Five of our local pastors participated and are already seeing positive results from our time together. Let me know if you want to be a part of the next Bootcamp.

Departmental Reports

Baptist Men

Submitted by: Rex Everhart, Brotherhood Director

Last year (2017), only 23 JBA churches reported having an active Baptist Men's group. There were a total of 440 men active in those churches or 19 per church, which is slightly lower than the 21-22 men per church we have seen in recent years. Our total numbers have varied widely from year to year due to irregular reporting from our churches. From a current low of 440 up to 831 just five years ago in 2012!

Again, this year our men's groups have focused primarily on local mission needs. There are more "**wheelchair ramp building**" teams than ever as the general population is aging and more people are trying to stay in their homes as nursing costs skyrocket. Some churches are branching out into installing grab bars in bathrooms and installing smoke detectors as well.

This year we participated in the state-wide efforts of **Operation Inasmuch** and "**Ramp It Up!"** with the NC Baptist Aging Ministry. MANY of our churches were represented in these efforts. Not only were wheelchair ramps built but houses were painted, roofs repaired and many other projects besides.

Our most recent activities have been associated with **hurricane relief and recovery** efforts. With two hurricanes this Fall and widespread flooding all over eastern NC, our Baptist Men's resources have been spread might thin! Locally, our JBA churches have been involved in cleanup efforts in Kinston (Kennedy Children's Home), New Bern, Lumberton, Wilmington and Brunswick County that I know of, although others may have also served elsewhere. When asked by potential volunteers what to do, I am telling everyone to go to the NC Baptist Men's website www.baptistsonmission.org and register when you want to go and how many are on your team. Let the state-wide coordinators assign you to the neediest places to get the trees off the houses, tarps on the roofs, clean out the wet debris and do the mud-outs as quickly as possible before the black mold takes over. Later, we can choose a place to focus our rebuilding efforts as a JBA project.

On the local level we have needs/opportunities for men to serve in the following areas:

- **Flea Market** in south Smithfield (evangelism efforts and Sunday School for children)
- **Kenly truck stop** (teach Sunday School, lead devotion on Sunday mornings)
- **GALOT Motorsports Park** (serve as a chaplain, organize children's activities)
- **Kenly Southern National Motorsports Park** (serve as a chaplain)
- **RVacation Campground** (serve as chaplain, lead in worship Sunday mornings)

We have many DVD based resources at the JBA office if your men need training or want to host a men's Bible study group.

Upcoming Baptist Men's related events:
Disaster Relief Training—March 8-9 & 22-23, 2019
NC Baptist Missions Conference—April 5-6, 2019 at Hickory Grove in Charlotte
2019 JoCo Project—June 5-8, 2019 ($50<May)

Discipleship Report

Submitted by: Dr. Kelton Hinton, JBA Associational Missionary

This year **Michael Hall**, our **JBA Discipleship Director**, shared with us all the following challenge taken from Luke 2:49b—"I must be about my Father's business." At the Pastors, Deacons and Spouses Banquet March 20th at Hocutt he encouraged us all to form our own "Disciple-Making Enterprise" based on Mt. 29:19-20 and composed of "Reaching, Teaching and Sending." He challenged us to **Reach** the Lost in our area of influence, **Teach** them all that Jesus has commanded, and **Send** them out "on mission" to go and do likewise. He even passed out business cards for us to use as we talk about our "enterprise" with others! On the back of the card there was a place for us to make a commitment about WHO I will reach, WHO I will teach, and WHO I will send out on mission!

Let me encourage each of you to go and do the same! After all, when Jesus gave us his Great Commission, it was all about going to the ends of the earth to MAKE DISCIPLES! What is your plan for doing that this coming year?

In addition to the Pastors and Deacons Fellowship with special music by Damascus Ridge, a Christian bluegrass band, the JBA also secured several new DVDs and other materials geared towards a discipling ministry. Personally, I have been using "The Imperative Life of a Christ Follower," by Chuck Campbell for one-on-one discipleship with others. It looks at ALL of the "commands" of Christ and breaks them down into 10 teaching topics for implementation. (By the way, I can send you a copy by email if you wish- Kelton@raleigh.twcbc.com.)

