

The Kingdom Focus

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2014

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

In John 14: 2, Jesus spoke these words, "I go to prepare a place for you." When Jesus said this, he was telling the disciples that the place would be prepared by his going. Jesus was going to the cross. He was going to die, be buried, rise, and finally ascend to heaven. The cross is where the place was prepared. It is through Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension that the place for all his followers is prepared. The death and resurrection of Christ opened the way and prepared the place, but what remains is how many are prepared to enter the place? Christ has taken upon Himself the penalty for our sins opening heaven for whosoever will. Yet, as we enter the second month of 2014 so many all around have not availed themselves to the love of God in Christ Jesus.

One could say that with the New Year we are a year closer to Christ's return. That fact makes our mission as churches more urgent than ever before. We preach the now and the not quite yet, and many today have become complacent about Christ's return. Sometimes we get into the routine of going to church and we lose sight

of the glory. That happened in the Old Testament. Moses saw the glory of God, Isaiah saw the glory of God. Hebrews 2:9 tells us, But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for every one." The problem is this; people are unable see the glory. There is glory in the cross that many today are unable to see, and there is glory in Jesus that many have not yet found. Our challenge and opportunity as churches in 2014 is to reveal the glory of God in Christ Jesus to the world around us. Our labor will not be in vain, one by one it will bring souls to Christ. A little here and a few there builds the Kingdom of God. We may feel that what we're doing doesn't amount to much, but when one more person sees the glory they are changed for eternity. Let us be resolved that we will work until Jesus comes again. Just go out and tell the story and God will reveal the glory.

God Bless
Michael

SCBC MISSIONS MOBILIZATION EVENTS & TRAINING

February 10-12, 2014

[Mission Forum](#) (Mission round table for Pastors & Mission Leaders in Virginia)

February 12, 2013

[Mission Team Leader Training](#) - SCBC, Columbia, SC (Training for Mission Trip Leaders and for those interested in leading mission teams)

February 13, 2014

[Safety & Security Training for Mission Teams](#) (Provided by FSA) - SCBC, Columbia, SC (For anyone planning on going on mission trips, planning mission trips and/or leading mission trips)

February 25, 2014

[Engage South Asia Training](#) - Columbia, SC (Training for mission volunteers working among South Asian peoples as well as for those planning and/or praying about a mission trip to South Asia.)

February 25, 2014

[India Network Meeting](#) - Columbia, SC (Networking meeting for those who are already engaged in mission in South Asia. Call [803.765.0030](tel:803.765.0030) ext.4800 for more details and to RSVP.)

March 1, 2014

[Literacy Missions Conference \(Crossing Cultures, Making Disciples\)](#) - Lexington, SC (For ESL volunteers and for those interested in the ESL ministry. The conference provides an opportunity to network with others involved in the ESL ministry)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WMU News	2
RA Racer Event	2
VBS Clinics	2
Men's Speaker	2
BCM News	3
Outreach Trailer	3
Coastline Center Update	4

This Month's Prayer Focus:

Pray for our
73 WBA
member
churches.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS:

- February 10—WMU Mission Celebration, Buck Creek Baptist, 5:30 p.m.
- February 10-16—Focus on WMU Week
- February 20—VBS Early Bird Clinic for Pastors and Directors, Maple Baptist Church
- February 22—Disaster Relief Training, Summer-ville, SC
- March 2-9—Season of Prayer for North American Missions

UPCOMING VBS CLINICS

EARLY BIRD CLINIC

Thursday, February 20, 2014
7:00 p.m.

Maple Baptist Church
This clinic is for all VBS
Directors and Pastors

GENERAL VBS CLINIC

Saturday, March 8, 2014
10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Living Water Baptist Church
This clinic is for anyone who
will be involved with VBS.
Call Ina Bullock at 365-3888
for more information.



Samaritan's Purse OCC 2014 Youth Trip

**Want to be a part of delivering
shoe box gifts to children in
Guyana this summer?**

**Samaritan's Purse is accepting
applications for their July trip.**

Cost will be between \$2200—

\$3000. Trip dates are

July 19-25, 2014.

**Deadline for application is
March 14, 2014.**

**If selected, a \$500 deposit will be
due by April 18, 2014.**



**If you are inter-
ested in applying
to be a part of this
trip or need more
information,
please contact the
association office for an application.**

RA RACER EVENT

Saturday, March 15, 2014
North Conway Baptist Church
Conway, SC
Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.
Contact Mike Rouhselang at
397-8697/458-2069 or
Mickey Hyman at 238-0146/340-8936
for more information.

MEN'S SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Chris Wells, with Wellspoken Ministries
"The Bass Chaplain" of the Bassmaster
Elite Series

Chris has spoken at over 700 Wildgame
Banquets and Ministry Events over the
past 10 years. He combines a blend of
humor, passion and intensity to convey
his concern for people who don't know
Jesus. His messages are exciting with
a strong evangelistic emphasis.

Contact him at chris@chriswells.com or
864-414-9453. Check out the website at
www.chriswells.org

NEWS FROM WACCAMAW WMU

February is known for a couple of things! Valentine's on the 14th, Focus on WMU Week held February 10-16, and the Missions Celebration.

Quite naturally, our first thoughts are of Love ~ ~ how many of us remember exchanging "Be mine" valentines in grade school; and how many boys and girls, men and women take time today to select just the right card to express their love for his or her "sweetheart"?

The thought of "Love" brings to mind the greatest love story, the story of God and his love for the world. He gave his only begotten Son so that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life! What love!

As Christians, we are called to that same love. The Greatest Commandment tells us first to love God, and second to love our neighbor as ourselves.

