

# BIBLICAL RECORDER

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## Endowment supports retirement ministry in Asheboro

By DIANNA L. CAGLE | BR Assistant Editor

Most of the Cross Road Retirement Community residents do not have any affiliation with the church that helped found the ministry in Asheboro.

But Gene Booker, 89, wants to make sure that the nonprofit retirement center continues to serve others well into the future.

“The churches I pastored took good care of me,” said Booker, who lives at the facility with his wife. “It’s been a joy working with the folks here.”

He said the staff of Cross Road Retirement Community makes him feel loved and provides a sense of belonging. He and his wife, Bobbie, 87, resided in the independent area at the facility for more than five years, but moved to memory care when she was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s.

“I don’t need to be here for my memory, but I have to have help with walking,” he said. “She lost her memory entirely. She can sing songs. She does know me and the daughters.”

He has been praying about what he can do to feel useful.

“There’s still something I could do,” he said, like creating an endowment to help the ministry that has been so good to him and his wife. “They take good care of me here ... and my wife. I just didn’t imagine people being so loving and caring.”

He said less than five percent of residents have any affiliation with the church that founded the ministry – Cross Road Baptist Church in Asheboro. Residents attend 10-12 churches in town and include people from across the country.

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## Hundreds of lives saved after use of ultrasound machines



Flora Lopez, right, director of Greenspoint Pregnancy Assistance Center in Houston, counsels client Sebastiana. (Photo by Sandy Ward)

By TESS SCHOONHOVEN | Baptist Press

Amory’s life changed forever when she saw those two blue lines on the pregnancy test. Thinking it was a false positive, she took it again, and again, three more times.

Amory had just finished graduate school, accepted her first job as a speech-language pathologist, moved into her own apartment and finally found a guy who she believed liked her back.

However, their relationship was rocky, and Amory had no idea how he would react to the idea of

being a father. Although in that moment, Amory’s life as she knew it seemed to crash down, her story did not end there.

Terrified of potential judgment and ridicule and almost too afraid to even seek help, she scheduled an appointment with Liberty Women’s Clinic in Kansas City.

Amory’s clinic nurse was Missy. Missy treated her with kindness, respect and grace, providing not only information, but hope.

Thanks to the ultrasound machine at Liberty

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## LifeWay Global trains Spanish-speaking church leaders

By ART TOALSTON | LifeWay Christian Resources

It wasn’t that long ago the LifeWay Global team dreamed about ways to resource pastors and other church leaders around the world – those with extremely limited or no access to formal theological training.

The vision of Ariel Irizarry, leader of LifeWay

Global’s training, became a reality when LifeWay Equipa (pronounced aye-KEEP-ah) – a Spanish-language training platform – launched in May 2019 at [lifewayequipa.com](http://lifewayequipa.com).

The digital platform stems from the desire to respond to the needs of pastors and lay leaders around the world, said Craig Featherstone, senior

See LifeWay page 9



## 5 news media priorities for a healthier SBC

As we step into a new year, renewed commitments are on our minds. The latest diets, reading plans and productivity calendars abound. I believe it's the right time for Southern Baptists to consider their news habits as well. Below I outline five basic priorities that can help us become a healthier convention in 2020.

Each one is presented in a spirit of encouragement to journalists, communications staff and other media providers, certainly including state newspapers, but also bloggers and podcasters. In fact, I believe any Southern Baptist who enjoys sharing news or commentary on social media could benefit from these priorities as well.

### 1) Mission

Clarifying our purpose may be the most important task Southern Baptist media providers can do at this time. The number of online sites and social media accounts that appear to exist for the purpose of spreading exaggerated, paranoid and sometimes false information that harms our cooperative efforts is multiplying.

It's vital that Southern Baptist media providers make it crystal clear what we do and why we do it.

We are here to help churches work together to make disciples of all nations by publishing reliable information and inspiring stories that build trust among our churches and the entities that serve them.

That's a statement we repeat often at the *Biblical Recorder* as we serve N.C. Baptists.

I encourage any and all Southern Baptists engaged in media to clarify or develop your mission statement. Make it a priority in 2020. You can even steal ours. Take it, adopt it, adjust it – use it however you like. Whatever you do, craft a vision that is beneficial to Southern Baptist work, and pursue it relentlessly.



SETH BROWN  
BR Executive Editor

### 2) Truth

It sounds obvious but truth should be a priority for anyone in the business of news and information. As Christian journalists, we care about truth because it comes directly from the character of our Lord. All truth is God's truth, and truth is good for us.

Sometimes the truth is uplifting. Other times it is hard to hear. Regardless, people in our pulpits and pews should feel confident they see the true state of things. That is the key to long-term, healthy partnerships.

Our system of voluntary cooperation fails without trust, and trust does not grow in the dark. Let's give Southern Baptists the benefit of the truth, so they can give each other the benefit of the doubt.

### 3) Transparency

We demonstrate our commitment to transparency by using sound reporting practices. Make it a priority

to redouble efforts in every publication or post to communicate the key facts.

Provide appropriate context so readers can understand, not just recall the sensational soundbites. Gather information from sources close to the issue, and then cite them accurately.

We should not entertain, platform or encourage the anonymous trolling that is so prevalent on social media. In fact, we should actively oppose it because it undermines our own journalistic and communication efforts. Let's make it a priority in 2020 to encourage Southern Baptists to share important facts and sincere opinions in the open and on the record. If our reporters, editors or writers make mistakes in the process, we should correct the errors with honesty and integrity.

It's important to note here that a commitment to transparency does not require the disclosure of private details in every story. Our editors and organizational leaders must use discretion wisely. But they must strive to present a complete picture to the best of their ability.

### 4) Fairness

Many, if not all, news organizations boast about how fair they are. Let's commit to be, rather than to seem. If Southern Baptists are anything, we are a democratic people who value the voices of everyday churchgoers. Any Southern Baptist with a sincere and newsworthy story should get a fair report.

I readily admit that a lack of staff and resources hinder most of our outlets from achieving the scope of reporting we desire. And, even when we do have the opportunity to publish news stories, we can never achieve pure objectivity. We are human, and often have opinions that color our stories in ways we don't see. Even still, we can fairly represent the best of all sides on any given issue that we cover.

### 5) Access

Ensuring that Southern Baptists have access to information should be a high value for our media providers. Our efforts to promote truth are ineffective if the information never reaches the majority of our audiences.

Brand new media platforms are cropping up at a fast rate, and each Southern Baptist has his or her preferred ways of receiving the news. Plus, our audiences are fractured and polarized.

That means what is published online may never reach certain print readers. Similarly, a cover story in a print issue may never surface in social media conversations.

Southern Baptist news outlets must commit to publish information in innovative and cooperative ways that distribute the news as widely as possible. From the most traditional print reader to the early adopter on the latest social media app, let's serve Southern Baptists by deploying our best and brightest to keep them informed and inspired. 