Evangelism Report

Submitted by: Rev. Eddie Jordan, Evangelism Director

According to our 2017 ACP reports, our JBA churches baptized 170 people last year (41 churches reporting). That means, on average, it took 64.5 Baptist members for every person baptized or 4.1 per church. That is a little better than the 3.8 baptisms per church the year before (2016) but still off our recent high of 5.4 baptisms/church in 2015 and 7 baptisms/church in 2013!

What can we do about this? How can we increase the number of baptisms in our JBA churches? First, some "programmatic" responses…

- Sponsor a "**Friend Day**" each year to get your home folk to invite someone to church.
- Do like 18 of our JBA churches have done this year and book the "**Evangelistic Block Party Trailer**" for an outreach event at your church or in your community.
- Others continue to schedule **Spring and Fall Revivals** in their churches.
- Some have gravitated to "**Lay Renewal Weekends**" to initiate a revival atmosphere.
- Others have invested heavily in ministry to people in need. They offer food pantries and clothes closets and other service-oriented projects (wheelchair ramps, etc.) where a clear presentation of the Gospel is made along with the service requested.

Here is an individual's approach to answer the same question…This is the story of Pastor Chris Hilliard at Wendell Baptist. He has a real heart for the lost. He has put a large easel in the front of the sanctuary with the title, "Gospel Sharing Tally Board." It has last week's number, the year-to-date number and across the bottom, "Goal 500." It also tracks the progress with a red "thermometer" going up the side. With this visual reminder up front each week, people are constantly reminded to have a "Gospel centered conversation" with someone each week with a goal to reach 500 such conversations by the end of the year. You see, Rev. Hilliard knows that "**What gets measured gets done!**" We would do well to heed that advice. What behaviors do you want to encourage among our church people? How will you measure those behaviors? Rev. Hilliard knows that baptisms and professions of faith may be few and far between, but EVERY decision to follow Jesus started with a Gospel conversation with someone! He just decided to get more of such conversations going between his church people and their acquaintances!

Finally, be honest with yourself. When was the last time you shared your faith with someone who was lost? With 64 percent of Johnston County still unchurched, plus the fact we have six "Pockets of Lostness" in our area (i.e. greater concentrations of lost people than the state average), and we are always in or near the "top five" fastest growing counties in NC, all point to the NEED for more evangelistic conversations!

How could YOU put a renewed focus on evangelism in your own life and in the life of your church this year?

Johnston Community College – Campus Ministry Report

Submitted by: Dr. Kelton Hinton, Campus Ministries Coordinator

2018 turned out to be another strong year for Campus Ministry at JCC. By the end of the school year we had 370 students involved in weekly Bible studies on campus! That is 9.2% of the student population! We have been recognized for years as being the largest campus ministry on any commuter campus in North Carolina and are considered a "thought leader" in this area of ministry. We here at the JBA office regularly field calls from around the country wanting to hear more about our particular strategy on campuses like this.

We were able to reach these totals by continuing our strategy of a "diversified" approach to the campus. In other words, we sought out the various unreached "people groups" (programs of study) and tried to minister to them individually. Lee Smith (Shiloh Baptist) led out in working with the Law Enforcement Cadets. Blair Maust (Smithfield FBC) worked with the Truck Driver Trainees. Daniel Blackman (Selma Baptist) and Landon Orr (Bethesda Baptist) worked with the Early College students. Anesha Johnson and Myrt Peterson (Smithfield FBC) both worked with the 1st year nursing students. Mark Stevens (LifeSpring Church) and Kelton Hinton (Princeton Baptist) both worked with the General College students. Kelton Hinton and Michael Hall (Beulah Baptist) both worked with the Faculty/Staff group. Each leader has either developed their own material based upon the needs of the students they ministered to or they affiliated with an organized campus ministry group. The Early College students, for example, are following the popular First Priority format being used on most high school campuses around the county. The General College group is following a Campus Crusade (CRU) model. The nursing students are basing some of their material off of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IV).

This Fall, we have begun two new groups among the Cosmetology students. Cecilia Hicks (Hephzibah Baptist), along with a friend of hers is leading out with this group. Norma Barajas (Selma Hispanic) is working with the Spanish speaking Cosmetology students.

