

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

Forerunner

"Church Awaken"

Joel 2:12-14



TBA 161st Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 17 - 5:00pm
Brevard First Baptist Church

Make plans now to attend the Annual Meeting, as 32 churches
join together for an informative meeting and an awesome evening of worship!

No meal will be served. All Pastors, Church Staff/Leaders, &
Church Messengers are encouraged to attend.

Visitors are always welcome!

Please update your email contact for the association.

The correct email address is

transylvaniabaptist@gmail.com.

We are having technical issues with the old *tba@tbanc.org* emails,
and may not receive your information. Thanks!



Transylvania Baptist Association

675 Hendersonville Highway, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768

828-877-3203 - transylvaniabaptist@gmail.com - transylvaniaaams@gmail.com - www.tbanc.org

Rev. Terry Stockman - Association Missions Strategist

James Felty - Moderator

Rev. Michael Childers - Vice Moderator

Angie McGee - Treasurer

Nancy Kilpatrick - Clerk

November 2024
Volume 34 Issue 11

TERRY'S THOUGHTS



If I have heard it once, I have heard it a thousand times, over the last three to four weeks, “Hurricane Helene has forever changed our lives.” For many this is indeed the case. Many have lost homes, family members, jobs, possessions of all kinds, and worst of all many have lost hope. As a result of this catastrophic loss many are asking the question, “What now?” or “Where is God in all of this?”

In terms of “what now” I am not sure where some will have to go from here and what the future will look like for them, however, I do know Jesus is still God and that will never change. In fact, He is still Lord of Lords, King of kings, Almighty God, He is still sovereign over all things including the weather, He is still our salvation, stronghold, shelter, rock to stand on, our advocate, and our defender. Obviously, I could continue describing who He is, however, there is no one who has captured who King Jesus is

better than the late great pastor Dr. SM Lockridge. The following is an excerpt from one of his famous messages that I believe can be a great source of encouragement for us just now:

“The Bible says my King is a seven-way king: He’s the King of the Jews; that’s a racial king. He’s the King of Israel; that’s a national king. He’s the King of Righteousness. He’s the King of the Ages. He’s the King of Heaven. He’s the King of Glory. He’s the King of Kings, and He’s the Lord of Lords. That’s my King. Well, I wonder, do you know Him? David said, “The Heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows His handiwork. My King is a sovereign King. No means of measure can define His limitless love. No far-seeing telescope can bring into visibility the coastline of His shoreless supply. No barrier can hinder Him from pouring out His blessings.

“He’s enduringly strong. He’s entirely sincere. He’s eternally steadfast. He’s immortally graceful. He’s imperially powerful. He’s impartially merciful. Do you know Him? He’s the greatest phenomenon that has ever crossed the horizon of this world. He’s God’s Son. He’s a sinner’s Savior. He’s the centerpiece of civilization. He stands in the solitude of Himself. He’s awesome. He’s unique. He’s unparalleled. He’s unprecedented. He’s the loftiest idea in literature. He’s the highest personality in philosophy. He’s the supreme problem in higher criticism. He’s the fundamental doctrine of true theology. He’s the cardinal necessity of spiritual religion. He’s the miracle of the age. He’s the superlative of everything good that you choose to call Him. He’s the only one qualified to be an all-sufficient Savior. I wonder if you know Him today?

“He supplies strength for the weak. He’s available for the tempted and the tried. He sympathizes and He saves. He strengthens and sustains. He guards and He guides. He heals the sick. He cleanses lepers. He forgives sinners. He discharges debtors. He delivers captives. He defends the feeble. He blesses the young. He serves the unfortunate. He regards the aged. He rewards the diligent. And He beautifies the meek. I wonder if you know Him?