That call to love and the Great

Commission to serve are the heart of Woman's Missionary Union (WMU). Through praying, going, giving, and learning, WMU gives churches opportunity to share valuable pieces of the mission picture with their congregations.

The extended 2012-2013 WMU Emphasis Watchword is from Acts 4:20 (NIV):

"As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

As we approach February, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) will focus on missions and WMU. In 1888, national WMU was organized in Baltimore, Maryland. In June of 2014, WMU will conclude its year-long celebration of the 125th year of WMU!

During 2013-2014, we continue to **celebrate** all that God has done and continues to do through the work of WMU. As we **connect** our stories we

forge our future. We **commit** to tell the gospel story and ignite a passion for the Great Commission in all generations.

Waccamaw WMU shares the good news and encourages participation in events which focus on the purpose of WMU.

Won't you **celebrate, connect, and commit** during WMU Focus and beyond?

Join WMU **Monday, February 10, at Buck Creek for Missions Celebration, with a meal at 5:30 p.m. (\$5.00 payable at the door) and program at 6:30 p.m.** Tremendous fellowship, delicious food, inspiring music and worship, combined with **your presence**, will make our **2014 Missions Celebration a joy and success!**

Thank you, Churches and our Association Missionary, for the support and cooperation you give Waccamaw WMU!

God Bless.

Peggy Jones

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

(Isaiah 6:8, ESV)

In the sixth chapter of Isaiah, we get to read the Lord's calling of Isaiah. After Isaiah has seen the beauty and magnificence of the Lord and experienced the saving hand of God, we have this incredible verse where the Lord calls and Isaiah answers. As the Gospel compels, Isaiah responds in faith and declares that he will be the messenger of God. Often times we stop with Isaiah's declaration and celebrate his willingness. However, if one keeps reading, he sees the bleak situation into which Isaiah is to minister. He will be the messenger of the Gospel to people who will not listen, people who will not care, and people who will not respond. Yet, the call is to be faithful – faithful to the one who has called and faithful to the message of the Gospel.

In preparation for a new season of ministry and a new se-



mester of school, I was able to gather with a handful of students, who have expressed interest in being a part of leading the BCM into this next season of ministry. In the midst of excitement and in this results-centered culture, we often expect everything to happen immediately. For Isaiah, this simply was not the case. His message was not immediately received; yet it did not deter him. For him, the call was to faithfulness, not immediate fruitfulness. However, as he was continually faithful, his ministry proved fruitful. As a BCM ministry, I encouraged our leaders that the process of making disciples takes time. My heart is to see BCM be a disciple-making ministry, which means

we will be about the Gospel and making disciples, and often times this process happens slower than what we expect. With this in mind, we must commit to the mission. We must commit to preaching the Gospel and making disciples.

As we begin the semester, we will be focusing on the Gospel and making disciples during our Thursday night gathering time. Additionally students will have the opportunity to learn from other teachers about living the "devoted" life and disciple-making at Converge. Converge is a statewide gathering of students at Kingston Plantation the first weekend of February. If you would like to sponsor a student for the conference or help support a meal for our students, please let the WBA know. Thank you so much for your partnership with BCM, and please continue to pray for the Gospel to go forth on campus!

David Neace
BCM Director
(864) 933-3864
davidneace@hotmail.com

WBA CHURCH NEWS

Cedar Grove Baptist - Has called David Dickerson as their new full time pastor. He will begin duties in February.

Forestbrook Baptist - Has a new Student Pastor, Thomas Smith.

High Point Baptist—A baby girl, Natalie Joy, was born to Pastor Brain Winburn and his wife, Blaire on December 10. She weighed in at 7 lbs., 2 ounces and is being enjoyed by sister Madelyn.

FBC Murrells Inlet - A baby boy, Matthew McTeer, was born to Pastor Chris and Hannah Spires on Christmas Eve.

PLEASE NOTE!



THE OUTREACH TRAILER will be UNAVAILABLE for checkout indefinitely until funds are obtained for repairs and refurbishing. Churches have been contacted in regards to this. If you have questions, please call Director BeLue at the WBA office.



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Interim DOM—Mike BeLue

Ministry Assistant—Diane Hutto

BCM Director—David Neace

Financial Specialist—Nancy Neece

Moderator—Ronny Byrd

Treasurer—Amos Howell

OFFICE HOURS

M—Th 8:30—4:00

Friday—CLOSED

COASTLINE WOMEN'S CENTER UPDATE



Greetings from Coastline Women's Center!

I hope this new year is continuing to find you well!

I have been blessed and encouraged by the Pastors that stepped forward to honor Sanctity of Life Sunday! Our churches and community need to know there is hope and forgiveness in Jesus Christ!

I hope you will consider supporting Coastline Women's Center this year as God is calling us to stretch and grow even more. Please add us to your prayer list.

Everything we do for the Lord matters and everything we do for others expresses His abundant love!

John 10:10

God chooses to use me to share this message with you. The question is will you answer the call?

In His Service,
Jeannie Smith
Founder/CEO
864-982-4124

DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING CONFERENCE

**Saturday, February 22
Summerville, SC**

**Saturday, March 8
Columbia, SC**

\$35 for returning volunteers and \$40 for new volunteers

For more information or to register, go to www.scbaptist.org/dr or contact Gwen Eargle at 1.800.723.7242 or

gweneargle@scbaptist.org

THINK 3%

Would you please consider contributing 3% of your undesignated gifts to the Association?



This is my commandment,
That ye love one another, as
I have loved you.

John 15:12