Missions Development Council Report

Submitted by: Rev. Dwayne Batten, Missions Development Director

I would have to say that "missions" is what we do best here in the JBA! Over the years we have become more intentionally missions-minded with more hands-on projects than ever. Thankfully, our churches have responded generously and faithfully to the opportunities as they have presented themselves.
We have maintained a focus on…

Our **student population** and educational institutions through our annual prayer walks around schools, feeding faculty and staff, sponsoring ball teams, encouraging the growth of local FCA groups and the proliferation of the new First Priority groups not only in the high schools but also in the middle and elementary schools. We have also seized the great potential of working with college students at JCC, now one of our truly signature JBA ministries. (See their separate report on page 13.)

Church planting has always been a part of who we are as an association. Our JBA family of churches has attempted 42 church plants in the last 34 years! Of course, not all church plants survive, due to a variety of reasons, but we have averaged two new churches joining the JBA for several years now. Our most recent church plants reflect our changing demographics. Noel deAsis is beginning an "Asian" church plant in Clayton called **LifeZone** while Sam Frye is launching a "satellite" church from **The Point Church** in Apex, one of the ten intentional church plants that church is hosting. With all of the growth in the county (up to 3.5% annually in some years), and our projected 1st place NC growth ranking for the next decade, we have lots of needs for new churches! Not only has the JBA identified 5 new sites for Hispanic work, but we are still working off of the list of 42 sites identified through our "Operation Reach" several years ago, including 7 locations where a "blue-collar" church is needed!

Community outreach has taken several twists and turns. From churches offering food, clothing and help with bills for indigent clients, several have explored more long-term solutions to community problems by building homes through the Habitat For Humanity organization. Others have focused on building wheelchair ramps and installing grab bars in bathrooms to help seniors stay independent longer. Our annual JoCo 2018 events for youth each summer are an outgrowth of these endeavors. Two towns in our county (Selma and Princeton) have taken the statewide bi-annual "Operation Inasmuch" event to a new level and now include ALL the churches in their communities on an annual basis called "Arms Around Selma" and "Arms Around Princeton." With this outreach as a backdrop and a growing awareness of the opioid epidemic in our communities, some of our churches (such as **My Father's House** in Rosewood) have focused on treating the addiction side of the equation with "Celebrate Recovery" programs. Finally, one of our churches, **Building 323**, is developing an entire congregation growing out of a food ministry among the working poor in their community!

Ministry to specialized populations has been our growing edge. We have identified and responded to the opportunities provided by the Flea Market in south Smithfield, the truck stop in Kenly, the young people graduating out of the foster care program. Some opportunities are just

within our grasp, such as the GALOT Motorsports Park near Benson. A group of churches have made an attempt at hosting the Evangelistic Block Party Trailer down there, only to be rained out at the last minute. The Kenly Southern National Speedway and the RVacation Campground in Selma are still waiting for our involvement in their lives and activities.

As many of our churches are actively involved in Hurricane Florence recovery work around eastern North Carolina, let me remind you of the MANY opportunities that God is placing in front of us all to be his hands, his feet, and his mouthpiece. In the midst of a disaster people are amazingly open to a Gospel presentation as we help them physically deal with their situation. Let your light shine brightly and continue to "Push Back the Darkness!"

Tonight we will be hearing from Ralph Thompson, the Executive Director of Emergency Chaplains. He and his wife, Carter, felt led to start this ministry reaching out not only to Law Enforcement personnel but also medical responders and fire departments by providing volunteer chaplains for each of these entities. In addition to working with and placing ordained ministers as chaplains in these various service positions, Ralph also trains and deploys many lay volunteers to help out with crisis counseling situations wherever they are needed. Here in Johnston County, we have Christian detectives serving as "chaplains" working with the Sheriff's Department and the Selma Police Department. Lee Smith, Associate Pastor at Shiloh serves as a chaplain for the Garner PD as well. The other law enforcement units and medical and fire personnel have no one designated to respond to their needs or the needs of those they serve. This is a tremendous opportunity to make a difference in someone's life and "Push Back the Darkness" of fear and panic and grief that often engulf those involved in some of life's most traumatic moments.

Senior Adult Committee Report

Submitted by: Phyllis Crane, Fran Davis, & Ruth Collier, Senior Adult Committee

Our senior citizens are on the move! This year not only have we enjoyed two Senior Adult Rallies, but we have been challenged to get involved in various forms of ministry both locally and abroad! At the Spring meeting hosted by **Clyde's Chapel**, we enjoyed the music of "**Hope for Us**," a men's group of bluegrass musicians from Clayton FBC playing a wide variety of instruments. We all brought in Migrant Health Kits for distribution in this vital, summer outreach ministry.

