

The Kingdom Focus

VOLUME 32, ISSUE 5

MAY 2015

WELCOME TOMMY RICHARDSON, NEW DOM FOR WACCAMAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

I am Thomas W. Richardson (Tommy), I have been married to Wendy for twenty-one years and we have three children, Caleb (19), Jaime (17) and Ciara (13). I have served in the ministry for thirteen years and served as senior pastor of three churches and as an interim youth pastor in one church, all in South Carolina. I also have been working for the SCBC, Church Sending Team, for the past three years helping churches with Mission Outpost, Church Health, Leadership Development, Coaching and Discipleship Processes. Working with the Convention enlarged my heart and redirected my call to helping churches and pastors. God has affirmed my call as He used me to help pastors and churches become what God desires them to be. It is exciting to see what God is doing in the association and the opportunities that are before His church at this time in history. It is obvious there will be many challenges and changes that we will face, but in faith I am trusting God to do amazing things as He has allowed our paths to cross for such a time as this. I truly believe God can use this association to be one of the greatest resources to build His kingdom on the east coast of the United States and beyond.

Most churches wonder if associations are essential or do we really need an association. I believe the answer is yes. If we are ever going to fulfill The Great Commission we need to work together. The Bible says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and

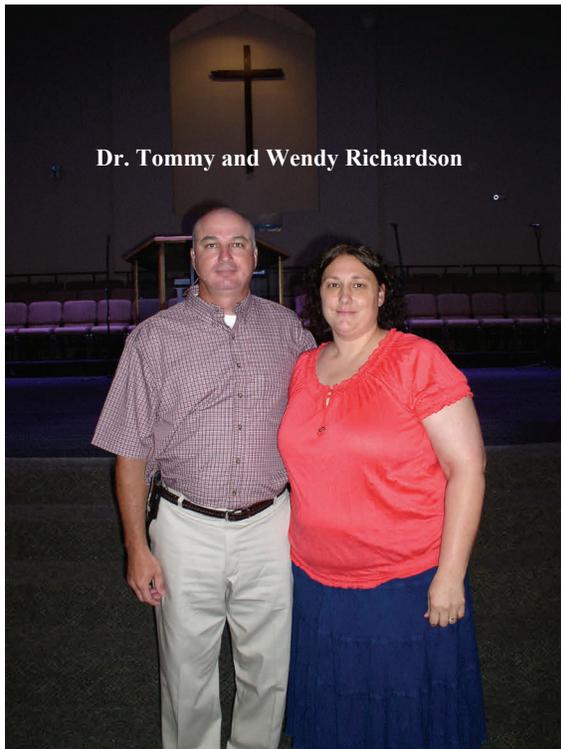
of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew

28:19-20; But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8."

God desires for His church to go to the entire world and make disciples, for the most part churches are trying to do that, but one church can't do this God size task alone. I truly believe that is where an association plays a vital role. We can pull all our resources and talents together to make a Kingdom Impact in Horry County (Our Jerusalem) and beyond. Every church we have is vital. We need each of the seventy-four churches being all God called them to be and I will work to set up systems and provide trainings to help empower pastors and leaders to see their ministries soar. Together everyone and every church can then better strategically partner through the association becoming capable of reaching people and communities that are not being reached with the Gospel and Jesus' love. I truly believe in partnership, Jesus also believed it and the apostle Paul believed it, so I can confidently say it's biblical.

Most churches and pastors ask concerning the association, "What's in it for me?" Let

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Dr. Tommy and Wendy Richardson

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This Month's Prayer Focus:

**Mike BeLue,
Interim DOM**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **May 6**—Mike BeLue's Birthday
- **May 7**—National Day of Prayer Community Prayer Service, Myrtle Beach Speedway, 6:00 p.m.
- **May 17-24**—Association Emphasis Week of Prayer and Martha Compton Offering
- **May 18**—WMU Sponsored Prayer walk at WBA, noon—1:30 p.m.
- **May 25**—WBA office closed for Memorial Day
- **June 13**—State Day of Prayer, Charleston Coliseum

UPCOMING MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Jamaica Mission Trip

September 21-26 or October 26-31, 2015

Travel to Jamaica to bring the message of Jesus through various ministries. Everyone welcome, all ages, no previous mission trip experience required.

Cost just \$399* per person plus airfare Includes excellent accommodations (private room), meals, bathrooms and showers; Planning, set-up, directing, coordinating leading and facilitating all activities; airport transfers and transportation in Jamaica

Led by Dr. Tom Sees,
Pastor of Rising Sun Community Church in Myrtle Beach.

