

Santee Baptist Association

A network of Baptist congregations cooperating to share the transforming message of Jesus Christ.

December 2016

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What Will You Get Jesus for Christmas?

Making the list starts for us before Thanksgiving. We add to it as we have conversations with the children. Shopping begins in earnest after Thanksgiving. There are websites to check out and stores to dash into. Each day seems to bring something new to the list. Sometimes, it is a new item added by one of the children. Sometimes, it is the name of someone we forgot.

By mid-December we've made good headway. Amazon should be delivering. A special trip or two is scheduled to get things we can't find in town. We've gotten on a first name basis with the cashiers at Simpson's. Two days before Christmas there is a final flurry of activity. Stockings must be stuffed, last minute items purchased. Someone must make the frightening trip to Walmart on Christmas Eve.

Gift giving starts for us on Christmas Eve and goes through Christmas night. It's a wonderful twenty-four hours of expressing love by giving gifts. It struck me the other day, that one name is missing from our list: Jesus. Seems strange doesn't it? After all, it is His birthday.

Granted, Jesus is hard to buy for. What do you get the person who has everything? I mean, literally, everything! He already owns the cattle on a thousand hills and stars by the thousands. What would He want anyway? He has a list detailing what He wants. It is found in the book of Micah: "What does He require of you, O man, but to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God?"

This Christmas, give Jesus the gift of doing justice. This is about more than being fair; it means treating each other with respect, standing for what is right, and doing right even when it costs you. This Christmas, give Jesus the gift of loving mercy. When someone offends you or hurts you, forgive them. Give them grace. If possible, keep the relationship intact. Love people when it is hard to love them.

This Christmas, give Jesus the gift of walking humbly with Him. Admit to Him you have no idea how to live your life. Ask for His help and guidance every day. Walk closely with Him so you learn to be like Him. Stop where He would stop. Walk past temptations as He does. Climb mountains with Him. Rest in the valleys with Him. This Christmas, the best gift to give Jesus is to give Him yourself. He delights in you and will love the gift you present. Ironically, the gift you give Him will also be the greatest gift you give yourself.

Grace,
Clay

(Written by Rev. Clay Smith, Pastor of Alice Drive Baptist Church)



Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

by Cathy Arnold



Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer was hosted at Bethany Baptist Church on Monday, November 7 at 7:00 PM. The theme was "Arise Shine." We had 40 in attendance representing 6 churches and one state WMU officer, Sandra Tapp, our state assistant executive director.

Churches who attended: Bethany, Grace, Bethel, Southside, Manning First, and Providence. Dr. Jim Chandler sang a special song accompanied by Marty Arnold on the organ. Refreshments were enjoyed by all in the fellowship hall afterwards. A special thank you to all the ladies who joined for this special time of prayer for our world and missions.

The Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer is celebrated all over the world on the first Monday in November each year. Each of the seven continental unions were prayed for: Africa, Asia, Caribbean, European, Latin American, North America, and the South West Pacific. As it was the day before an election, we also lifted up our country and the election before the Lord.



SENIOR ADULT FALL RALLY

The Senior Adult Rally was held at Bethel Baptist Church on Tuesday, November 8, 2015. We had approximately 165 people in attendance and 25 churches represented.

We were served a delicious Thanksgiving meal followed by special music and an inspirational message by Rev. Alan Glass, Associate Pastor at Bethel Baptist.

A special thank you to all the ladies, men and pastors who joined us for the Fall Rally.

Women on Mission by Jenny Kolb

WMU Celebration & Salad Supper

Ladies mark your calendars February 16, 2017 for the WMU Celebration and Salad Supper at Grace Baptist Sumter. Come and enjoy these good salads and fellowship with the ladies from our Association.

SC Annual Meeting

We would like to have a good representation from Santee Association at our South Carolina WMU Annual meeting at FBC in Boiling Springs SC on March 24-25, 2017. Start making your reservations now. Hope to see YOU there!

WMU Spring Meeting

Mark your calendar for April 20, 2017 and make plans to attend the Santee Association WMU Spring Meeting at Providence Baptist Church. Registration starts at 6:30 PM and program begins at 7:00 PM.

Special Mother's Day Offering

Another important date is May 14, 2017 which is Mother's Day. Please order your envelopes for the Special Mother's Day Offering. This helps support the Ministries on Aging (The Bethea Home and Martha Franks Home).

Prayer Boot Camp



BASIC TRAINING FOR A LIFE OF PRAYER

January 5th from 9 am – 4 pm

SC Baptist Convention Prayer and Partnerships
190 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, SC 29210

Featured Speaker: **Claud V. King**

Cost: \$20 before Dec. 15th or \$25 after Dec. 15th

To register go to <http://www.scbaptist.org/>
and click "Prayer Boot Camp" on the right hand side.

Event Details: Recent response to *War Room* indicates that God is calling His people to prayer, and they are responding with a hunger to learn to pray more effectively and strategically. Developed by Claude V. King, **Prayer Boot Camp** is a prayer training experience to provide you with basic training in prayer and to introduce the weapons of our spiritual warfare. It is not just learning about prayer. It is learning to pray by praying together with others. The content is based on *The Battle Plan for Prayer* by Stephen and Alex Kendrick, writers and producers of *War Room*.



CHRISTIAN GOLFERS ASSOCIATION

Saturday, December 17, 2016
Crystal Lakes GC

9:17 am Devotion – Tee Time – immediately following devotion.

GOLFER'S BIBLE STUDY Every Tuesday morning

7:30 a.m. Fellowship & Refreshments
8:00 a.m. Bible Study

Come & invite a friend, neighbor, co-worker or fellow golfer.

Crisis Closet by Lamar Atkins

Hours of operation:

The Crisis Closet receives clothing on **Tuesdays from 9:00 to 11:00 AM** and they give out clothing on **Thursday from 9:00 to 11:30 AM**.

Address: 230 Broad St., Sumter, SC 29150

Phone: (803) 775-3147

They have need of the following:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Men's pants – all sizes | Men's shirts – all size |
| Boy's pants – size 4T & up | Boy's shirts – all sizes |
| Girl's pants – size 4T & up | Girl's shirts – all sizes |
| 33 gallon trash bags | Toilet paper |
| Paper towels | |

Paxville Baptist and Southside Baptist have the Crisis Closet for the month of December.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Rev. Drew Taylor	December 2
Rev. Jonathan Bradshaw	December 5
Rev. Robert Nance	December 14
Rev. John Patrick	December 22
Rev. Bill Bennett	December 24

Anniversaries

Rev. Mike & Karen DeCosta	December 3
Rev. Steve Shumake	December 20
Rev. Drew & Christina Taylor	December 30
Rev. Steven & Sherri Hendricks	December 30

Pastoral Church Anniversaries

Rev. Kevin & Nickie Massey	December 22
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Upcoming Events

Season of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December 4 – 11

The Mission Study this year is on Norway. All churches are encouraged to promote Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Office Closed

January 16

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Holiday

Sanctity of Human Life

January 17

Focus on WMU Week

February 5 – 12

Executive Team Meeting

February 9

WMU Celebration & Salad Supper

February 16, at 7:00 PM

Grace Baptist

Children's Ministry Day

February 18

Office Closed

February 20

Ministers Conference

February 21

Assoc. Office, (breakfast included)

Season of Prayer

March 5 – 12

North American Missions

Ministers Conference

March 21

Assoc. Office, (breakfast included)

SC WMU Missions Encounter

March 24 – 25

First Baptist, Boiling Springs

DECEMBER 2016						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JANUARY 2017						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MARCH 2017						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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