Dr. Hinton encouraged us all to get involved in the state-wide **Operation Inasmuch** and **Ramp It Up!** local mission activity over the next two weekends. Obviously, MANY senior citizens would be benefitting from these local efforts and he encouraged us to "lend a hand" any way we could! We were able to see some slides from how Steven's Chapel was "Pushing Back the Darkness" in building a wheelchair ramp for an elderly member to be able to get out of his house and escape the darkness of loneliness and depression.

At the Fall meeting hosted by **Smithfield FBC**, we enjoyed the music and antics of the "**Golden Girls,**" a group of local JoCo senior adult women who have been singing and performing all around the county in recent years. As our "mission project," we brought snack food items for the **JCC Campus Ministry** to use with the students each week. We also saw a short slide show featuring the children and adults of **Casa de Cristo**, one of our Hispanic churches, ministering to seniors in a nursing home. This was another example of "JBA Churches: Pushing Back the Darkness." They were pushing back the darkness of loneliness and despair among these seniors.

Daryl Trexler, from the **NC Baptist Foundation** talked to us about various "planned giving" options. He even told us that we could give our money "twice," once to our kids and then again to the charity of our choice (local church or the JBA) by virtue of a "Charitable Remainder Trust." Dr. Hinton noted how, with all of the projected growth in the northern half of the county, we are desperately in need of land (4-5 acre plots), for new church plants once the outer loop around Raleigh is completed. He asked those of us with property in the area to consider donating or deeding a portion of our land to the JBA for such a purpose.

Dr. Hinton also told us about his recent trips down to Lumberton to help out with hurricane relief and flooding events. He noted how the vast majority of volunteers "running" the NC Baptist Men's Disaster Relief ministry are actually retirees! He described how WE could be involved in the feeding operations (if we get trained in the Spring by the NC Baptist Men), and how we can help with the "tear outs" and other forms of clearing away debris from the affected homes. He even told us that seniors who were unable to physically work, could at least talk with the homeowners and keep them company and offer support as their lifetime of mementos is being carried to the street for disposal, a traumatic event for many!

Please know that we are available to help in any way and the **NC Baptist Aging Ministry (NCBAM)** has MANY resources and training opportunities they offer to our churches. Go to www.ncbam.org or call them at 877-506-2226 for more information.

Sunday School Report

Submitted by: Rev. Lee Smith, Sunday School Director

From year to year I see our Sunday Schools "drifting" further and further away from their mission and not fully realizing their purpose. From a high of 36% of our total membership in SS attendance back in 2012, we have declined to 32% (2013), 31% (2014 & 2015) and now down to 30% over the last two years. This is distressing because of all of the potential in this one program that is going unused!

Sunday School is the "secret weapon" of any local church. It is a powerhouse of explosive potential for any pastor and church to use if they will! It provides SO MANY benefits:

- It gets people into the Word on a regular basis.
- It has an evangelistic focus.
- It offers a safe place to bring a lost friend.
- It offers a leadership "pipeline" for training and vetting new church leaders.
- It closes the "back door" of the church by getting people into small groups where they are held accountable for their attendance and are also "missed" when they are absent!
- It deepens the levels of community among church members as they come together in each other's homes on a regular basis.
- It provides THE most effective pastoral care for a large body of individuals (especially with some training and orientation from the pastor).

What about YOUR church? How are YOU doing in this area? Have you begun to tap into your Sunday School potential? How will YOU make a difference in YOUR church?

Multi-media Resources:

Sunday School Program

- Sunday School Done Right, by Allan Taylor
- The Seven Laws of the Learner, by Bruce Wilkinson
- Double Your Class in Two Years or Less, by Josh Hunt
- The F.A.C.T.S. About Doubling Classes, by Josh Hunt
- You Can Double Your Church in Five Years or Less, by Josh Hunt
- Sunday School For a New Century (Lifeway) (video)

Leadership Development:

- Disciple-Making Teachers, by Josh Hunt
- Network (rev.) by Bruce Bugbee and Don Cousins
- Jesus On Leadership: Developing Servant Leaders by C. Gene Wilkes
- Developing the Leaders Around You by John C. Maxwell
- Observing 4's and 5's in Sunday School by SBC (video)

Books/manuals:

- Revitalizing the Church Through Flake's Formula by Kenneth Priest

Call the JBA to see which of these resources are currently available to be checked out!