## The line isn't fuzzy. Youth pastors shouldn't date youth.

By RUSSELL L. MEEKS | Special to the *Biblical Recorder*

Southern Baptists are a trusting group. It's one of the best things about us. And it's also proving to be an Achilles heel in dealing with sexual predation

and pastoral abuse. Brave women like Jules Woodson, Tiffany Thigpen, Susan Codone and many others have sounded the alarm that there is an abuse problem in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Two more women have recently come forward

alleging pastoral abuse by their former youth pastor, Wes Feltner.

Megan Frey and JoAnna Hendrickson released statements saying Feltner manipulated each of

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## Resolve to serve in N.C. Baptist life

The start of a new year brings with it many goals and aspirations that we would like to achieve in the year ahead.

Perhaps you've set a goal to lose weight, save money or get organized in 2020. We often think about making resolutions that could help us physically, and that is good.

I would like to encourage you to prayerfully consider what you should resolve to do in this new year that will help you be of greater spiritual service to God's Kingdom.

As we begin a new year, I want to challenge and encourage you to look for opportunities to get involved in North Carolina Baptist life.

I'm thankful for the approximately 4,300 churches that are part of our North Carolina Baptist family who affiliate and work together in cooperative missions and ministry efforts. Many of you actively serve in your local congregations in many different capacities as full- or part-time pastors, church staff and lay leaders. I have heard it said that every church

member is a minister, and I'm grateful for everyone who exercises their gifts, talents and abilities in service to our Lord.

There are many opportunities for you to get involved in North Carolina Baptist life through various boards and committees of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and its related entities.

Serving with the state convention allows you to provide perspective, insight and leadership to the ministries of our convention as we seek to assist the churches in their divinely appointed mission.

Each year, we seek nominations for these places of service, and you do not have to be a pastor or church staff member to serve.

We value the wisdom and perspective of our laity, and our desire is that those who fill leadership positions on these boards and committees would reflect the diversity of our churches and their members.

This means we desire individuals to serve from churches that are large

and small, urban and rural from all across our state. We also desire that individuals who serve in these roles would include people who reflect the rich ethnic and cultural diversity that is found among our N.C. Baptist brothers and sisters.

Would you consider recommending someone you know to serve in N.C. Baptist life?


Would you ask someone to nominate you to serve on a convention committee or board?

Recommendations of North Carolina Baptists for these places of service and leadership is essential for ongoing missions, ministry and evangelistic endeavors.

## IN FOCUS

A WORD FROM OUR LEADER

To make a recommendation or to learn more about how you or someone you know might get more involved in N.C. Baptist life, visit [ncbaptist.org/recommend](http://ncbaptist.org/recommend). At that web page, you can learn more about service opportunities that exist and make a recommendation online or print out a form to submit by mail. Nominations are open until Jan. 31.

*"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God"* – 1 Peter 4:10 (NKJV). 



MILTON A. HOLLIFIELD JR.  
Baptist State Convention  
of North Carolina executive  
director-treasurer

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in around 350 words.  
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## Keeping the 'main thing' the main thing during a political year

It can be hard for Christians to stay focused during election years. My son-in-law, who is a pastor in New York City, said something that registered with me: "It used to be that if you wanted to know where someone's heart is, you looked at their checkbook."

"Now you look at their social media."

If you look at many Christians' social media timelines today, you would think that getting their candidates elected in 2020 is more important than seeing lost souls saved for all of eternity.

Our country is more divided than ever. Adding to this division is the lack of respectfulness among our public officials in the way they disagree with each other and present their issues.

Many Christians are now reflecting

that same disrespectfulness in their political comments on their social media pages.

I once served in a church where

several deacons often argued loudly during business meetings. I appealed to them to consider that they may be turning people, especially our young people, away from Christ by their displays of anger. One deacon responded, "I have the right, as a Baptist, to say anything I want, anyway I want to in a business meeting."

I replied, "You may have that right as a Baptist, but not as a Christian. The Bible is clear that we are to speak graciously, not destructively."

At First Baptist Church in Hendersonville, we try to remind our members and Sunday School teachers to talk about Jesus and the Bible during

their small groups, rather than getting into politics. I preach verse-by-verse through books of the Bible on Sundays. I never dodge any moral issue addressed in the Bible. I will continue to do so right through the election without any change of my practice.

I trust the Bible to be completely adequate to produce the best citizens possible (2 Timothy 3:17).

Could I make four appeals to those who are reading this editorial?

**1. Romans 13 implies that Christians should be the best citizens in their countries.** I believe that means Christians ought to take seriously their duty of voting in our country.


**2. In a divided country, don't build unnecessary barriers for our lost friends to hear the gospel.** We don't want to imply that you must be a part of a particular party in order to attend church and hear about Jesus. J.D. Greear recently spoke about leading someone to Christ whose Twitter name was "Lefty Lucy."

If their church had been political, she never would have come and heard the gospel. I want a church where both Lefty Lucy and Righty Robert can come and be drawn to Jesus.

**3. Watch the tone of what you put on your social media pages.** Ephesians 4:29 says, "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

**4. Keep your priorities in order when you speak in church and on social media.** Ask yourself, "Will this glorify Jesus? Will this make people love Jesus more? Will this draw people to trust in Christ?"

Let's keep the "main thing" the main thing during this election year.

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Steve Scoggins is president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and pastor of First Baptist Church in Hendersonville, N.C.) 



STEVE SCOGGINS  
Guest Column



# Youth

Continued from page 2

them into intimate, physical relationships with him while they were students in the youth group he led at First Southern Baptist Church in Evansville, Ind.

At the time, Feltner was in his early twenties and the women were 18 years old. Feltner was the pastor of Berean Baptist Church in Burnsville, Minn., when the accusations were made. He has since resigned from that position.

The chairman of a search committee for First Baptist Church in Clarksville, Tenn., which was considering Feltner as their pastor, said the alleged sexual acts between Feltner and female members of the youth group occurred “in a dating context.”

It’s easy to assume there is no clear problem, since both women met the legal age requirement for consent. I think many of us are prone to slough this off as young people being young people, as sexual interest and hormones getting the best of them.

Even putting aside alleged details of what happened between Feltner and these two young women as reported by the *Leaf-Chronicle*, there is something important in this narrative that Southern Baptists need to hear: Feltner was their youth pastor.

In other words, a Southern Baptist congregation charged this man with the spiritual care of its children. Though close in age with at least some of the members of the youth group, he was recognized as their pastor, Christ’s under-shepherd. That charge comes with weighty responsibility.

I’m afraid, though, that we as churches do not always make clear the responsibility and authority of youth pastors, particularly when they are young and inexperienced.

I’ve known many very young youth pastors, youth interns and youth volunteers. Often, they are young men in college.

Such positions are seen as oppor-

tunities to develop pastoral skills and perhaps do some good for a small church struggling to hire candidates with more training or experience.

