

BRINGING CHURCHES TOGETHER TO IMPACT
LOSTNESS IN OUR COMMUNITIES & TO THE
ENDS OF THE EARTH

Forerunner

"Church Awaken"

Joel 2:12-14



Transylvania Baptist Association

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TERRY'S THOUGHTS



For this month's article I wanted to focus on two major issues that are to be constants among all born again believers in Christ Jesus. Those issues are Praying and Going. Both issues are a constant admonishment from God's word, therefore, it seems important for us to make sure we are in line with His will on these matters in our every day life.

Let's turn our attention to Prayer. We are told throughout Scripture that we are to call out to the Lord, seek the Lord, pray, plead, give praise, and a host of other adjectives that describe how and when we are to stay in contact with the Father. The prophet Samuel, in one of his public speeches to the nation of Israel when they had committed evil, gives us a pattern for how we are to pray by making a vow to the evil nation, at the time, of Israel by saying, "As for me, I vow that I will not sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you. I will teach you the good and right way" (1 Samuel 12:23). Meaning even when we or others fail, we are to pray for them regardless of their circumstances.

The Apostle Paul tells us, "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in everything; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thes 5:16-17). Finally, Paul admonishes us to, "Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints" (Eph 6:18). While this is not an exhaustive list of places, within Scripture, where we are told the importance of prayer, I think you get my point, **WE MUST CONTINUE TO PRAY** and never cease to lift up others, pray for the lost, pray over big decisions, and pray when you find yourselves in difficult circumstances.

Prayer is a big deal with God; therefore, it should be a big deal with us. To that end we have two weekly opportunities for prayer within our association. On Tuesdays beginning at 7:00 AM prayer is happening at North Toxaway Baptist and on Thursdays here at the association office beginning at 9:00 AM. Additionally, the annual National Day of Prayer, here in Transylvania County, is scheduled for Thursday May 2nd beginning at noon. We will gather at the gazebo in front of the County Courthouse. Bring your lawn chairs and join us for a collective time of prayer centered around the verse 2 Chronicles 7:14.

My second focus concerns our admonishment to Go! Again, we find throughout Scripture admonishments from the Father and His Son Jesus to serve others and to take the Gospel with us when we go. Two of the most widely recognized commands on going are found in Matthew and Acts. Jesus tells us, "Jesus came near and said to them (His disciples which includes us), 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 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 everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age' (Matt. 28:18-20). Secondly, Jesus tells his disciples (including us) that, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Notice the imperative nature of these two passages. Meaning not only are we to go, but to do so in the power of Jesus Christ which is manifested in us through the Holy Spirit.

continued

TERRY'S THOUGHTS (continued)

Therefore, these two constants are not up for debate. Since we have been commanded to go then let's go! You can do that collectively with your brothers and sisters, here in the association, by being a part of our first association team mission trip to our Upstate Pennsylvania Partners during the week of August 12-19. The details and deadlines for signing up are found in this newsletter and on our website. PLEASE TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAY TO THE FATHER ABOUT WHAT HE WOULD HAVE YOU DO AND CONSIDER JOINING US. Also remember to share your calling with your congregations especially for them to pray, but also to possibly assist with the cost. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call our office at 828-877-3203, myself at 252-241-5872, or Pastor Shannon Owen our Mission Development Team leader at 828-606-7034.

Always remember I love you and I consider it one of my greatest honors to serve the sweet folks of Transylvania Baptist Association. Additionally, remember we, here at the association, stand ready to assist you in whatever need you have. As the Bible tells us "You have not, because you ask not." Meaning, as you participate, give, and call the needs you have could be met sooner and better than you might have thought when you include us in your search for resources!