“He’s the key to knowledge. He’s the wellspring to wisdom. He’s the doorway of deliverance. He’s the pathway of peace. He’s the roadway of righteousness. He’s the highway of holiness. He’s the gateway of glory. Do you know Him? Well, His office is manifold. His promise is sure. His light is matchless. His goodness is limitless. His mercy is everlasting. His love never changes. His word is enough. His grace is sufficient. His reign is righteous. And His yoke is easy, and His burden is light. I wish I could describe Him to you, but He’s indescribable. He’s incomprehensible. He’s invincible. He’s irresistible. Well, you can’t get Him out of your mind. You can’t get Him off of your hand. You can’t out live Him. The Pharisees couldn’t stand Him, but they found out they couldn’t stop Him. Pilate couldn’t find any fault in Him. The witnesses couldn’t get their testimonies to agree. Herod couldn’t kill Him. Death couldn’t handle Him and the grave couldn’t hold Him. Yea! That’s my King, that’s my King. Father, yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the Gory forever and ever, and ever, and ever, and ever. How long is that? When you get through with all the forevers, then AMEN and AMEN!”

So, as we adjust to a “new normal,” whatever that is, let’s not forget that Jesus is STILL GOD and He can meet our every need and heal our souls. Also remember I love you and consider serving You one of my highest honors.

Terry

**Please pray for our churches
without pastors:
Boylston, Enon, Rocky Hill**

**No Pastors Fellowship
in November**



Thank you to so many of our churches for serving your communities with much-needed supplies and recovery work following the destruction from Hurricane Helene.



Drop-In Question & Answer Sessions for the 2025 Association Budget

Thursday, November 7
10am to 12pm and 6:30pm to 7:30pm
Baptist Center Conference Room

Association Officers and the Administrative Support Team will be on hand to answer your questions and concerns.

Association Financial Summary September 2024

	Current	Year-to-Date
Biltmore Brevard	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 3,750.00
Blantyre	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,125.00
Blue Ridge	\$ 75.00	\$ 675.00
Boylston	\$ 740.40	\$ 4,502.27
Brevard First	\$ 0	\$10,089.71
Calvary	\$ 401.17	\$ 4,589.62
Carr's Hill	\$ 250.00	\$ 2,250.00
Carson's Creek	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,350.00
Cathey's Creek	\$ 223.00	\$ 1,676.00
Cedar Mountain	\$ 366.00	\$ 2,928.00
Cherryfield	\$ 181.48	\$ 3,038.87
Church at Sapphire	\$ 0	\$ 0
Cove Church	\$ 0	\$ 125.00
Dunn's Rock	\$ 0	\$ 5,415.96
East Fork	\$ 0	\$ 900.00
Enon	\$ 0	\$ 2,400.00
Faith Missionary	\$ 0	\$ 0
Grace	\$ 238.32	\$ 3,076.71
Hope Church Brevard (See Off)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Lake Toxaway	\$ 0	\$ 693.18
La Primera Mission	\$ 0	\$ 0
Little River	\$ 0	\$ 3,106.50
Middle Fork	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,800.00
Morningside	\$ 221.10	\$ 1,867.32
Mt. Moriah-Calvert	\$ 0	\$ 0
New Hope	\$ 0	\$ 0
North Toxaway	\$ 100.00	\$ 950.00
Oak Grove	\$ 0	\$ 1,500.00
Pisgah Forest	\$ 100.00	\$ 5,844.96
Rocky Hill	\$ 400.00	\$ 3,600.00
Temple	\$ 131.25	\$ 1,181.25
Turkey Creek	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,400.00
Zion	\$ 0	\$ 1,407.08
Miscellaneous	\$ 0	\$ 3,750.00
Checking Interest	\$ 2.77	\$ 24.48
Total Receipts	\$ 5,655.49	\$ 76,016.91
Total Expenses	\$11,151.75	\$104,787.55

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

Church News

Boylston - all services are currently being held in the Fellowship Hall due to flood damage in the Sanctuary building. Sundays at 11am & 6pm, Wednesdays at 6pm.

Brevard First Baptist - is seeking a teacher and assistant for the preschool. For more info please contact Joy Guffey at 828-883-9839 or email firstbaptistweeschool@gmail.com.

Enon - is seeking a pianist/music leader. For more info please call the church at 828-877-4418.

Pisgah Forest - is seeking a part-time music director. For more info please contact Gene Parker at 828-508-9142.

Rocky Hill - is seeking a worship leader. For more info please contact Clint Owings at 828-883-9707 or cbowings@me.com.

2024 Annual Congregation Profiles

Extensive changes to the ACP have been made by the Baptist State Convention. A much simpler form along with moving to a calendar year of reporting are being implemented, and reporting will now be completed in January.