Young people are inexpensive labor, and their age proximity to students appears to give them an advantage in relating to youth in the church and community.

This makes sense, but have these practical considerations led us to play a part in ruining the lives of many young people? Have we failed to set up safeguards that would protect them? I believe so.

We should pause to ask whether it is wise to give a young, inexperienced person pastoral authority over a group of people just slightly his juniors, particularly without clear guidelines concerning whom he can and cannot date or engage with sexually.

The legal age of consent should not blur our vision on these issues. No youth pastor should “date” or en-

gage in any sort of sexual relationship with any person under their care.

Local churches have a responsibility to ensure the flock is protected. We need bright orange guardrails that remind youth pastors exactly what they are – shepherds of God’s flock, not bachelors surveying the field.

The time has already passed to save Megan and JoAnna from years of trauma, but there is still time to save other young people who will grow up in our youth ministries.

Rather than excuse a relationship between a youth pastor and youth-group member because of age, or because the parents know, or because the two are “dating,” we need to take seriously the role of youth pastor as a pastor, and that means demonstrating what it means to care for people in the church.

(EDITOR’S NOTE – Russell Meek is an author, editor and lecturer in Old Testament and Hebrew at Ohio Theological Institute.) <sup>BR</sup>



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# North Carolina churches' sending culture celebrated

By AMY WHITFIELD | Baptist Press

On Dec. 18, Paul Chitwood, president of the International Mission Board (IMB), visited the Raleigh-Durham, N.C., area to meet with leaders from five area churches that also happen to be among the top 10 missionary-sending churches in the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). J.D. Greear, SBC president and pastor of The Summit Church, hosted the meeting at the Capital Hills campus of The Summit Church in Raleigh.

"We wanted to connect with them knowing that they are such strong partners with the IMB," Chitwood explained in a Facebook Live broadcast with Greear.

"We have the privilege at the IMB to be the sending arm of Southern Baptist churches, and knowing that these churches are so committed to sending, how can we send more in partnership?"

Represented at the meeting were pastors and staff from The Summit Church as well as North Wake

Church in Wake Forest, N.C.; and Imago Dei Church, Providence Baptist Church and Open Door Church, all in Raleigh.

Leaders from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS) also were present.

Chitwood explained that many of the leaders had personal experience being overseas, which led them to a passionate commitment to get the gospel to the nations. This commitment led to a culture among the churches and SEBTS.

"It has created a dynamic push of people out," Chitwood said. "It all goes back to leadership."

In the meeting, Chitwood cast a vision for the future of the IMB, including the desire to send more full-time missionaries to the field. There are currently 3,660 active missionaries, and the IMB is preparing to send more, with a goal of adding 500 additional personnel by 2025.

"We want to steward well what the Lord has given us," Chitwood told the group. "Five hundred more is a goal.

We are asking God to provide more missionaries and the money to send them."

A theme of both the meeting and the broadcast was the Go2 initiative that challenges college students to commit their first two years after graduation to serving with a church plant in the U.S. or overseas as they begin their careers. Internationally, this initiative takes place through the IMB's Journeyman program, where graduates serve their two years in a city as a fully funded missionary.

Chitwood stated that the Go2 initiative has been a tremendous blessing for missionaries currently serving who feel the need to have more people alongside them.

Greear echoed, "All the regions of the world are asking for more people, and the IMB is ready to send more people. We have open spots and there is a Macedonian call from some of these people, asking [people] to come and help."

Since becoming IMB president in November 2018, Chitwood has spoken to 35 different churches, at about 30 denominational-type gatherings, and at five of the six Southern Baptist seminaries. He is currently preparing for his seventh trip overseas, where he already has met with two-thirds of the overseas personnel and their 2,880 children.


Speaking of his commitment to connect personally with Southern Baptists, Chitwood told Baptist Press, "Churches who fund the work of the IMB need to know it's their IMB."

Leaders also heard from top level IMB staff. John Brady, vice president of global engagement, gave a tour around the globe, with a detailed update of God's work through IMB missionaries in different parts of the world.

Todd Lafferty, executive vice president, and Zane Pratt, vice president for global training, hosted a dialogue where the pastors and leaders could ask questions about current processes and share feedback about their experience as sending partners.

During the Facebook Live broadcast, when Chitwood asked Greear what God had laid on his heart in the role of SBC president, his one-word response was "Sending."

"The reason that Southern Baptists have chosen to come together is for missions," Greear said. "There is something we can accomplish through the unity together overseas that we just can't accomplish by ourselves. I think that's what unites Southern Baptists, it's what excites Southern Baptists.

"What if this was the greatest sending chapter that Southern Baptists ever had?" 



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## AROUND THE STATE

### Obituary

**JOHNNY RAY HENDERSON**, 64, of Asheboro died Dec. 13, 2019, at Randolph Hospice House.

A Statesville, N.C., native, he graduated from Statesville High School (1973), Gardner-Webb University (then college, 1976) with a bachelor's degree and Southeastern Seminary (1980) with a master of divinity degree.



**JOHNNY RAY HENDERSON**

His first ministry position was as associate pastor of his home church, Western Avenue Baptist Church, Statesville. He served as pastor of Rocky Hill Baptist Church, also in Statesville., and Victory Baptist Church, Seagrove. He became the executive director of the Christian Action League of North Carolina in 1996 before becoming pastor of Cross Road Baptist Church, Asheboro (1999), where he ministered for 20 years.

Henderson also served on the board of Bible Centered Ministries International for more than 15 years and as chairman of the board for eight years.

"Pastor Johnny Henderson ... was a premiere model for faithful pastoral leadership," said Mark Creech, the current executive director of the Christian Action League, in a press release. "He was humble, but bold. He was tender, but not timid. He was sensitive, but strong. He was compassionate, but not compromising. He dared to be a 'voice in the wilderness' calling people to repentance. He yearned for the salvation of souls."

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Renea Mitchell Henderson; daughters, Adrienne Macon of Asheboro, Danielle Kelly of Asheboro, and Elizabeth Henderson of Raleigh; mother, Elizabeth Alaine Davis Henderson; and eight grandchildren.

Memorials to: Delivering A Blessing, P.O. Box 2446, Asheboro, NC 27204.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Henslee to receive 2021 SBC PC nomination

*(Biblical Recorder)* Texas pastor Bart Barber announced on social media Jan. 2 that he plans to nominate Matt Henslee as president of the 2021 Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Pastors' Conference at this year's annual gathering June 7-8 in Orlando.

Henslee serves as pastor of Mayhill Baptist Church in Mayhill, N.M., as well as managing editor for LifeWay Pastors and co-host of a church revitalization podcast called Not Another Baptist Podcast.

Barber is pastor of First Baptist Church in Farmersville, Texas.

