

The Kingdom Focus

VOLUME 32, ISSUE 7

JULY 2015

FROM THE DOM, TOMMY RICHARDSON

The Psalmist said, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;" Psalm 107:1-2.

As I write this, I am amazed and thankful that God has let me serve as your new Director of Missions. He is good all the time. I am also thankful to all the pastors and churches in our association that have given my family and I a warm welcome into WBA. I haven't connected with all the pastors and churches as of yet, but I am working down the list. If you haven't heard from me yet, please be patient - you will hear from me. I look forward to spending time with you and your churches. Please feel free to call me if you need to connect with me before I am able to connect with you.



Tommy, DOM

We can do great things for God's kingdom if we stay connected and focused on Him and His mission. So I am working hard at this moment to connect with you and your churches so we can begin to partner together for Kingdom work. Verse two of this psalm says, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so," Let's be an association that's not quiet about our relationship with the Lord and His Kingdom.

It was a great day at the State Day of Prayer in Charleston to stand with brothers and sisters in Christ to let the Nation know we were praying for them. Let's continue to pray and be

Christian witnesses wherever we live, work, or play. I truly look forward to partnering and working along side of each of you and your churches.

Excerpts from the Declaration of Independence:

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation....**WE** hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness...And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

*Remembering that God was in the beginning, and the end of the Declaration....
And He is still the Beginning and the End— the Alpha and the Omega.*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WMU News	2
Mission Opportunities	2
Sunburn Unit	2
Pelicans Church Night	3
BCM News	3
Church News	3
Coastline Center Update	4

This Month's Prayer Focus:

**Dale Singleton,
WBA Moderator**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **July 2**—WBA office closed for Independence Day
- **July 10**—Church Night at the Pelicans
- **July 20**—Summer Quarterly Meeting at Forestbrook Baptist Church

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Mission Team Needed:

Hans Ostrem, Church Planter in Toronto, Canada has an urgent need of volunteers/mission team to come do a week long VBS and/or Sports type camp for kids the second week of July (13th-17th). Previously committed churches had to cancel and there is already a group of kids who have signed up to attend as well as more who will come from the community. The camp will be from 9am-2pm Monday through Friday. A team would need to arrive in Canada on Saturday (July 12th) and plan to stay until the following Saturday or Sunday. In the evenings (it stays daylight until almost 10pm) they would like to plan some backyard Bible clubs/block parties in a nearby park and need a team of 5-10 (flexible) people who have a heart for serving the Lord and for sharing the love of Jesus with the lost! The need is very great in the GTA. Would you and your church consider coming to join Hans and his family this week? (lodging available)

Respond directly to Hans at hans@wadichurch.com or by calling 647-220-2595.

Mission Training Opportunity:

Eye Clinic Training
Lake Murray Baptist Church
Saturday, June 27, 10:00am to 5:00pm
Do you have a heart for world missions? Would you love for your mission team to be able to provide physical and spiritual sight to 3rd world countries? If so, doing an eye clinic is an extremely effective way to demonstrate the love of God in a very tangible way. In a medical clinic, the medication will hopefully help the patient in a few days. In an eye clinic most patients will get instant gratification - one minute his vision is blurred and the next minute he can see!! You will be able to help about 19 patients out of 20 with prescription strength glasses or eye medications. The patient will be more responsive to the gospel after you meet his physical need for better vision. I personally think of how many times, too many to count where I have asked someone on a

mission trip if they have a Bible and they say, "Yes, I do but I can't see it to read it". We can help God's Word come alive for them like it has for us!

Dr. David Curtis is a practicing ophthalmologist in North Carolina who trains layman who do not have any previous medical training or experience to conduct Eye Clinics that will in turn bless thousands of people. He has now been on 49 medical mission trips where he has examined close to 50,000 patients. Now he trains others to conduct eye clinics so that even more can be blessed with better sight.