WMU/Women's Ministries Report

Submitted by Debra Worley, Incoming JBA WMU Director

Each year that I am involved in the JBA WMU & Women's Ministries, I stand in awe of the amazing work God accomplishes through our ladies. Your faithfulness and genuine love for the Lord inspires me, and others, as we walk this journey. Although our Association networks with individual congregations, we are a family of believers who work together to share the love of Jesus through our mission work and our efforts to disciple others. It's all about reaching our communities and the world for Jesus!

We participate in an annual collection to gather items for the NC Red Box Ministry. These beautiful red boxes are filled with necessary things and distributed to women inmates. Over the years we have collected lotion, shampoo, soap, and combs. Last year we had another successful year with over 2,000 toothbrushes donated to this ministry. This year, we are collecting chapstick (the deadline for that collection is October 26). It always blesses us to deliver these items knowing they will touch many lives.

Clayton First Baptist hosted our annual World Day of Prayer on November 6, 2017. I can't think of a better way to support missions than to pray for our missionaries. During this event we also focus on a region of the world that desperately needs the gospel. Make plans to join us this year on November 5 at Pine Level Missionary Baptist at 7pm.

One of the events I most look forward to every year is our Annual Spring Meeting. On May 18, 2018, Bethany Missionary Baptist Church was kind enough to host our event. Jennifer Johnson, a member at Bethany, was our guest speaker. We also heard from Michael Metz and his family's ministry opportunities in West Virginia. Beth Thomas from Pine Level Missionary Baptist share about her recent trip with the Baptist Nurses Association to Guatemala. Two students were each awarded $1,000 from the Mitchiner Scholarship endowment. Lindsay Corbett (First Baptist, Smithfield) and Montana Hocutt (Hales Chapel) were this year's winners.

The ladies of our Association are huge supporters of the JCC Campus Ministry. There are weekly meeting times on campus for the general student body. The students enjoy a free meal each week thanks to your generosity. Many of our ladies' groups send money to help offset the cost of these meals. Also, many of you donate items that we use to create exam kits to the students. We do this just to let them know how much we care about them and pray for them as they further their education.

Lastly, we donated 30 backpacks filled with school supplies for the REACH Ministry in Johnston County. These backpacks were delivered to foster children in August to help them have all they need to start a new school year.

We are looking forward to another great year as we serve as the hands and feet of Jesus!

Nominating Committee Report

Officers:
Moderator: Blair Maust, Clayton First
Vice Moderator: Rev. Steve Roy, Hocutt
Clerk: Rev. Steve Grice, New Life
Treasurer: Shirley Pike, Pleasant Grove

Department Directors:
Baptist Men: Rex Everheart, Clyde's Chapel
Discipleship: Open
Evangelism: Open
Missions Development: Rev. Dwayne Batten, Princeton
Music: Rev. T.J. Tamer, Wilson's Mills
Sunday School: Rev. Devon Varnam, Kenly Missionary
Woman's Missionary Union: Co-Directors Debra Worley, Carter's Chapel & Laura Rogers (Four Oaks)

Moderator's Appointments

Committee on Committees:

Open

Block Party Trailer Committee:

Open

Other:

NC Baptist Foundation: Open
Baptist Children's Home: Carolyn Tharrington, Smithfield First
GuideStone Financial Resources: Open

Committee on Committees Report

Submitted by: Associational Council Members

Budget & Finance Committee (7 total, including the Treasurer, 3-year terms)
(2019) Sandra Frazier, Beulah
(2019) Rev. Lester Bledsoe, Pleasant Grove
(2020)
(2020)
(2021)
(2021)

Church Admissions Committee (up to 5 total, may succeed themselves)
(2019) Rev. Trey Wells, Clyde's Chapel
(2019)
(2020)
(2020)
(2021)

Constitution & Bylaws Committee (up to 3 total, 3-year terms)
(2019)
(2020)
(2021)

Historian (1 person, may succeed themselves)
(2019)

Nominating Committee (up to 6 members, 3-year terms)
(2019)
(2019)
(2020)
(2020)
(2021)
(2021)

Ordination Committee (up to 9 members, a majority ordained, 3-year terms)
(2019) Rev. Billie Lawson, Wilsons Mills
(2019) Rev. Marvin Ownley, Stevens Chapel
(2019) Rev. Tim Stevens, Micro
(2020) Rev. John Norman, Four Oaks First
(2020) Phil Crane, Clayton First
(2020)
(2021)