### Feinstein to be nominated for SBC 2VP

*(Baptist Press)* Chris Bolt, pastor of Elkton Baptist Church in Elkton, Tenn., has announced his intention to nominate Stephen Feinstein, pastor of Sovereign Way Christian Church in Hesperia, Calif., for second vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) at the SBC annual meeting in June 2020 in Orlando. Bolt announced Feinstein's intended nomination Dec. 31, 2019.

Feinstein was raised in a secular Jewish family but became a Christian when he was 17, according to Bolt. He began his teaching ministry at age 20 and began pastoring 10 years later.

In addition to his pastoral ministry, Feinstein is a major in the U.S. Army Reserve and has served as a chaplain through the North American Mission Board since 2009.

He holds a master of arts from Liberty University and a master of divinity from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Feinstein and his wife Bonny have two children.

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# Lives

Continued from page 1

Women's Clinic, Amory saw her baby's heartbeat for the first time. The emotions that flooded her heart were surreal, overwhelming. She knew she was going to be a mother. There was no doubt she was keeping her baby.

Ryder entered the world, and Amory says he brings her incomparable joy. When he says "I love you" she cannot imagine her life any other way.

Amory's story is not uncommon for recipients of the ministry of pregnancy care clinics.

Ultrasound technology is often referred to as a window into the womb, for it gives mothers a vivid picture of the life they carry inside them.

## 'Teetering on the edge'

For the past 16 years the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) of the Southern Baptist Convention has donated ultrasound units to clinics like the Liberty Women's Clinic across the country through the Psalm 139 Project. So far, the project has funded and placed 20 machines.

The machines are fully funded through direct monetary gifts and through the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified giving plan to support national and international ministry causes. The machines' impact is powerful.

Bobby Reed, chief financial officer of the ERLC, said the project is a very practical way for those passionate about the sanctity of human life to get involved and make a real difference.

"A lot of times people who become passionate about it, their follow-up question is 'Well, what can I do?'" Reed said. "One way to be involved in valuing human life is to be involved in the Psalm 139 Project."

Individuals can invest personally in saving lives, in ministering to mothers just like Amory. The money donated to the project goes directly to funding a machine placement and therefore, to saving lives. But the lives that are to be valued also reach beyond the womb, Reed said. "It also goes to the orphan or the foster child who needs a home. There's a dual messaging there. Not only does that center help babies who are in their mother and need life, but they're also helping moms who are scared for their very lives."

Carol Graham, founder and CEO of Liberty Women's Clinic, said that in the twelve months since receiving the ultrasound machine they have provided nearly 4,000 services to more than 650 women. 285 of those women had a positive test result, 231 were eligible for an ultrasound and 209, to their knowledge, chose life for their child. That is a 90 percent rate of choosing life for those who saw their unborn child on an ultrasound.

"Ultrasound is truly what makes a difference for young women who are teetering on the edge of a decision between life and death of their child – the quality of that image is vital," Graham said. "The truth presented in the ultrasound image and the compassion of His people poured out on the broken, provides an avenue to set captives free from their current anguish and the future despair of a decision to end their pregnancy."

Liberty Women's Clinic has more than 100 volunteers helping with events and projects as well as serving in the clinic. Additionally, more than 1,200 individuals, churches and businesses financially support the clinic on a regular basis.

"Together, we are encouraging hearts and saving lives, one client at a time," Graham said. "We have the amazing opportunity to have a mission field that literally walks through our doors."

## 'That's my great-grandbaby'

Not all clinics that receive the machines are as large as Liberty Women's Clinic. Greenspoint Pregnancy Assistance Center in Houston is staffed by just eight volunteers and one ultrasound technician.

But even with the small staff, Flora Lopez, director of the Greenspoint center, said that 102 women gave their lives to Jesus in the past year through the ministry of the center.

Lopez said that her personal journey to the position of director has been filled with faithful reliance on God to utilize her desire to serve and share the gospel. Previously working as a banker with no experience in the pregnancy assistance field, Lopez had doubts about whether she was fit for the role.

"I didn't feel that I had the skills or that I was prepared and that I wouldn't be able to do it because I was never involved with pregnancy centers before," Lopez said. "But when you put your yes on the altar and you trust the Lord and when you ask Him 'what is your plan for my life and whatever it is I'll be there, I'll say yes and I'll go because I know you'll equip me. You equip the called, you're going to be with me all along and you are going to help to go through this path.'"

Lopez said the key to being utilized in ministry is just to be available. She encourages anyone who is wondering what they can do to champion the value of human life to simply put their life in the Lord's hands and see what He will do with their desire to be used.

Lopez recounted the story of a new mother she recently served. The mother was 14 and came into the clinic with her grandmother. They were already planning on getting an abortion.

The grandmother was encouraging her granddaughter to have an abortion because she also had one when she was younger. Both individuals were confused and hurting.

Lopez said that the grandmother told her granddaughter that she could get an abortion but it would all be OK in the end because God would forgive her. "That statement broke my heart," Lopez said.

But the pair agreed to an ultrasound appointment for the very next day. Lopez said the grandmother told her if, in the ultrasound image, the baby appeared developed, then her granddaughter would not have an abortion.

The rest of the day, that night and the morning, the staff of the center spent time in prayer asking God to work in the hearts of the two women, to change them and convince them to choose life for the child. When the time came for the ultrasound, both grandmother and granddaughter were moved to change their minds about the abortion.

Lopez recounts what the grandmother told her after the appointment – "I cannot deny, I saw it in the ultrasound. That's my great-grandbaby."

Lopez said 97 percent of the women who come into the clinic and receive an ultrasound choose life for their baby.

Even through this small center, Lopez said 50 lives of unborn children are saved in a year, averaging out to one child – one life – a week.

Lopez said their goal in the coming year is to hire another technician in order to have more ultrasound appointments and in the end, save more lives. "When we encounter a woman that does not know the Lord, and we're able to share the gospel, not only the person is being saved, but also their souls are being saved," Lopez said. "That's the main focus – sharing the gospel and the good news of Jesus Christ. God is doing great things through the ultrasound machine at different pregnancy assistance centers," Lopez said. "Thank you [donors] for making my dream a reality and God's dream too."

For more information on the Psalm 139 Project, visit [psalm139project.org/](http://psalm139project.org/). 

A woman selects food for her family in the Greenspoint Pregnancy Assistance Center's food pantry. (Photo by Sandy Ward)





# Retirement

Continued from page 1

“It’s really a unique retirement community,” said Robert Simons, central area manager for the North Carolina Baptist Foundation. “The residents there don’t have to be church members but there’s definitely an outreach.”

Simons, who works with development and trustor services, has been working with Booker on this endowment for the ministry.

In fact, Booker was “one of the first donors I really got to know” when he first started at the foundation more than five years ago, Simon said.

Booker is now focused on raising an endowment to ensure continued help for those who need it in their community.

“God has something for us to do, even if we think we’re disabled,” Booker said.