- ◆ A training session for church clerks will be held Tuesday, December 17 at 1pm at the Baptist Center.
- ◆ The reporting year will be January 1st through December 31st of 2024, with Baptisms and Memorials for the period of September 1st through December 31st of 2023 included in the 2024 statistics.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>Coming in December:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week of Prayer for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering - Dec. 1-8 • Pastors Christmas Banquet - Dec. 9, Zion • ACP Training for Church Clerks - Dec. 17, Baptist Center 					1	2 <i>Aaron Whitmire Birthday (Carr's Hill)</i>
3 Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church Daylight Savings Time Ends	4 <div>BSCNC Annual Meeting Nov. 4-5, Greensboro NC</div>	5 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am	6	7 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am TBA Budget Q&A 10am-12pm 6:30-7:30pm	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day	12 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am	13	14 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am	15	16
17 TBA 161st Annual Meeting Brevard First 5:00pm	18 TBA Disaster Relief Team Meeting Baptist Center 6pm	19 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am	20 <i>Dodson Anniversary (Carson's Creek)</i>	21 Weekly Prayer Baptist Center 9am <i>Greta Stockman Birthday (TBA)</i>	22	23 <i>Todd Alewine Birthday (Dunn's Rock)</i>
24	25	26 Weekly Prayer North Toxaway 7am	27	28 Thanksgiving Day Baptist Center Closed	29	30





2024 Appalachian Christmas Outreach

Appalachian Coalfields Ministry, sponsored by NC Baptists on Mission, seeks to meet the physical and spiritual needs of people living in the Appalachian Area. One of the greatest ministry needs in this area occurs at Christmastime. We are calling on churches statewide to respond to this need through Appalachian Christmas Outreach in 2024.



New Sneakers in All Sizes are also being collected.



GOAL and COLLECTION DATE:

The statewide goal is to collect **22,000 backpacks** of items to be distributed to Appalachian children in areas of need in late November and December of 2024. The state-wide collection day for 2024 is **Saturday, November 2** from 9am to noon. Thirty plus collection sites will be set up across the state for churches to bring their backpacks to. Specific sites will be listed on the Baptists On Mission website in September. **We encourage churches to begin collecting and filling the packs early – and throughout the year.**

AGE GROUPING and LABELING

Each backpack should be labeled boy or girl as well as the appropriate age. Age groupings are 4-7, 8-10; 11-14; and 15-17 Due to labels falling off in previous years, we use a ribbon system for labeling the backpacks. A **royal blue** (or similar) ribbon will indicate a **boy's backpack**. A **pink** ribbon will indicate a **girl's backpack**. In addition, a **yellow** ribbon will indicate that the backpack is for **ages 4-7**, a **green** ribbon for **ages 8-10**, a **red** ribbon for **ages 11-14**; and a **white** ribbon for **ages 15-17**.

Please prepare each backpack as you would for your own child or grandchild, with new items, not used. Please include items from each category listed to the right. **Please do not neglect to put in a Bible!** This may be the only Christmas present this child receives, and will be a witness of Christ's love.

ITEMS TO COLLECT

Each zippered backpack should include:

- 1) **ITEMS OF NEW WARM CLOTHING** including a winter cap, gloves, 2-3 socks, and scarf
- 2) **METAL POP-TOP CANS OF FOOD** (3-4 cans) such as ravioli, tuna, beef stew, vegetables, fruit
- 3) At least one or two **NEW, AGE-APPROPRIATE TOYS** Examples: small cars, balls, dolls, small stuffed animals, puzzles, jump rope, sidewalk chalk, Slinky, card games, Legos, other (*no toy weapons, please!*) For older youth category, substitute appropriate item for toy. No pocketknives! (*See website for suggestions*).
- 4) **HYGIENE ITEMS** including toothbrush, soap, washcloth, brush /comb, **full-sized** shampoo toothpaste, deodorant (*please fit these items into a one-gallon Ziploc bag so they will not leak*).
- 5) **FRESH, WRAPPED CANDY** (*no chocolate please, as it may melt – and no peanut products please due to allergies*)
- 6) **A CHILDREN'S or YOUTH BIBLE** (*no particular version is required*) **This is the most important thing that goes into the pack! Please include!**
- 7) **A COPY OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY** (*downloadable and printable pdf found on website*)

For more information contact



Mark Abernathy
mabernathy@ncbaptist.org
919-459-5607

More information and specific details available on our ACO webpage at:

www.baptistsonmission.org/aco

"Your participation will mean so much and may make an eternal difference in a child's life!"