Terry



LIFT UP THE WORD
LIGHT UP THE WORLD

2 SAMUEL 22:29-31

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024



Association-Wide
Prayer Gathering
Thursday, May 2
12:00 noon

Courthouse
Gazebo on Main
Street, Brevard



Pastors Fellowship
Monday, May 13
10:00 am

Association Financial Summary
March 2024

	Current	Year-to-Date
Biltmore Brevard	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
Blantyre	\$ 125.00	\$ 375.00
Blue Ridge	\$ 75.00	\$ 225.00
Boylston	\$ 580.08	\$ 1,432.14
Brevard First	\$ 1,386.90	\$ 4,410.84
Calvary	\$ 398.11	\$ 1,657.60
Carr's Hill	\$ 250.00	\$ 750.00
Carson's Creek	\$ 150.00	\$ 450.00
Cathey's Creek	\$ 269.00	\$ 638.00
Cedar Mountain	\$ 366.00	\$ 732.00
Cherryfield	\$ 295.74	\$ 1,185.80
Church at Sapphire	\$ 0	\$ 0
Cove Church	\$ 0	\$ 0
Dunn's Rock	\$ 0	\$ 2,299.30
East Fork	\$ 0	\$ 300.00
Enon	\$ 0	\$ 200.00
Faith Missionary	\$ 0	\$ 0
Grace	\$ 540.45	\$ 1,020.81
Hope Church Brevard (See Off)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Lake Toxaway	\$ 0	\$ 331.00
La Primera Mission	\$ 0	\$ 0
Little River	\$ 1,035.50	\$ 1,035.50
Middle Fork	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00
Morningside	\$ 182.00	\$ 667.97
Mt. Moriah-Calvert	\$ 0	\$ 0
New Hope	\$ 0	\$ 0
North Toxaway	\$ 100.00	\$ 350.00
Oak Grove	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00
Pisgah Forest	\$ 1,604.73	\$ 2,575.84
Rocky Hill	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,200.00
Temple	\$ 131.25	\$ 393.75
Turkey Creek	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00
Zion	\$ 0	\$ 635.13
Checking Interest	\$ 2.48	\$ 7.83
Total Receipts	\$ 9,742.24	\$ 25,723.51
Total Expenses	\$ 11,219.20	\$ 33,666.32

2024 Budget \$149,879.00
 Needed Monthly to Meet Budget \$12,490.00

Church News

Churches please send in your dates and themes for VBS as soon as available.

Brevard First Baptist - is seeking a **teacher and a couple of assistants** for the 2024-25 school year. For more information, please contact Diane Brown at 828-882-9839 or firstbaptistweeshcool@gmail.com.

Cedar Mountain - will host a **Griefshare** support group March 5 thru May 28 on Tuesdays at 6pm.

Enon - is seeking a **pianist/music leader** fluent with all worship styles. For more information please contact the church at 828-877-4418 or praygoshare@gmail.com. Will have "Jungle Quest" VBS June 23-27 at 6pm each night.

Little River - is seeking a part-time **worship leader**. For more info, please visit <https://lrbchurch.org/employment>.

New Hope - will have a **Worship Night/Singing Service** on Saturday, May 18 at 5pm, everyone is invited to join. Will have "Christmas in July" VBS July 11 & 12, 6-8pm and July 13, 10am-2pm.

Pisgah Forest - is seeking a part-time **music director/leader**, For more information, please contact Gene Parker at 828-508-9142.

Rocky Hill - is seeking a **worship leader**. For more information and to apply, please contact Pastor Leland Holland at 828-553-3308 or lelandholland@yahoo.com.

Etowah Baptist - is seeking a **Student Pastor & Children's Pastor**. For more information, please contact the church at 828-891-7153 or office@ebcetowah.org.



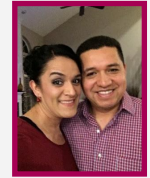
NCBAM has provided **smoke detectors** and **carbon monoxide detectors** for seniors free of charge. If your home needs one, or you

have a friend in need of one, please contact the Baptist Center as soon as possible for free installation.

Prayer Points for our Pennsylvania Northern Tier Churches:

Southwest Region of Pennsylvania

- Find & develop potential pastors & church planters
- 15 regional churches as they continue to evangelize & disciple their communities
- Potential for Nepalese Church Plant in York (Rajan) and Annville (Yogesh)
- Seth as he starts a house church in Lancaster
- Pastor Cam's official church launch in Corry, PA
 - Church Planters Wilson & Flor in Allentown, PA
 - Church Planters Samuel & Sharlot in Pittsburgh, PA



ServeNC signs are available now at the Baptist Center. Pastors, stop by to get yours today and show your community that you care. There are also other free resources to promote ServeNC at servenc.com.

***Every church.
Every community.
August 3-10, 2024
Register your church today at
ServeNC.com***

Red Box Prison Ministry for the NC Women's Prison

**Association Goal
300 Pairs of Women's
Gloves**

Collected gloves should be delivered to the Baptist Center by Wednesday, July 31.



What Happens When You Partner with IMB Teams?



One thing's for sure, you won't be a tourist! You will serve alongside IMB missionaries and be a vital part of the missionary task. Your time might look something like this:

Training Leaders - The First Baptist Church youth group from Kansas flapped their arms in the air like birds to the delight of the Zambian children. Vacation Bible School was a new experience for most attending the event - children and adults. Working beside each Kansas youth was

a local believer learning how to recreate VBS. Training - whether in the classroom or through experiential learning - sets up a church to reach the nations.