Booker has been active in ministry for many years. He was working with youth when he was called to preach. He hadn’t even been to college when he was licensed to preach in March 1953 through Fairview Baptist Church in Reidsville. He started at Wake Forest College, now university, in fall 1956 as a 26-year-old married freshman with two children. The Bookers have four daughters. He served four churches as pastor during his 38 years

of ministry. He also served as interim director of missions for Randolph Baptist Association. He was on the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina’s general board and on the nominating committee. For more than 20 years, he consulted on fundraising for building churches.

He continued to serve in interim pastorates but a diagnosis of Parkinson’s Disease affected his speech and triggered severe depression. He could no longer preach, but wanted to find a way to be useful.

## Endowment fund

Years ago, Booker started an endowment fund to help retired ministers who needed help with funds, a predecessor to Mission:Dignity, a fund through GuideStone Retirement Services that helps ministers and their wives in their retirement with funds for housing, medicine, repairs for homes, etc.

An endowment, Simons, said, can be started with \$100, but payouts don’t occur until the fund reaches \$1,000.

“People, when they set these things up, have the vision that it will grow,” Simons said. “Gene hoped that the church might add to it; people who lived there would add to it.”

Simons said the retirement community has added funding to it along the way.

“The larger it is, the more income it generates, the more money available to help,” he said.

## Continued growth

From its first resident in the early 1980s, Cross Road has been a ministry of love. Members of the church do serve on the organization’s board, but the church does not run the non-profit.

Instead, the church provides ministry to the residents and shares the gospel with them.

The community, nestled on 40 acres in Randolph County, includes 80 independent living apartments and villas as well as an assisted living and memory care centers. There is a club house, covered picnic shelter and a fishing pier. Two meals a day are provided in the cost.

Unlike most retirement homes, Cross Road is rural, Simons said.

“It’s more homey to me because I’ve always lived in a rural setting,” Simons said. “The Bookers set up the


endowment to provide support for the retirement community.”

Five independent living apartments or cottages are currently being built. There is also an apartment building in progress that will include 11 apartments.

Two other ministries operate on the Cross Road Retirement Community campus. Shepherd’s Way Day School, for children age six weeks to 12 years, provides care for more than 120 children. The school plans activities to partner with the residents of the retirement community.

Eagle Oaks, a ministry of Baptist Children’s Homes of North Carolina for developmentally disabled women, offers a group home environment to support independence.

Booker and Simons have worked together setting up the endowment, but the success of the endowment relies on other people. While Booker continues to give to the fund, more money is needed. Donations can be made to the North Carolina Baptist Foundation, 201 Convention Drive, Cary, NC 27511.

Visit [cross-road.org](http://cross-road.org). 

## Foundation celebrates 100 years

By DIANNA L. CAGLE | BR Assistant Editor

The North Carolina Baptist Foundation (NCBF) plans to celebrate its 100th anniversary this year.

The Foundation, which began in 1920, helps individuals and churches or other Baptist entities with endowments, trusts and other financial planning services.

“That’s really why the foundation was started,” said Robert Simons, central area manager for the North Carolina Baptist Foundation.

A gift to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina (BSC) 100 years ago led to the creation of the NCBF and the N.C. Baptist Hospital, also known as Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem.

The BSC received a donation for the hospital, but leaders wanted the gift to be invested for long-term growth for the hospital’s future.

Simons said colleges and seminaries use endowments to fund chairs

of departments. Churches have them for cemeteries, missions and scholarships.

“The larger it is, the more income it generates, the more money available to help,” he said.

Simons said a church near Asheboro created an endowment fund of \$100,000; each year, that fund generates \$5,000 income to use towards mowing and maintenance.

Since its inception, NCBF has distributed more than \$200 million through endowments and trusts. Recipients include Baptist colleges, individuals, churches, Baptist entities and mission boards.

Other services provided by NCBF include trusts, as well as church fund management, church loans, college scholarships, certificates of participation similar to certificates of deposits at a regular bank, and even grants.

Regional celebrations are planned (see ad at right).

Visit [ncbaptistfoundation.org](http://ncbaptistfoundation.org). 

## NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST FOUNDATION

# CELEBRATING

1920 **100** 2020

Years

### Be our guest for lunch

and a celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the North Carolina Baptist Foundation.

### ◆ Dates & Locations ◆

**March 23, 2020 | 11:30 A.M.**

WILSON’S MILLS BAPTIST CHURCH  
652 SWIFT CREEK ROAD, SMITHFIELD NC 27577

**APRIL 20, 2020 | 11:30 A.M.**

RICH FORK BAPTIST CHURCH  
3993 OLD U.S. HIGHWAY 29, THOMASVILLE NC 27360

**May 12, 2020 | 11:30 A.M.**

SKYLAND FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
2115 HENDERSONVILLE ROAD, ARDEN NC 28704

For reservations and additional information,

PLEASE CONTACT

JILL STOWE AT [jstowe@ncbaptistfoundation.org](mailto:jstowe@ncbaptistfoundation.org) OR 919.380.7334





# Planning ahead for 2020

Below is a list of upcoming dates important for North Carolina and Southern Baptists. The Dec. 14 issue of the *Biblical Recorder* included January dates. The full list is published online.