If you would like to be trained to communicate the love of Jesus Christ through providing eye care to persons in third world environments; and sharing with each patient how they can experience spiritual sight through knowing Christ, then this seminar is for you. The cost is \$80, which covers approximately 8 hours of training, a manual and lunch.

An additional cost is for the refraction equipment which is \$95. (Continued on page 4)

NEWS FROM WACCAMAW WMU

The First Baptist Church of Grove City hosted The Woman's Missionary Union Missions Celebration and Annual Meeting prior to the Southern Baptist Convention June 16-17, 2015, in Columbus, Ohio.

"All for You," based on Mark 8:34 was the theme used by Woman's Missionary Union and continues the 2014-2016 WMU Watchword emphasis: "All for You: Surrender, Sacrifice, Serve."

Debby Akerman of Ocean View Baptist in Waccamaw Association, gracefully and beautifully concluded her fifth and final year as national WMU President as she presided during the meeting, welcomed attendees, addressed the year's theme: "This call of Jesus is an all-or-nothing call; it is a lay-it-all-on-the-line call, a call to surrender, to sacrifice, and to serve" and presided during the meeting, and introduced Linda Cooper of Kentucky as her successor.

WMU Executive Director-Treasurer Wanda Lee said this of Debby: "She's been an articulate speaker of biblical truths, a staunch supporter of all things missions through WMU, and I think one of Debby's greatest contributions may lie in her ability to build relationships with people

across all venues of life." Ms. Lee continued, "She's represented us well with spiritual wisdom and insight that only touches the surface of her own personal walk with the Lord." Lee presented Debby with framed covers of her two books, "Hold On" and "Secrets to Surrender."

Captain Michael Coleman, a U. S. Army Chaplain serving with the North American Mission Board, challenged attendees not only to educate themselves about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), the social issue of Project HELP (extended for an additional two years) but also to pray for those who are hurting and to be a friend to those who come to churches. "This is not an outreach opportunity for your church," he said. "This is 'inreach.' You can be that back row Baptist who grabs that person by the hand and says no matter what you look like, no matter who you are, I'm going to walk with you along the way."

Arlene Miller, of Crofton, KY, received the Dellanna West O'Brien Leadership Award. North American and International Missionaries shared their stories and inspired attendees.

Three of the six National Acteens Panelists, recipients of a \$1000.00, shared

testimonies of how God impacted their lives through Acteens: Haley Harrison of Charlotte, N. C.; Hydiatu Konneh of Louisville, Ky.; and Ashley Johns of Katy, Texas.

Marion G. "Bud" Fray, retired missionary, shared stories of his service to Zimbabwe and South Africa; he and former missionary Kim Davis have written "Both Feet In: A Journey to Surrender, Sacrifice, and Service." for this year's emphasis book. His last words to attendees were: "Heaven happens when both the almighty Father from heaven and a usable vessel on earth come together. You can be God's instrument for heaven to happen back in your churches."

WMU celebrated the 20th anniversary of the WMU Foundation, and foundation president David George was presented two gifts: a plaque of appreciation and a check for \$2020, significant in that the first "20" is for the vision set before WMU 20 years ago; the second "20" for the vision George is casting for the future.

Will you commit to surrender, sacrifice, and serve more boldly, gracefully, and beautifully?

God Bless.

Peggy J. Jones

WBA WMU Director

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:3-5

In Christ, we have new life as we have been born again and as such we must be proclaimers of the living hope in Jesus Christ. This message is one that college students desperately need to hear. Through the ministry of BCM, we are praying that this year students will give their lives to Christ and be born again! Will you pray



for that alongside of us?

During the summer months, we are asking for your help! Students in your church are making the transition from high school to college, and we want to do everything possible to make sure they are connected with by a local minister at the school they attend. Will you please take a moment and visit the website www.sbcm.org/transitions/ and fill out the information on any incoming freshmen students that you know. This information is vital for local ministers to find your students and get them connected with a ministry even before they arrive in the fall. Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel!