Serve alongside one of our IMB teams working among unreached peoples and be an active part of the missionary task. Start your missionary journey today at <https://www.imb.org/2024/01/22/partnering-with-imb-teams/>



Pennsylvania Partnership

It is beginning to spring up here in Harrisburg, PA as April moves along. We have settled back easily into our second home here at the Volunteer Mission House. The Baptist Resource Network staff welcomed us with the words...welcome home. It is such a blessing working alongside others who have a passion for their people to personally know Jesus.

Last week we hosted the last reconstruction team for the Volunteer House. This skilled group from Brevard placed mini-splits in the basement to make our guests more comfortable. It was a joy to cook for them and fellowship with them.

This week we have made visits into the Northern Tier of PA. This area, called the Wilds, is beautiful and full of forests, rivers, and mountains. We visited with some pastors in that area who are working in communities with little evangelical work. We spent time prayerwalking, listening to, and encouraging these pastors and wives, helping them to know ways NC Baptists can work alongside them in reaching their communities for Christ. Our Transylvania Association has begun a long term partnership with the Route 6 area across northern PA. Our work this week was preparation for a team coming to prayerwalk and assist one of the churches with community outreach mid- August.

This week we also have guests here at the House from SC who are interested in partnering with PA/SJ churches. The team leaders will be coming back to PA to lead the reconstruction of the Warren House in Pittsburgh. This is another mission team housing facility that Baptist Resource Network owns. We are so grateful for all the hard work volunteers put into growing the Kingdom.

Next week we will return to NC for a planned family vacation at the coast with our children and grandchildren. On our way down the hill, we will visit ministries on one side of WV and then on the other side of WV on our way back to PA. Also while in NC, we will assist our church to lead a Community Family Fun Day, help with training for two mission teams and speak in a church in Murphy, NC.

One of the things Dewey and I so enjoy about our work, is meeting and encouraging others to reach their neighborhoods with the gospel. Almost every day there is someone we meet who needs a smile, some kind words, a hand shake, a word of appreciation. That happened Monday in a small town corner café over a cinnamon bun and coffee. It happened Tuesday and again today. In some of the loneliest, most isolated communities, a gospel difference can be made when others see who Jesus is through the actions and words of believers. In speaking with pastors and church leaders, the conversation often turns to how we are not called to build our castles but work together to grow the Kingdom. That happens outside the walls of the church. It happens as we intentionally walk our days with Jesus being our number one priority. We pray that you realize that in your sphere of influence.

Thank you for all your prayers and support as we partner together for the gospel. We appreciate you all so much.

Dewey & Kathie Aiken
On Site Coordinators



FIELDS OF FAITH
Wednesday, May 15 - 5:30pm
Brevard High Baseball Field
Food Trucks - Field Games - Fellowship - Worship

Fields of Faith is a student-led event hosted by the FCA Leadership Team at Brevard High School.



May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 National Day of Prayer Gathering at Courthouse Gazebo 12pm Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	3	4 Disaster Response Training Dillsboro
5	6 Leading thru Preaching Fruitland Institute 2pm	7 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am	8 Tony Lambert Birthday (Cathey's Creek)	9 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	10	11
12 Mothers Day	13 Pastors Fellowship	14 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am	15 Allen Martin Birthday (Blue Ridge)	16 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	17 Lisa Rogers Birthday (Temple) Harold Sitton Birthday (Lake Toxaway)	18 Armed Forces Day
19 Renee Crocker Birthday (East Fork)	20	21 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am Childers Anniversary (Grace)	22	23 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day Baptist Center Closed	28 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am	29	30 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	31 Susan Mullis Birthday (North Toxaway)	

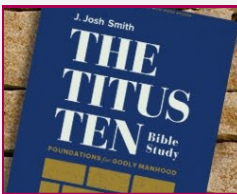
10 Essentials of Severe Weather Preparedness

The need to protect your people and organization from severe weather-related harm is crucial. Cover the basics of severe weather preparedness with these 10 essentials:

- 1 Know the Risk - Identify all potential severe weather risks for your location/facility.
- 2 Have a Plan - Develop a Severe Weather Emergency Preparedness & Response Plan. Review the plan annually and update it with any necessary changes.
- 3 Assess Your Facility - Identify areas in your facility that can serve as shelter locations. Utilize highly visible signage that directs individuals to these locations and makes them easily recognizable in the event of severe weather.
- 4 Have a Communication System - Ensure staff throughout the facility can easily communicate with individuals in the facility. Conduct regular testing of communications systems and maintain an up-to-date call list of emergency phone numbers and contact information, including that of your insurance provider.
- 5 Prepare the Organization and All Occupants - Train staff and volunteers on severe weather procedures and conduct periodic drills throughout the year.
- 6 Engage Local Law Enforcement and First Responders - Engage local response agencies such as police, fire, and emergency management in organizational planning. Provide those agencies with facility maps and copies of your Severe Weather Emergency Preparedness & Response Plan.
- 7 Be Aware of Potential Threats - Heed all severe weather warnings and advisories and take appropriate action.
- 8 Regularly Address Facility Maintenance - Inspect your facility's roof, windows, doors, and all emergency lighting to ensure they are functional, in good repair, and able to withstand severe weather conditions.
- 9 Have Emergency Supplies - Maintain fully stocked first aid kits, an adequate supply of blankets, and plenty of batteries for flashlights and weather radios.
- 10 Be Familiar with Facility Utilities - Identify all utility shutoffs and understand how and when to safely shut off service.

Article Courtesy Church Mutual Insurance
www.churchmutual.com

New From Lifeway



The Titus Ten

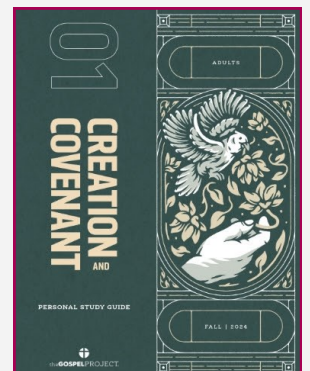
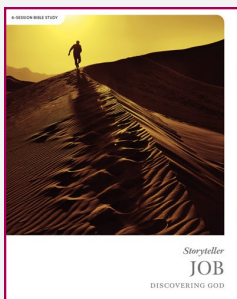
Become the kind of man God desires to use in your family, your church, and the world.

The Gospel Project

This fall marks the start of a new three-year cycle, so it's the perfect time to begin the study. Make this the year your church develops a new appreciation for Scripture and a deeper love for Jesus.

Why Do Bad Things Happen?

The book of Job isn't a how-to manual for navigating tough times, rather it's a book that leads us to the very feet of the God who holds the universe in His hands and sustains us in our suffering.



www.lifeway.com

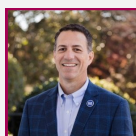
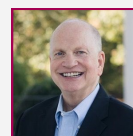


Fruitland Baptist Bible College
Gilliam Road, Hendersonville, NC
Monday, May 6th, 2024
2:00 - 7:45 pm

“Leading Through Preaching” is a one-day conference for pastors and church leaders to explore how the pulpit ministry leads, shepherds, and guides the local church. Register at <https://ncbaptist.org/events/leading-through-preaching-how-the-pulpit-shapes-ministry/>

Event Speakers:

Danny Akin
 President, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary



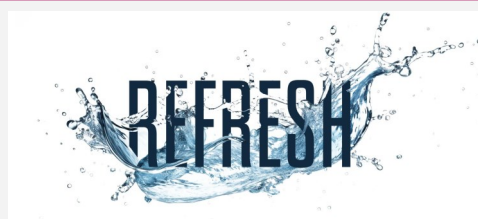
Scott Pace
 Provost, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary



Chuck Lawless
 Senior Professor of Evangelism and Missions,
 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary



Truett
Conference Center & Camp
 177 Truett Lane, Hayesville, NC 28904
<https://truettcamp.org/upcoming-events/>



International Pastors Conference
May 17-18
Caraway Conference Center

Pastoral ministry requires spiritual rejuvenation from the Lord. When renewal comes through a refreshing embrace of the gospel of Christ, international pastors can refocus their energy on the Great Commission and ensure they lead their congregations with renewed vigor and purpose. During this year's International Pastors Conference, join us for two days of worship, fellowship and prayer as we focus on refreshment and renewal in our call to ministry. We'll enjoy time together over meals, worship sessions and small group discussions, as well as an optional family time on Saturday afternoon. International pastors will feel enriched over this weekend as they continue to strive in ministry.

For more information and to register, please visit <https://ncbaptist.org/events/refresh-international-pastors-retreat/>



End of Book Leads to Beginning of Gospel Transformation

“I’ve got questions,” Daler said with a solemn and serious look on his face. He held up a Bible and raised an eyebrow. In Central Asia, the Bible is not popular. Christianity is even less so.