(2021)
(2021)

Personnel Committee (up to 5 members, may succeed themselves)
(2019) Rev. Trey Wells, Clyde's Chapel
(2019)
(2020)
(2020)
(2021)

Program Committee (up to 5 members, may succeed themselves)
(2019)
(2019)
(2020)
(2020)
(2021)

Properties Committee (up to 4 members, may succeed themselves)
(2019) Darwin Crumpler, Divine Crossings
(2019) Rev. Steve Grice, New Life
(2020)
(2020)

Senior Adults Committee (up to 3 members, may succeed themselves)
(2019) Ruth Collier, Pauline
(2020) Phyllis Crane, Clayton First
(2021) Fran Davis, Sardis

Youth Committee (up to 3 members, may succeed themselves)
(2019)
(2019)
(2020) T.J. Tamer, Wilsons Mills

Budget and Finance Report

Submitted by Shirley Pike, JBA Treasurer

Proposed 2018-2019 Budget

Expense	Proposed
200 Salaries & Benefits	
200-1 AM Salary	17,265.00
200-2 AM Housing	20,000.00
200-3 AM Annuity	1,200.00
200-4 AM Insurance - Basic	30,300.00
200-5 AM Health Savings	7,900.00
200-6 Christmas Bonuses	450.00
200-7 Secretary Salary	28,583.00
200-8 Secretary Travel Reimb.	350.00
200-9 Secretary Insurance	4,918.00
200-10 Secretary Annuity	2,962.00
200-11 Custodial Care	3,900.00
200-12 FICA Taxes	8,000.00
Total 200 Salaries & Benefits	**125,828.00**
300 Operating Expenses	
300-1 Supplies & Postage	4,000.00
300-2 Equipment & Repairs	8,000.00
300-3 Office Utilities	2,800.00
300-4 Office Insurance	1,400.00
300-5 Telephone	3,700.00
300-6 Maintenance	3,000.00
300-7 Acct. Reimbursement	7,500.00
300-8 Associational Promotion	800.00
300-9 JBA Audit	2,000.00
300-10 Mortgage	8,400.00
Total 300 Operating Expenses	**41,600.00**
400 Annual Meeting	
400-1 Publishing Annuals	1,100.00
400-2 Speaker	500.00
400-4 Supper	400.00
Total 400 Annual Meeting	**2,000.00**
500 Organizations	
500-1 Sunday School	100.00
500-2 Discipleship Training	250.00
500-3 WMU	1,000.00
500-4 Brotherhood	100.00
500-5 Music	150.00
500-6 Deacon Banquet	1,500.00
Total 500 Organizations	**3,100.00**
600 Programs	
600-1 Evangelism	0.00
600-2 Association Trng.	0.00
600-3 Youth Ministry	250.00
600-4 Library/Media Ctr.	0.00
600-5 Senior Adult	400.00
600-6 Pastors Conference	350.00
600-7 Christmas Social	600.00
Total 600 Programs	**1,600.00**
700 Missions	
700-1 Mission Projects	2,000.00
700-4 New Church Starts	2,000.00
700-6 JoCo Mission Projects	200.00
700-7 Campus Ministry	1,000.00
700-8 Partnership Missions	1,800.00
Total 700 Missions	**7,000.00**
800 Contingency	**900.00**
Total	**182,028.00**

General Fund Income (Oct. 1, 2017-Sept. 30, 2018)