Call 843-293-0015 or email risingsun-communitychurch@sccoast.net

GRIEF SUPPORT

Know someone that has lost a loved one and needs support? Heartland Hospice offers grief support for them. Monthly meetings on different topics help people cope.

Wed., May 6, 2015 10-11 am

Surfside Library

Dealing with Special Days : Holidays, Birthdays, Anniversaries

Saturday May 16, 2015

8:30 am—4:00 pm

Pepper Geddings Rec Facility

Caring Hearts for Children Camp for children ages 6-12.

Pre-registration required for this camp by Fri., May 8

For more information, call Kirby Winstead at 843-444-0813.

STATE DAY OF PRAYER

The Response South Carolina: A Call to Prayer For a Nation In Crisis

Governor Haley has called our state to a day of prayer, fasting, repentance, and seeking God's face.

* Saturday June 13, 2015, North Charleston Coliseum,

* 9:00-10:00 Youth Rally, Music geared towards youth

* 10:00-4:00 Time of scripture reading, prayer, worship

For more information go to:

www.theresponsesc.com

NEWS FROM WACCAMAW WMU

In this Season of Prayer for our nation, state, county, and community, we recall the words of David in Psalm 5:1-2: "GIVE ear to my words, O Lord. Consider my meditation. Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God, For to You I will pray."

We encourage all churches to attend the **National Day of Prayer** observance sponsored by Waccamaw Baptist Association scheduled for **6:30 P. M., Thursday, May 7, 2015**, Myrtle Beach Speedway. Waccamaw WMU also encourages churches to attend the "**Prayerwalk the Association**" event at the Association Office on **Monday, May 18, 2015, from 12:30 pm until 1:30 pm**. This event is to kick off the **Season of Prayer and the Martha Compton Offering for Associational Missions** May 19-25. Established in 1997 to honor Martha Compton, who served within the Association and First Baptist Myrtle Beach alongside her husband, Dr. Carl Compton, the Offering provides individuals, churches, classes, groups, and age-level organizations throughout Waccamaw Baptist Association opportunity to participate in missions through prayer, giving, and doing. **The 2015 goal of \$100.00 per church has been established.**

The **2015 Waccamaw WMU Spring Meeting** hosted by Buck Creek was very special, the theme of which was "**Reaching Lostness.**" We are grateful for the warm hospitality of Buck Creek and to representatives of local ministries; we thank Buck Creek for contributing the sum of \$275.00 toward "**Bunks for Camp LaVida.**" That amount, coupled with the love offering, made possible the sending to South Carolina WMU a check in the amount of **\$510.05**. What a Blessing! Thank you!

South Carolina Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) began **missions education camping in 1925**. We congratulate and express appreciation for women of WMU whose vision, courage, commitment, perseverance, endurance, and faith made possible missions experiences through camping, early on at colleges and universities, at Camp Rawls, and ultimately Camp LaVida. **Happy 90th Birthday** to SC WMU Missions Camping! **Consider camping** for children in your churches! They receive life-changing experiences through missions education (girls: Camp La Vida & boys: Camp McCall).

During your summer planning sessions, please **consider** placing these

events on your calendars:

August 7-9 Emerge, a Leadership Development Event for Association and Church WMU leaders; plan to spend the weekend at Camp La Vida! Begins 4 pm August 7; concludes 10 am August 9

August (date tbd) Walking the Talk - prayerwalking the CCU campus. Youth, Acteens, Challengers, Adults: plan to join in praying for Coastal BCM, students, faculty, and staff at Coastal Carolina; **6:30-7:30 pm**; conclude with fellowship (Dutch treat) at **Cookout**.

September 12 Children's State Missions Event - 10 am-1 pm, North Myrtle Beach Sports Complex. A fun-filled time for all, kicking off Season of Prayer for State Missions and Janie Chapman Offering!

September 19 "Down by the River" Emphasis Book Event led by **Debby Pace, 9:30 am-12:30 pm**

October 3 The Edge - an event for youth, Acteens, and Youth on Mission, **Anderson University**

October 10 SC BNF Annual Meeting, SCBC

October 16-17 Carolina Women, Fort Caswell, Oak Island, NC (3 pm Fri/4pm Sat)

Peggy Jones, WBA WMU Director

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

And it shall come to pass that every one who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Joel 2:32

As another school year finishes, we have much to be thankful for and celebrate. God has truly changed lives this year, and we are eternally grateful for your partnership in the Gospel. As Joel records and Paul echoes in Romans, whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. We celebrate that CCU students have done this year, and because of their salvation, their lives will never be the same. As a supporter of the ministry of BCM, celebrate with us the work the Lord has done!