The two men sitting with Daler looked at each other, not at all surprised but mentally preparing for the rebuttals that are so common in this Muslim culture when discussing Scripture. International Mission Board missionary Brent Dorsett and Arman, a local believer and national partner, watched Daler thumb through pages of the Bible — a Bible your financial gifts provided him six months earlier. The Muslim man flipped past Genesis, Psalms and Matthew. He didn’t stop until he reached Revelation. Arman hid a grin and reached over to help. “You probably ought to start somewhere else,” the national partner said. He suggested John might be a better introduction to the Bible and gospel message. “No, no,” Daler said emphatically. “I’m not starting at Revelation. I’m finishing here. I’ve already read all the books before it.”

The two Christians looked at each other surprised. They knew Daler had been reading the Bible, but they didn’t know how deeply he had delved. Revelation is a challenging book for Christians to digest, much less a non-

Christian.

“What about this?” Daler asked about the seven stars referenced in the first chapters of Revelation. Barely pausing for an answer, he moved on to the next passage and question. The two-hour exchange felt different than normal for Dorsett. It wasn’t a debate. He saw this was a genuine seeker trying to understand the entire gospel message. This was an answer to prayer. Daler lives in a town where Christians are told not to waste their time. Spiritual lostness — the greatest problem in the world — was evident so the missionary asked you, his prayer partners, to open the way for gospel-sharing opportunities. Your financial gifts allowed Dorsett’s team to be present among many villages like this one in Central Asia.

Churches from seven different states sent mission teams to work alongside IMB missionaries and national partners to get the gospel to peoples and places who haven’t yet heard. Even with all the prayer and effort leading to this moment, sitting around a table and studying the Bible just wasn’t supposed to happen here. Dorsett and Arman couldn’t believe their ears when Daler closed his Bible and said, “I read Genesis; I read the Gospel of John. Now I’ve read the Revelation of John and I believe Jesus is God.”

Their shock was not an overreaction. People in Central Asia often say they believe Jesus was a “good man.” Many are happy to elevate Jesus to the status of a very powerful prophet — but people are hesitant to claim Jesus as the Son of God. “To find somebody, within just a few months of hearing the gospel for the first time, proclaim Jesus as being God is just amazing,” Dorsett said. Central Asians often take two to three years to believe in Jesus’ divinity, if they ever do at all. To see a life transformed in six months is an answer to prayer.

This story only gets better, though. Members of two other families in Daler’s village have also become followers of Jesus. Together, we seek to take the gospel to every nation, all tribes and peoples. Together, we pray for a gospel belief that results in lives transformed. We give ourselves to this mission.

Some names may be changed for security.

Article courtesy International Mission Board
Stories of Transformation
www.imb.org



2024 Appalachian Christmas Outreach

The Appalachian Coalfields Ministry seeks to meet physical and spiritual needs of those living in Appalachia. One of the greatest needs in this area occurs at Christmastime. We are calling on churches statewide to respond to this need through **Appalachian Christmas Outreach**.



Our statewide goal is to collect 22,000 backpacks of items to be distributed to Appalachian children in December of 2024. Visit our website for all the details on how to put backpacks together!

Statewide Collection: November 2

Over thirty collection sites will be set up statewide for churches to bring their backpacks. Locations will be listed in September on the Baptists On Mission website: www.baptistsonmission.org/aco



Share a gift of LOVE and the GOSPEL MESSAGE with a child in need this Christmas!



Statewide Goal: 22,000

Our Goal: _____

For more information contact Mark Abernathy, Baptists on Mission, at mabernathy@ncbaptist.org or 919-459-5607 or visit our website at www.baptistsonmission.org/aco



You can be among the first 20 persons to participate in the mission efforts of the TBA partnership with the

Northern Tier Pennsylvania Churches August 12-19, 2024

- *Prayer Walking*
- *Meet Local Pastors & Church Planters*
- *Community Outreach*
- *Limited Light Construction Projects*

Mission activities to include the areas of Towanda, Milford, Honesdale, Carbondale, Tunkhannock, Factoryville, Wysox, Rome, Edinboro, Corry, Coudersport, Ulysses, Wellsboro, Mansfield, Troy, and Harrisburg.

Travel Options:

- ♦ **By Van** – approximate total cost \$750 (*commitment and non-refundable deposit of \$200 required by May 15*)
- ♦ **By Air** – approximate total cost \$1200 (*commitment and non-refundable deposit of \$475 airfare required by May 15*)

Please make checks payable to Transylvania Baptist Association, with Pennsylvania Partnership on the memo line. Total estimated cost includes travel, lodging, meals, local travel expenses, and incidentals. Space is limited to 20 persons, so make your

reservation today by:

calling 828-877-3203 or

emailing transylvaniabaptist@gmail.com.