Church	Amount
Antioch	2,113.50
Baptist Center	2,505.24
Baptist Tabernacle	2,400.00
Benson	2,088.86
Bethany	5,150.00
Bethesda	3,275.00
Beulah	5,153.58
Blackman's Grove	500.00
*Branded Boots	0.00
Building 323	500.00
Burnell	850.00
Calvary, Dunn	1,000.00
Calvary, Selma	200.00
Carter's Chapel	1,530.22
*Casa de Cristo	0.00
*Casa de Oracion	250.00
Cedar Grove	1,500.00
Clayton Crossings	7,585.00
Clayton First	6,749.97
Clyde's Chapel	5,500.00
Corinth	1,600.52
Cornerstone	1,000.00
Divine Crossings	0.00
Faith	1,058.52
Freedom Biker	0.00
Four Oaks First	5,620.25
Hales Chapel	450.00
Hephzibah	2,500.08
Hocutt	2,000.00
Hood's Grove	2,400.00
Jonesboro	750.00
Kenly	7,798.03
*King's Cross Church	650.00
Lee’s Chapel	0.00
*LifeSpring Church	3,207.27
*LifeZone Fellowship	0.00
Live Oak Baptist Church	600.00
Micro First Baptist	500.00
Middlesex Baptist Church	720.00
*Mule City Cowboy Church	0.00
New Life	1,647.86
Newton Grove	1800.00
Nobles Chapel	500.00
North Smithfield	1,000.00
Oakdale	850.00
Oliver's Grove	275.00
Parrish Memorial	1,948.55
Pauline	449.13
Pine Level	6,047.73
Pisgah	1,200.00
Pleasant Grove	4,335.46
Princeton	5,396.36
Sardis	2,000.00
Selma	7,320.73
Sharon	1,021.17
Shiloh	7,725.00
Sims	2,745.00
Smithfield First	8,400.00
*Smithfield First - Hispanic	1,185.21
Stevens Chapel	3,853.43
Thanksgiving	1,538.89
*The Point Church Clayton	0.00
Trinity	1,125.00
Watkin's Chapel	3,500.00
Wellspring	1,500.00
White Oak	8,626.88
Wilson's Mills	9,395.60
Total Contributions	**166,244.96**

*Churches, church plants, and missions that we network with.

General Fund Disbursements (Oct. 1, 2017-Sept. 30, 2018)

	Budgeted	Spent	Balance	% Used
200 Salaries & Benefits				
200-1 AM Salary	17,045.00	17,045.00	0.00	100.0%
200-2 AM Housing	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	100.0%
200-3 AM Annuity	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	100.0%
200-4 AM Insurance - Basic	30,300.00	30,300.00	0.00	100.0%
200-5 AM Health Savings	7,750.00	7,750.00	0.00	100.0%
200-6 Christmas Bonus	450.00	450.00	0.00	100.0%
200-7 Secretary Salary	28,300.00	20,260.96	8,039.04	71.6%
200-8 Secretary Travel	350.00	246.61	103.39	70.5%
200-9 Secretary Insurance	4,918.00	4,918.00	0.0	100.0%
200-10 Secretary Annuity	2,962.00	2,961.96	0.04	100.0%
200-11 Custodial Care	3,900.00	3,825.57	74.43	98.1%
200-12 FICA Taxes	7,000.00	7,517.22	-517.22	107.4%
Total 200 Salaries & Benefits	**124,175.00**	**116,475.40**	**7,699.60**	**93.8%**
300 Operating Expenses				
300-1 Supplies & Postage	4,000.00	3,28854	711.46	82.2%
300-2 Equipment & Repairs	8,000.00	6,662.08	1,337.92	83.3%
300-3 Office Utilities	2,800.00	2,837.58	-37.58	101.3%
300-4 Office Insurance	1,400.00	1,291.00	109.00	92.2%
300-5 Telephone	3,700.00	3,256.61	443.39	88.0%
300-6 Maintenance House & Grnd	3,000.00	3,00.00	0.00	100.0%
300-7 DOM Acct. Reimbursement	7,500.00	8,618.73.06	-1,118.73	114.9%
300-8 Associational Promotion	800.00	667.11	132.89	83.4%
300-9 JBA Audit	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.0%
Total 300 Operating Expenses	**33,200.00**	**29,621.65**	**6,578.35**	**89.2%**
400 Annual Meeting				
400-1 Publishing Annuals	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.0%
400-2 Speaker	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.0%
400-4 Supper	400.00	363.63	36.37	90.9%
Total 400 Annual Meeting	**2,000.00**	**363.23**	**1,63637**	**18.2%**
500 Organizations				
500-1 Sunday School	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
500-2 Discipleship Training	250.00	248.90	1.10	99.6%
500-3 WMU	1,000.00	999.14	.86	99.6%
500-4 Brotherhood	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
500-5 Music	150.00	150.00	0.00	100.0%
500-6 Deacon Banquet	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.0%
Total 500 Organizations	**2,600.00**	**2,598.04**	**1.96**	**99.9%**
600 Programs				
600-1 Evangelism	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
600-2 Association Leader Training	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
600-3 Youth Ministry	250.00	250.00	0	100.0%
600-4 Library/Media Center	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
600-5 Senior Adult	300.00	300.00	0.00	100.0%
600-6 Pastors Conference	350.00	157.80	192.20	45.1%
600-7 Christmas Social	600.00	527.49	72.51	87.9%
Total 600 Programs	**1,500.00**	**1,235.29**	**264.71**	**82.4%**
700 Missions				
700-1 Mission Projects	2,000.00	1,342.75	65725	67.1%
700-4 New Church Starts	2,000.00	829.56	1,170.44	41.5%
700-6 JoCo Mission Projects	200.00	200.00	0.00	100.0%
700-7 Campus Ministry	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.0%
700-8 Canada Partnership	1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00	0.0%
Total 700 Missions	**7,000.00**	**3,172.31**	**3,827.69**	**45.3%**
800 Contingency	**900.00**	**831.61**	**68.39**	**92.4%**
Total Expenses	**171,375.00**	**154,297.93**	**17,077.07**	**90.0%**