Count your blessings, not your crosses,
Count your gains, not your losses.
Count your joys, not your woes,
Count your friends, not your foes.
Count your smiles, not your tears,
Count your courage, not your fears.
Count your full years, not your lean,
Count your kind deeds, not your mean.
Count your health, not your wealth,
Count on God, not yourself.



Christmas Banquet for Pastors & Their Wives Monday, December 9 - 6pm Zion Baptist Church

*Please call or email the Baptist Center to sign up to attend no later than
Monday, December 2. Each person is asked to bring an inexpensive wrapped gift to
exchange. Funds for the banquet are provided by designated gifts for pastor hospitality,
and will not impact the TBA budget.*



Operation Christmas Child National Collection Week November 18-25

Boxes are still available at the
Baptist Center

Little River Baptist Church
51 Little River Church Road, Penrose, NC 28766

Monday, Nov 18 - 10am-12pm
Tuesday, Nov 19 - 3pm-6pm
Wednesday, Nov 20 - 2pm-4pm
Thursday, Nov 21 - 10am-1pm
Friday, Nov 22 - 2pm-4pm
Saturday, Nov 23 - 10am-1pm
Sunday, Nov 24 - 2pm-4pm
Monday, Nov 25 - 9am-11am

Brevard Wesleyan Church
583 N. Broad Street, Brevard, NC 28712

Monday, Nov 18 - 10am-4pm
Tuesday, Nov 19 - 2pm-5pm
Wednesday, Nov 20 - 2pm-5pm
Thursday, Nov 21 - 2pm-5pm
Friday, Nov 22 - 2pm-5pm
Saturday, Nov 23 - 2pm-4pm
Sunday, Nov 24 - 2pm-4pm
Monday, Nov 25 - 9am-12pm

South Asian Church Can't Be Kept Quiet; Instead it Multiplies



It's the stuff inspirational movies are made of, but this is the real-life story of a man and his lasting influence in a South Asian village. Kahan went from practicing Hinduism to testifying for Jesus and planting churches. Then, this is where the plot thickens: he's murdered.

Allegedly, the death was an attempt to keep Kahan quiet about Jesus' saving grace and keep more churches from starting. Spoiler alert: The opposite happened; but we are getting ahead of the story.

International Mission Board worker Morgan Rawlings remembered the first time Kahan stepped foot in a house church. His neighbors carried him inside. He hadn't walked in four months. There, in that house church, he heard the gospel for the first time, Kahan knew it was true and he gave his life to Jesus on the spot. Members of the church prayed for Kahan and asked for his legs to be healed. They explained to the new believer that God is powerful and can choose to heal. Kahan didn't need help getting home that day. He walked.

It wasn't long before Kahan hit the dirt paths, going to all the homes in his village telling them about Jesus. He was discipled and attended trainings to teach other local believers how to reach out to neighbors. IMB workers know it takes local ownership of the Great Commission to fulfill the Revelation 7:9 vision, so they invest many hours in equipping believers. This is the steadfast presence and investment in peoples and places that IMB prioritizes.

Kahan got the gospel to a place and peoples where IMB workers could not go.

Kahan grasped the concept as he shared his testimony with 100 people praying to receive Jesus. His joy for the Lord was unshakeable. He couldn't hide his excitement in talking about Jesus with everyone he met. He started a church in his home and hosted more discipleship trainings.

Many in his village did not find the same joy in Kahan's new belief. Not long after he started sharing the gospel with others, Kahan was killed by a blow to the head. The suspect confessed to doing it because Kahan was "poisoning people's minds and changing their religion." The man was angry because people kept putting their faith in Jesus.

Kahan's death had a different effect than the suspect envisioned. Instead of stopping church growth, it ignited a fire in other local believers to keep the work moving forward. Advised to stop until it was safer, one believer reminded others that they must bear their cross and "die to follow Jesus." "I will not stop telling people about Jesus," the young woman said. Kahan got the gospel to a place and peoples where IMB workers could not go. Five small groups now meet because he was faithful in sharing the gospel. His death did not crumble their faith, Rawlings pointed out. "It has made their backs straighten and the church is rising," she added.