In April, we hosted our first annual BCM fundraising golf tournament. All of the proceeds from this tournament will go directly to the benefit of students in the ministry through missions, scholarships, and campus outreach. I am grateful to those of you who partnered



with us through prayer, financial support, or by playing. We hope that next year many of you will jump in and partner with us.

I would also like to thank Buck Creek Baptist Church for their support of our Thursday night gathering by providing a meal to our students during the month of April. It was a great night of fellowship and encouragement, and the students always leave thankful for the ministry of the local church. As we move toward next school year, please consider how your church can partner with the ministry. I will be trying to find some partner churches in the coming months to help connect our students with a local church opportunity at the beginning of next school year.

Praying alongside you for college students,

David Neace,
BCM Director
davidneace@hotmail.com

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me share with you what you can expect from the association. This is the strategy I have laid out and communicated for the association search committee. I will work to develop a system so the association will be environment for **caring, coaching, connecting, cultivating and collaborating** so churches are healthy and lostness is

These five things you can expect from your association, but I want to remind you of what the bible says, *“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* Jesus found it joyful to endure the cross, “What was in it for Him?” He fulfilled the Father’s will of course, but he didn’t benefit nearly as much as we did, He died for us. What I’m trying to say is you may not benefit from an associational work directly, but there may be some person, some family, or some nation that will hear the gospel because of your sacrificial giving to the WBA. I truly look forward to serve as your next DOM.

Dr. Thomas W. Richardson

FROM THE DOM

Proverbs 3: 5-6, *“Trust in the Lord with all of your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.”*

As the time draws closer for the next big step in the WBA I am truly proud to have had the opportunity to serve Christ and the churches of this association. Together we have experienced many changes and pursued new opportunities for ministry. I am most thankful for those that daily encouraged and assisted me in making right decisions. I must say thanks to Ms. Diane Hutto without whom I would have been lost from the start. And Ms. Nancy Neece, David Neace, Ms. Shirley Rizzolino, Mr. Ron Bruce, and Abiel Pruneda who have all made my job so much easier. These folks facilitate ministry in the WBA in ways that are rarely appreciated or applauded. I have appreciated the continuing hard work of our volunteers serving on the Administrative Team, Finance Team, Disaster Relief Team, and New Church Team that have guided this Association so efficiently and effectively. The work of Ms. Mickey Hyman serving singularly on the Building and Grounds Team that saved the WBA thousands of dol-

lars and kept this facility in good shape. Ms. Peggy Jones and all of the ladies that give so much of their time and talent to make sure missions continue through the WMU. Then Ms. Ina Bullock who has served faithfully assisting churches in our association to have successful VBS for so many years. I am excited about our future as an association and the many ministries that God will open before us. My prayer is that we continue to position ourselves as 72 churches with one common purpose of missions to those who are closest to us, and ministry to those who are hurting and helpless in our area.

Personally, I am not sad to be leaving, rather very happy that I was here and had opportunity to serve. Someone has said, “I always knew that when I looked back on the times I cried I would smile. But I never knew that when I looked back on the times I smiled, I would cry.” You all have made me smile! May God continue to lead, guide, and protect each church, and every mission effort of the WBA in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Michael BeLue, Interim DOM



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Ministry Assistant—Diane Hutto

BCM Director—David Neace

Financial Specialist—Nancy Neece

Moderator—Dale Singleton

Treasurer—Shirley Rizzolino

OFFICE HOURS

M—Th 8:30—4:00

Friday—CLOSED

COASTLINE WOMEN'S CENTER UPDATE

When you consider there are currently 1.3 million abortions taking place in America each year, you will also realize there is a very high number of women suffering from this irreversible choice. Coastline Women's Center reaches out to these women with the love and compassion of Christ through a Bible study called Forgiven and Set Free. We have witnessed women's hearts, minds and souls transformed through this life changing study. We just began our first study of 2015 and humbly ask you to pray for these women who are in need of God's healing and forgiveness. This is yet another way that you support LIFE through Coastline!



Lori Meetre,

Executive Director of
Center Services

lori@coastlinewomen

scenter.org

843-488-9971

Coastline Center gladly accepts donations of new and like new baby items. Drop off items Monday, Wednesday or Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7, 2015
6:30 p.m.
Myrtle Beach Speedway
455 Hospitality Lane
Myrtle Beach SC

Join us for a focused time of prayer for our communities, towns, cities, state and country. Pre-prayer music provided by One Accord.

Put this event on your calendar now and plan to bring a group with you.



"Consider the lilies how they grow : they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

Luke 12:27