Non-Budget Account Balances (Oct. 1, 2017-Sept. 30, 2018)

Account	Balance
Bi-Vocational Pastors Retreat (Eastern Region)	4,077.26
Canada Partnership	400.00
Deacons/Pastors/Spouses Banquet	311.36
Disaster Relief & Recovery	69.53
Evangelistic Block Party Trailer	3,740.17
JBA Counseling Center	683.78
JBA Mission Projects	29,555.02
JBA Office Addition	28,442.15
JCC Campus Ministry	7,228.30
Medical-Dental Bus	297.06
Miscellaneous	3,477.13
New Church Starts	593.21
Pockets of Lostness	269.80
Royal Ambassador Funds	347.51
Senior Adult Rally	-265.77
Sunday School Campaign	716.23
Turnaround Pastors Bootcamp	-250.99
Village of Hope Orphanage	487.50
WMU Mitchiner Scholarship	5,168.52
WMU/Women's Ministries	3,612.52
Youth Retreat	-343.79
Total Non-Budget	**88,616.50**

Miscellaneous Account Balances (As of Sept. 30, 2018)

NC Baptist Foundation Investment Fund	$15,538.85
NC Baptist Foundation Savings Fund	$41,448.67

North Carolina Baptist State Convention Reports

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

Submitted by: Milton Hollifield, Executive Director-Treasurer, BSCNC

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSCNC) exists to help local churches fulfill their divinely appointed mission from God. The convention staff, under the leadership of Executive Director-Treasurer Milton A. Hollifield Jr., is committed to helping Baptist churches and associations maximize their ministry outreach for the purpose of building God's kingdom through a strategy of "impacting lostness through disciple-making."

Associational Partnerships

Associational Missions Strategists (AMSs), also known as directors of missions (DOMs) or associational missionaries across North Carolina, play a critical role in the life of our churches and can be a vital, significant and strategic force in the effort to help plant new churches and assist in the revitalization and replanting of existing congregations. For this reason, Associational Partnerships continues to offer opportunities, training and resources to help associational leaders enter the field with a fresh, intentional and deliberate approach. We are so grateful for the crucial strategic ministry partnerships with the associational leaders representing 77 associations across the state. Our staff is thankful for these leaders, their servant hearts and faithfulness toward impacting lostness through creating a disciple-making culture in their churches, communities and beyond.

Associational Missions Conference*:* During this year's three-day training event in April we offered a full day devoted to potential and new associational leadership training, a track for spouses, a track for church and community ministries personnel, and a full agenda of education, training and fellowship for associational leaders. The conference theme was "Redeeming the Time: Reclaiming the Glory: Seizing Every Opportunity to Restore His Church." Our guest presenter was Mark Clifton, senior director of replanting at the North

American Mission Board. The emphasis was focused on the implementation of a framework and strategy related to church revitalization and church replanting.

Church Health and Revitalization

In the last two years, our team of revitalization specialists has had hundreds of conversations with associations, pastors and churches in an effort to help them assess their current realities, envision a future for making disciples and build strategies to impact their communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Along the way, we have continually asked the question, "What is working in church revitalization?" The keys we are seeing are these:

1. An outpouring of God's Spirit through prayer and study of His Word.
2. Repentance and a return to a love for Jesus Christ.
3. Leaders unleashed to shepherd the church toward mission.