In fact, the torch has been passed and a new church started across the water from Kahan's home. Shikhar practiced black magic until he heard the gospel. His wife waded through a deep body of water to the church at Kahan's every week to attend discipleship trainings. She prayed for Shikhar to believe. After opening his heart to Christ, he told his wife that people on their side of the water should meet in their home for church and the trainings. "Shikhar is the same hot coal Kahan was," Rawlings said. "He baptized three people just this week."

Like any good movie plot, the purpose is clear. The gospel shall be taken to every corner of the earth. Your support through prayer and financial gifts enables steadfast missionary presence among peoples and places where Jesus is not known or named so more churches may be planted and local ownership of God's mission takes hold.

Some names may have been changed for security reasons.

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

Update from Our Pennsylvania Partners

October brings cool weather and Halloween. Halloween is the second major holiday in PA behind Christmas. Please pray for church planters as they navigate on how they will share the gospel, and interact with the community during this month. Please pray for the people they will come in contact with. May the Gospel be Declared.

- Erie Deaf Community Church just held their second annual Gospel Rally.
- Shalom Nepali Church in Linglestown has begun meeting in their shared building. They are meeting in a fast growing community just outside of Harrisburg.



Prayer Requests:

1. Cam is a church planter with 5 kids in Corry who is raising financial support so he can go full time into planting the church
2. Congolese community in Lancaster to find a man who will step up to be a church planter
3. A church planter for Elizabethtown, Hanover, Somerset, and Enola
4. Harrisburg Freedom Biker Church is looking at a permanent facility in Harrisburg
5. Spanish, Nepali, Indian, and Arabic church planters

Please Pray for These Church Planters:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Pablo in Scranton (Spanish) | • Yogesh in Linglestown (Nepali) |
| • Wilson in Bethlehem (Spanish) | • Scott in Bellefonte |
| • Daniel in Troy | • Christian in Hershey (Spanish) |
| • Mason in Erie | • Chapin in Sellinsgrove |
| • Cam in Corey | • Samuel in Pittsburgh (African) |

Update from the Aikens

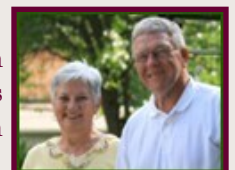
September 26-27 changed the lives of so many here in Western NC. Our damage and having no power or water for eleven days was minimal compared to the tragedies so many have experienced. God spared us, our home, and our vehicles from being crushed by four large hardwoods here at our house. He directed the paths of these fallen trees to point our neighbors to His grace and faithfulness. We have had more conversations with more neighbors than we have had in a year. After the storm, we visited each of them, distributing supplies and checking on them. There were prayers for them and hugs to their necks.

Throughout the month, we have worked with the coordination of supply distribution, doing assessments with both KY and NC Disaster Recovery teams, as well as sorting in distribution centers. Each day has been filled with phone calls and emails to assist churches who want to help our hurting community. All around our mountains, people have helped people...just as it should be. We will never be able to say thank you enough for your prayers and monetary and supply donations. At the present time, each distribution center we know is filled to the brim with supplies including coats and blankets. We know this recovery is a marathon and not a sprint. Rebuild will be going on for months and possibly years. Your continued prayers are appreciated for all our counties.

We ask your prayers for Dewey and me as we enter November when the collection, processing, loading, and distribution of Christmas backpacks culminates. My heart is saying that we will receive the 22,000 backpacks to meet the needs we know of plus more to meet the unexpected needs of hurricane affected communities. God's people are gracious and understand the importance of this ministry. It has been touching to me to hear that communities that have suffered in the last four weeks are preparing backpacks for other communities with whom they have partnership. Sharing the unconditional love of God...it's why we live.

Thank you for your faithful love and care for us and others.

Dewey & Kathie Aiken
On Site Partnership Coordinators
NC Baptists on Mission



FIRST-PERSON:
Why I Admire Pastors & You Should Too

Teddy Roosevelt, the 26th president of the United States, was one of the greatest elected officials in our nation's history and one of the greatest leaders the world has ever known. He was a tsunami of energy, one who never saw a mountain too tall to scale or a fight too threatening to join. He shook the nation, invented the modern presidency, and left a changed country in his wake. In other words, there is a reason why his face, along with Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln, is chiseled on Mount Rushmore.