- **True Love Waits Emphasis**, Feb. 1-28
- **GO Conference**, Feb. 7-8, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest; [thegoconference.com](http://thegoconference.com)
- **Racial Reconciliation Sunday**, Feb. 9
- **Heck-Jones Offering Week of Prayer**, Feb. 9-16; [wmunc.org/heckjonesoffering](http://wmunc.org/heckjonesoffering)
- **Focus on WMU**, Feb. 10-16; [wmu.com](http://wmu.com)
- **Children's Missions Day**, Feb. 15; [wmu.com/?q=article/children/childrens-resource-team/welcome-childrens-missions-day](http://wmu.com/?q=article/children/childrens-resource-team/welcome-childrens-missions-day)
- **Baptists on Mission Region Rallies**, Feb. 17-18 & 20; [baptistsonmission.org/events/region-rallies](http://baptistsonmission.org/events/region-rallies)
- **Baptists on Mission Disaster Relief training**, Feb. 21-May 16; Friday-Saturday training in regions 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10; [baptistsonmission.org/training/disaster-relief-training](http://baptistsonmission.org/training/disaster-relief-training)
- **Disciple-Making Conference**, Feb. 25 at Green Street Baptist Church in High Point; [disciplemaking-conference.org](http://disciplemaking-conference.org)
- **Youth Week**, March 1-7
- **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Week of Prayer**, March 1-8; [anniearmstrong.com](http://anniearmstrong.com)
- **Awaken Prayer Gathering**, March 13-14, state-wide prayer conference, Pleasant Garden Baptist Church; [ncbaptist.org/awaken](http://ncbaptist.org/awaken)
- **Church Planting Emphasis Sunday**, March 15; [namb.net/church-planting/](http://namb.net/church-planting/)
- **N.C. Missions Conference**, Compelled By Love, March 27-28, Calvary Baptist Church, Winston-Salem; [baptistsonmission.org/events/missions-conference](http://baptistsonmission.org/events/missions-conference)
- **Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday**, March 29
- **SBC Seminaries Sunday**, April 19
- **WMU-NC Missions Extravaganza**, April 24-25, Pritchard Memorial Church, Charlotte; [wmunc.org/missions-me-2020](http://wmunc.org/missions-me-2020)
- **Cooperative Program Sunday**, April 26
- **Men's Outdoor Weekend**, May 1-2, Caraway Conference Center and Camp; [baptistsonmission.org/outdoorweekend](http://baptistsonmission.org/outdoorweekend)
- **Senior Adult Sunday**, May 3
- **The National Day of Prayer**, May 7; [nationaldayof-prayer.org/](http://nationaldayof-prayer.org/)
- **Crossover Florida Church 2020**, June 6.; [namb.net/kiosks/crossover-florida-church-registration/](http://namb.net/kiosks/crossover-florida-church-registration/)
- **SBC Pastor's Conference**, June 7-8 in Orange County Convention Center, Fla.; [sbcpc.net](http://sbcpc.net)
- **SBC annual meeting**, June 19-10, Orlando, Fla.; [sbcannualmeeting.org](http://sbcannualmeeting.org)
- **Baptist Men's Emphasis**, June 21
- **Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday**, June 28
- **Mission:Dignity Sunday**, June 28
- **World Missions Week**, July 6-11, Fort Caswell; sponsored by Baptists on Mission and Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina; [baptistsonmission.org/camps/world-missions-week](http://baptistsonmission.org/camps/world-missions-week)
- **N.C. Baptist Ministers' Wives Annual Retreat**, July 13-15; A Focused Vision at Caraway Conference Center
- **Send Relief Sunday**, July 19
- **Children's Ministry Day**, July 21
- **Southern Baptist Media Day**, July 26
- **All-State Youth Choir**, July 19-26; [ncbaptist.org/asyc](http://ncbaptist.org/asyc)
- **Social Issues Sunday**, Aug. 2
- **Renewing Worship Expo**, Aug. 7-8, Salem Baptist Church, Apex; [renewingworshipexpo.com](http://renewingworshipexpo.com)
- **Student Evangelism Day**, Aug. 9
- **Worship Music Week**, Aug. 16-22
- **Single Adult Sunday**, Sept. 6
- **North Carolina Missions Offering**, September; [ncmissionsoffering.org](http://ncmissionsoffering.org)
- **Embracing Boston**, Sept. 10-13; mission trip for women; [embracenc.org/boston](http://embracenc.org/boston)
- **Anti-gambling Sunday**, Sept. 13
- **Reaching the Nations**, September 18-19, Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas; [reachingthenations.net/summit](http://reachingthenations.net/summit)
- **Baptism Sunday**, Sept. 20
- **9Marks at Southeastern Conference**, Sept. 25-26, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest; [9marksse.org](http://9marksse.org)
- **Cooperative Program Emphasis**, Oct. 1-31
- **Personal Evangelism Commitment Day**, Oct. 4; [namb.net/evangelism/](http://namb.net/evangelism/)
- **Global Hunger Sunday**, Oct. 11
- **WMU Carolina Girls**, Oct. 16-17, First Baptist Church, Morehead City
- **Week of Prayer for Baptist Associations**, Oct. 18-25
- **2020 N.C. Baptist Women's Retreat**, Oct. 23-24, Caraway Conference Center
- **Orphans and Widows Sunday**, Nov. 1
- **Disaster Relief Appreciation Day**, Nov. 8
- **North Carolina Pastors' Conference**, Nov. 8-9, Greensboro
- **Baptist State Convention annual meeting**, Nov. 9-10, Greensboro
- **Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina Week of Prayer**, Nov. 10-17; [bchfamily.org](http://bchfamily.org)
- **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Week of Prayer**, Nov. 29-Dec. 6

Most summer camp registration for youth and students has already opened. Here are some opportunities for camp:

- [CampCaraway.org](http://CampCaraway.org)
- [CampMundoVista.com](http://CampMundoVista.com)
- [BaptistsonMission.org/camps/deep-impact](http://BaptistsonMission.org/camps/deep-impact)
- [BeDoTell.com](http://BeDoTell.com).

## LifeWay Continued from page 1

director for LifeWay Global.

"We're hearing the heartbeat of the church and the nations toward understanding how to contextualize solutions for the local church," Featherstone said of the international outreach of LifeWay Christian Resources, which is now distributing resources in 164 countries.

Latin America is at the forefront of an emerging LifeWay Global strategy extending beyond LifeWay's longstanding publishing and distribution of Spanish-language Bibles and translations of books, Sunday School curriculum and other resources.

A major shift several years ago was LifeWay Español's enlistment of

Hispanic pastors and authors – now numbering more than 40 – to produce books and resources within their cultural context.

Mexico was the site of two large-scale conferences: Crece ("Growth") in 2018, a gathering in Merida that drew 1,700 pastors and church leaders and Equipa ("Equip"), a 2019 conference in Querétaro attended by more than 3,000 in November. Equipa conference registrants came from 60 denominations and church networks, 20 Mexican states, five U.S. states, and five other Latin American countries.

The 2019 conference served as a catalyst for the Equipa online training platform.

The LifeWay Mexico team, led by Eva Uria, voiced the idea of linking the Equipa name to the conference and pointing attendees – and the many believers they influence – to the platform's resources.


Uria said some of the participants already have their own content in printed publications, "but they are really excited about the online platform. They believe it is a great tool. And they trust our biblical content."

The reach of the Equipa digital platform now has 7,250 members who have earned 2,500 certifications for completing Equipa courses, which include interactive quizzes interspersed within a teacher's video instruction

typically spanning an hour.

Encompassing 35 courses in leadership, groups, women's and children's ministry, the interactive video courses are taught by LifeWay Español authors and other experts with an evangelical view reflecting Southern Baptists' 2000 Baptist Faith and Message.

LifeWay Global has a nine-member advisory board of Hispanic ministry leaders.

Within the U.S., Featherstone said, Equipa can be an aid to Southern Baptist churches with Hispanic congregations or ministries, as well as those who have contact with Hispanic pastors in their communities. 



# BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

## How Can God Use Me When Others Suffer?

January 19

**Focal Passage: Isaiah 58:3-11**

Recently, my wife and I re-watched the series finale of Seinfeld. In the episode, Jerry and the gang witness the mugging of an obese man. Rather than helping, they choose, instead, to mock him. Their indifference to the oppression of another lands them a year in jail where, per the conversation at the end, not much has changed.