Praying alongside you for college students,

David Neace,
BCM Director
davidneace@hotmail.com

CHURCH NIGHT AT THE PELICANS

IMPACT Ministries is hosting "Church Night" at the Myrtle Beach Pelicans Stadium July 10th, 7:05PM

What a great opportunity for churches from all over Horry County to enjoy a night of family fun together. Tickets cost only \$10 and you can add a Hotdog or hamburger, chips, and drink for only \$5 more. Churches who purchase 10 or more tickets, the 11th one is free so your pastor or staff can get in free!!! Tickets at this price are only purchased through IMPACT so call and secure your tickets before they are gone. I hope you and your church will come out for our church family time. Call 843-254-7777 today!



VOLUNTEER AT THE SUNBURN UNIT

The summer season is gearing up and our NEW Sunburn Unit began operation on Saturday, May 30! This ministry is an incredible outreach of the association as hundreds of tourists are reached each summer by volunteers working through the sunburn unit. There is always a need for volunteers to work the unit and it is a great opportunity for the local church to get involved in missions on a local level. If you would like to schedule some folks from your church to serve at the unit, call Martha Bullard at 843-995-1320.

COMING IN OCTOBER!

Pastors' Wives Retreat

October 9-11, 2015

White Oak Conference Center

Cost: \$50 (Returners are free)

More information soon!

CHURCH NEWS

Homewood Baptist – Will host the Super Summer Lawn Chair Festival this summer on the 2nd and 4th Saturday evening of each month from June through September. Begins at 7:00 p.m. There will be a variety of groups including Beyond the Ashes, Mended Wings, Rivertown Boys, Day Seven and more. Free popcorn and snow cones. Hot dog meal available for \$1. Great opportunity to invite friends and family that don't attend church. For more information call Pastor Jim Evans at 365-3403.

Jamestown Baptist— Is searching for a Church Secretary. Please send resumes to: Personnel Committee, Jamestown Baptist Church, 2501 Ninth Ave., Conway, SC 29527

Surfside First Baptist– Is looking for someone to fill the position of Secretary/Bookkeeper at the church. Contact Pastor David Pohto at 843-238-0206 for more information.

University Baptist – Is searching for an Interim Pastor. Mail resumes to Attn: Leonard Lewis, University Baptist Church, PO Box 638, Conway, SC 29528



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DOM—Tommy Richardson

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

Coastline Women's Center strives to save lives – not only unborn lives, but the eternal souls of their mothers and fathers. We are called to be the hands and feet of Christ. Recently, a young woman came to us for practical assistance for her impending motherhood. She stated she had no faith in God. Her only concept of God was to blame Him for all of the tragic circumstances she's had to deal with in her young life. But, when she was introduced to Jesus Christ and told of



his immense love for her through His work on the cross, she wept. She received Christ for the first time that day! She stated that until today, she has simply accepted that no one has ever truly liked her or cared for her. Our mission is to see lives transformed through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and her life surely has been!
Lori Meetre,
Executive Director of Center Services
lori@coastlinewomenscenter.org
843-488-9971

Continued from page 2

This equipment is what is used on the mission trip to determine the glasses prescription needed to meet each patient's chief visual complaint. Several people or groups can go in together to purchase this item.

The glasses themselves may be obtained in many ways, from Lions Clubs to church drives, but you can also purchase a materials kit from Dr. Curtis for \$205 which includes 100 pairs of prescription glasses presorted, individually bagged and labeled with marked prescriptions strength. Other than basic reading glasses, donated prescription strength glasses must be read by professional eye glass providers with an auto lensmeter to determine their strength before you take them on a mission trip. So purchasing the glasses presorted saves time and possibly money.

Please pass this on to your mission team leaders in your church, other groups or any one else who you think might be interested.

If you have any questions, call Shannon Madden at 803-414-3144. RSVP via email by Monday, June 22 to smadden3@gmail.com



"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

John 8:32