Teddy Roosevelt, reflecting on the burden of leadership and the willingness to risk all and attempt great things, famously observed, "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

**Do you admire your
pastor? Does he
know it?**

Every time I read Roosevelt's quote, my mind darts to the pastorate, and the fine work that men of God do. The office of the pastorate is a high one, the work a noble one, and the men who faithfully undertake it are worthy of our admiration.

In our age of constant news, social media, and the world's attentiveness to pastors who have stumbled, it is easy to forget all that pastors do for the Church. Sure, we have all heard of a pastor who has not acted admirably, but they are the exception, not the rule. Most of the pastors I know garner my trust and respect and deserve my prayers and support. That, and given my own years serving churches, makes me admire pastors. You should too. Here is why.

First, pastors are called by God. Christ has given the church in our age, "evangelists, pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-12). One does not stroll into the ministry; one surrenders to it. Pastors are those who have been set apart by God, called by His Spirit, and who have submitted their lives to Him. This requires obedience not only to enter the ministry but to continue in it. Thus, I admire pastors for yielding their lives to God.

Second, pastors minister the Word. The pastor's one, irreducible responsibility is to feed the sheep the Word of God. Paul stipulates the pastor "must be able to teach," and he charged Timothy to "give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching" and to "preach the Word" (I Timothy 3:2, 4:13; II Timothy 4:2). The pastor who faithfully discharges this responsibility does more than feed the church the Word; he feeds me the Word. Every Christian needs a steady intake of God's Word. And a faithful pastor, who rightly divides the Word weekly, is worthy of high praise.

Third, pastors are held to a higher level of accountability. In fact, both the task of preaching and the responsibility of spiritual accountability bring this higher level of accountability. It begins with the qualifications of the office, as outlined in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. But it extends to other passages as well, including, "Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment," and that congregations should "obey their leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account" (James 3:1, Hebrews 13:17). This fact is all the more daunting when you realize that pastors face more intense temptation. Satan targets those whose fall will do most damage to the Church and most sully God's glory. I admire pastors for putting themselves in the arena.

Fourth, pastors tend the flock. Pastors are more than a shoulder to cry on, and they offer more than consolation during life's trials. They preach, lead, and fulfill a host of other responsibilities, but pastors are men who are willing to bear our burdens of heart. When we need prayer, counsel, or support, pastors stand in the gap for us. They bear our burden with us. Paul spoke of his affection and parental care of the believers in Thessalonica, and Peter exhorted the elders to shepherd the flock with eagerness, not lording over them. Such is the heart of a pastor, one who loves his congregation. This is no easy task. Church members can be wayward, stubborn and even rebellious. Thus, the pastor who serves the flock is worthy of our admiration.

Do you admire your pastor? Does he know it? The point is not to put him on a pedestal. The point is to rightly value, appreciate, and honor him. Do not wait until Pastor Appreciation Month. Why not thank him this week? Why not pray for him this week? Why not speak encouraging words about him and to him this week? As you do, he will be encouraged, your church will be strengthened, and you will no doubt be even better served by him.

Jason Allen
Article Courtesy Biblical Recorder
October 18, 2024



YOUR OFFERING
BRINGS CHILDREN

Hope!

PLEASE GIVE.

ANNUAL
OFFERING
GOAL \$1.5 MILLION

SHARING HOPE...CHANGING LIVES
Baptist Children's Homes
of NORTH CAROLINA



NC BAPTISTS MAKE AN ETERNAL
DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF
NC FOSTER CHILDREN!

ANNUAL OFFERING
WEEK OF PRAYER | NOV. 3-10

WHERE DO PEOPLE NEED TO HEAR THE GOSPEL? EVERYWHERE.

Each green dot on this map represents 50,000 lost people.

Every day, more than 174,000 of them will die without Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Will you join us in the Great Pursuit of taking the gospel to the lost — wherever we find them?



imb.org/greatpursuit

Note: Representative map based on population density data and IMB Global Research evangelical estimates.



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD



WEEK OF PRAYER *for International Missions*

DECEMBER 1-8, 2024

WMU®



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