In the Bible, Israel is often oppressed at the hands of her enemies due to sin, but in Isaiah 58, Yahweh indicts Israel as the oppressor. Outwardly, she displayed her religion beautifully, but all the while she was enslaving her fellow countrymen and denying them basic human rights.

God said in the beginning, “*Let us make man in our image,*” which means that all people are image-bearers. Thus, each is inherently worthy

of basic human rights. Like Israel in Isaiah 58, for us to preach freedom in Christ, while at the same time inflicting or ignoring the injustice placed upon others, is tantamount to false belief. “*Pure religion ... is this, to look after orphans and widows in their distress*” (James 1:27).

Originally, I watched the Seinfeld finale as a teenager, and I laughed. The second time I was an adult, and I was horrified. Injustice, and indifference to it, is no laughing matter, particularly for God’s people. Let us be a people who speak up on behalf of those who have no voice.

Let us be a people who shine the gospel light of hope into a world of darkness and despair. An eternal blessing where justice reigns will be our reward.



**CASEY SHORT**  
Pastor, Pinetops  
Baptist Church

## Why Am I Suffering?

January 26

**Focal Passage: Job 11:13-16;  
23:8-12; John 9:1-3**

Have you ever bought a cheap product from a cheap store, one that required assembling? When I was in college, I bought a dining room table. I followed all the instructions to the letter, but no matter how hard I tried, I could not get everything to line up.

For many, this is how health and suffering works. When you follow the rules, everything works out. When you don’t, life falls apart. This means of course that if your life is marked by suffering, you must be doing something wrong. Fix the sin, pay your tithe and get back on the straight and narrow and all will be well again.

This was the mentality of the Pharisees in John 9, but Jesus corrects them. The man had been born blind according to God’s sovereign will that His glory might be displayed. You mean the righteous suffer? Yes; the Bible tells me so.

Consider Job who had done nothing wrong, and yet, God allowed great suffering. Even more, consider Christ who was perfectly righteous. Still, He suffered not just the punishment for our sins on the cross but the daily aches and pains, physical and emotional.

There are times when suffering is a result of sin. “*The Lord disciplines the one he loves*” (Hebrews 12:6). Sometimes, though, suffering is simply the evidence of life in a fallen world. In either case, our suffering is not arbitrary. It serves to display the glory of God. Take heart, believer. It also serves to bring about our good.

# EXPLORE THE BIBLE

## Valued

January 19

**Focal Passage: Deuteronomy 5:17; 19:4-13**

One of my favorite Christmas movies of all-time is the movie “Jingle All The Way.” In the movie, Arnold Schwarzenegger is an overworked father who has neglected to pick up a toy for his son to open on Christmas day. When he makes a quick run to the store to pick up the toy, he finds that it is all sold out.

The rest of the story is about his adventure to find the toy, which happens to be the most popular toy of the season, and his attempt to be reconciled to his disappointed wife and son. The movie reminds us to commit to what we value the most.

Whatever we value, we will commit to it. God values human life and expects His people to commit to the value of human life as well. The Ten Commandments remind us of just

how much God values life.

In the retelling of the commands in Deuteronomy 5:6-21, God prefaces His law with His reminder for the Israelites: That He is the one that brought them out of Egypt where they were in bondage.

God valued the life of the Israelites. They were His image bearers. One way they were able to do this was to set up three cities in the land for refugees who had been driven out of their own land. It was God who directed Moses to lead this initiative in order to minimize the revenge of those whose loved ones had been killed. God’s people will commit to what God values. God’s people are to work for the sanctity of human life and seek the dignity of all people as God’s image bearers.



**WILL MATTHEWS**  
Student Pastor, Immanuel  
Baptist Church, Clinton

## Honored

January 26

**Focal Passage: Deuteronomy 4:1-9**

Have you ever gotten in trouble for breaking the rules? When I was a junior in high school, I had a teacher who would not let candy into her classroom. When I got caught taking a piece of candy out of my pocket before class started, I knew I would be in trouble.

Admittedly, it was not my first time breaking the rules in her class, so I was sent to the assistant principal’s office for discipline. After I was given a lecture about respecting teachers and following the rules, my assistant principal offered me a candy bar before I went back to class.

He had no idea why I was there! We need brothers and sisters to keep us accountable, but also to

know the underlying value of keeping us accountable. When Moses charged the Israelites to live according to God’s statutes, it was not merely to keep them in line. There was a better plan at work, and Moses trusted God’s heart to work that plan out. He reminded them of their previous rebellion at Baal-peor (1:26-46) so they would not repeat the same mistakes.

The Israelites needed to be obedient because future generations would inherit the promise that they received: entrance into the Promised Land. Their obedience would directly affect their children and grandchildren. They were connected to the covenant given to Eve (Genesis 3), Abraham (Genesis 15) and Moses (Deuteronomy 7). In their obedience, they learned to look for the coming Messiah that would fulfill the covenant.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## Pastor

Stedman Baptist Church of Stedman, NC, is accepting résumés for a **full-time Senior Pastor** who is gifted in preaching and teaching God's word, church leadership and pastoral care. We are praying for a people oriented pastor who will lead our congregation in spiritual growth, outreach and administration. SBC has a strong history in missions support and long pastor tenure. We are affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, Baptist State Convention of NC and New South River Baptist Association. Preferred applicant should be ordained by a Southern Baptist church and a seminary graduate with a doctorate (minimum master's) and at least 10 years experience in church growth. Submit résumés with link to sermons to [Jspell1039@icloud.com](mailto:Jspell1039@icloud.com) by February 5, 2020.

Glory of God Christian Fellowship is a Southern Baptist multicultural church in Raleigh that is prayerfully seeking for a **lead pastor** who has the ability to reach and engage all cultures for the sake of the gospel. We desire a pastor who is a spiritual leader, disciple maker, gifted preacher/teacher, equipper of the saints and has cross-cultural skill and experience. He must have 5 years of pastoral ministry experience, graduate of a Bible college, and subscribes to the Baptist Faith and Message. If interested, please send your résumé to GGCF Pastoral Search team at [searchteam@ggcfchurch.com](mailto:searchteam@ggcfchurch.com) by January 31, 2020.

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Fayetteville, NC, is a traditional Southern Baptist church that has a strong history of missions involvement. We are located in a fast growing area and we are seeking a **Pastor** that will help our church reach deeper into our community. Our desire is to grow by investing in families, children and youth. Our facilities include a family life center with fellowship hall (seating capacity of 300) and gym. We are praying God will send us a full-time or bi-vocational pastor with strong leadership experience to seek God's vision, preach God's Word and fulfill God's Great Commission by evangelizing the community. Let's grow together as a Kingdom congregation. Résumés along with links to sermons can be sent to [mbcpastorsearch@outlook.com](mailto:mbcpastorsearch@outlook.com). Résumés will be received until April 24, 2020.

**Pastor.** Center Cross Baptist Church, Asheboro, NC, is actively searching for our next **full-time Pastor**. We are a small, rural, conservative church located in central NC. Our church membership is a community of believers who worship in a traditional format and are members of the SBC, BSCNC and Randolph Baptist Association. Applicants should be licensed and ordained by a Southern Baptist church and have seminary/Bible college training. We are looking for a man called by God to provide strong and loving leadership as our congregation seeks God's will. After prayerfully considering this position, interested applicants are asked to send a résumé, including references and sample sermons, to [ccbcpulpitsearch@gmail.com](mailto:ccbcpulpitsearch@gmail.com). Résumés should be received by February 15, 2020.

Calvary Baptist Church, Reidsville, NC, is seeking to call a **full-time pastor** who will lead our congregation to fulfill our mission as we exist to grow in our relationship with God, share the truth of God's word and reach out to our community and beyond. We are affiliated with BSCNC, SBC, CBF and Dan Valley Baptist Association. Applicants should have a seminary degree and at least 5 years of pastoral experience. Mail résumé to Calvary Baptist Church, Pastor Search Committee, 7860 NC 87, Reidsville, NC 27320, or email to [cbcsearch2020@gmail.com](mailto:cbcsearch2020@gmail.com).

Calvary Baptist Church in Lincolnton, North Carolina, is prayerfully seeking a **full-time pastor**. We are a conservative body of believers who enjoy a traditional to blended style of worship. We are affiliated and support the SBC, BSCNC and the South Fork Association. We adhere to the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. Applicants should have a minimum of five (5) years pastoral experience with some degree of Bible college and/or seminary training. Send résumés: Calvary Baptist Church, c/o Pastor Search Committee, 493 Calvary Church Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092, or [pastorsearchcalvarylincolnton@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsearchcalvarylincolnton@gmail.com).

**Full-time Pastor.** Beulah Baptist Church in Sunbury, NC, is seeking a full-time pastor. Expected personal characteristics include gifted teacher, social compassion with visitation, an interest in growing our youth, and adherence to the Southern Baptist Faith and Message (2000). Beulah has a strong history of mission involvement and lengthy pastor tenure. Seminary graduate and 5 years of experience preferred. Email résumé, letter of interest/statement of faith and links to sermons to [beulahbaptistsearch@gmail.com](mailto:beulahbaptistsearch@gmail.com) or mail to Beulah Baptist, P.O. 101, Sunbury, NC 27979, by February 29, 2020.

Trinity Baptist Church in Newton, NC, is seeking the **full-time pastor** that God has been preparing to lead our church. We are looking for someone who is interested in ministering to all age groups, as we are a multi-generational congregation. Trinity is a welcoming church that loves to worship God through beautiful music, Christ-centered messages, Bible study, fellowship and community outreach. We have an average attendance of approximately 120 for Sunday morning worship. Located in western NC, in the heart of Catawba County, we are a diverse, safe, family-oriented community that offers good schools, many cultural activities, sports and business opportunities. Our ideal candidate will have a theologically sound education from an accredited seminary or divinity school. Salary commensurate with experience. Please send résumé to our search committee email address: [trinitynewtonresumes@gmail.com](mailto:trinitynewtonresumes@gmail.com).

**Senior Pastor.** Beach Road Baptist Church in Southport, NC, is prayerfully seeking a Spirit-led, ordained man to lead a community of about 400 believers. Beach Road has grown steadily over the past seven years and is characterized by a commitment to the Gospel and God's Word as truth, small groups (about 70% participate), service, and missions/outreach (about 20% of annual budget). The church family recently returned to a renovated, enlarged sanctuary, after being displaced for 14 months by Hurricane Florence. Seeking a senior pastor who is gifted in preaching God's Word, teaching, discipling, and has a demonstrated shepherd's heart for the church family, the lost, and the community; willing to lead in conjunction with pastoral and support staff, and church leaders, partnering with the congregation to take the gospel of Christ in Word and deed to the community and world. Requirements: exemplify God's requirements for a pastor; example to believers in personal godliness; demonstrated senior or lead pastor experience in growing church preferred. Letters of interest and résumés may be prayerfully submitted by email to: [brbcsrpastsearch@gmail.com](mailto:brbcsrpastsearch@gmail.com). Deadline for submission is January 31, 2020. Position descriptions will be forwarded in response to email requests.

## Church Staff

Arlington Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, NC, is seeking a **Part-Time Youth & Children's Director**. They are responsible for designing, coordinating and overseeing a comprehensive youth and children's ministry program focused on building young disciples for Christ. Areas of focus include group building, worship, discipleship, mission, and outreach. They will serve as an engaging spiritual leader and role model with a strong biblical background. Email résumé to [personnel.arlington@gmail.com](mailto:personnel.arlington@gmail.com); (252) 937-7729; [www.abcsbc.com](http://www.abcsbc.com).

**Pastor of Senior Adults** is needed by FBC-Clayton. This is a part-time position. MDIV degree is strongly preferred. Salary \$27,000-\$30,000. Should be ordained or in process. Require twenty five (25) years experience in a ministerial or people oriented leadership role (with specifications). Use this link for complete description <http://fbcclaytonnc.org/first-baptist-resources/baptist-church-jobs/>.

Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC, is seeking a **part-time Children's Minister**. Qualified candidates should be energetic individuals who desire to make disciples of children through creative programs and personal engagement with families. This position will require coordination with the weekday preschool director. We have an enrollment of 70 children, birth-5th grade. Résumés may be emailed to [resume@mmbc.life](mailto:resume@mmbc.life) or mailed to 3000 East Garner Rd., Raleigh, NC 27610, Attn: Personnel.

Corinth Baptist Church of Elizabeth City, NC, is seeking a **part-time Music Director**. Requirements: Music degree and/or experience in conducting/leading traditional and contemporary worship. Attend staff meetings to coordinate all worship services including the creation of multimedia worship content and order of service. Salary range: \$16,500-\$19,500. Email résumé to: [music@corinthbaptist.com](mailto:music@corinthbaptist.com).

## Miscellaneous

Tour host Wayne & Joy Brown cordially invite you to join them for "two trips of a lifetime in one!" **The Holy Land and Germany including the magnificent and world-famous Oberammergau Passion Play**; Thursday, July 23, 2020-Monday, August 3, 2020; all inclusive: air transportation from JFK in New York, breakfast and dinner daily, first class hotels, ground transportation, all entrance fees, taxes, tips and gratuities. To receive a descriptive brochure with the complete itinerary and additional information, please call or text the Browns: 843-796-0397; Or, you may request by writing: Wayne & Joy Brown, PO Box 70777, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 28572. Email: [wayne@wayneandjoybrown.com](mailto:wayne@wayneandjoybrown.com).

**Do you have staff changes at your church or association?** Or special news you would like to share (significant church or church staff anniversaries or a mission effort to reach your community)? Call (919) 847-2127 or email [editor@BRnow.org](mailto:editor@BRnow.org).

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