

JOINT LAKELANDS-LAURENS

MEN'S RALLY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 6:45PM
604 DISCIPLE'S TRAIL - WATERLOO

SPEAKER: BRANDON BLAIR

Rev. Blair is the pastor of Langston Baptist Church in Conway. He is also a Marine Corps veteran who served in the infantry as machine gunner. He fought in two wars, completed two full combat tours in Iraq, and received the Purple Heart

PULLED PORK BBQ MEAL WITH ALL THE FIXINS

 155TH
ANNUAL
MEETING
OF THE
LAKELANDS
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 19 | 6:30
JORDAN MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH
1515 E. DURST AVE, GREENWOOD
Guest Preacher: Rev. Bryant Sims



CONNECTIONS Fellowship for Pastors

We meet monthly for breakfast and discussion and occasionally meet for dinner with our wives.

The next two are **Sept 23** and **Oct 28** at 7:30am at Besto's.

Open to any pastors.
Come join us!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Nov. 13 - LBA Women's Event 6-8pm at West Side Baptist Church of Gwd, speaker: Martha McMinn, Do'Right's BBQ Nachos

Nov. 15 - SeraphSong Concert 4:00 at Ware Shoals First Baptist Church, individuals and church groups invited for your activity destination!

Nov. 18 - Connections 7:30am at Besto's

Nov. 18 - Prayer Intercessors 10:30 at LBA

Nov. 20 - Prisoner Packets due to LBA

Dec. 1 - Boots for children in WV due to LBA

Dec. 4 - Christmas Secretaries' Luncheon 12:00 - 1:30 at LBA

Dec. 11 - Pastor & Wives Christmas Dinner 6:30 at LBA

More info on these events coming in the Nov/Dec Lakelands Leader

Pastor²Pastor

Tuesday, September 2 at 11:00 at LBA office

Guest Speakers:

Angela McNeal with SCBC Heart4Schools
Al Phillips, Church Ambassador Network of SC
Followed by lunch out, Dutch-treat

ACP TRAINING

Thursday, September 11

10:00 - 12:00

Lakelands Baptist Association office

This is open to anyone who has a part in filling out or entering data for your church's ACP.

The Annual Church Profile surveys are now open to complete online at www.sbcworkspace.com.

Your ACP information is due by OCTOBER 30

Please call the Association office at 864-227-6261 if you need your church's username and/or password, or blank copies of the ACP surveys. Thank you for taking the time to gather and enter the information for the ACP.

LBA Executive Board Meeting

Monday, September 15 at 7:00 at LBA office

We ask that LBA Executive Board members and pastors please make a special effort to attend our board meetings and pass on the reported information to your church members.

Bold Spring Baptist Church is Seeking

Bi-Vocational Southern Baptist Pastor

Bold Spring Baptist Church, located in the Callison, SC community in southern Greenwood County is seeking someone to help us grow in unity and have an effective impact on our local community and youth. Bold Spring is a Southern Baptist Church, belonging to the Lakelands Baptist Association and a supporter of the Baptist Faith and Message 2000.

We are looking for a mature, experienced and caring man with effective leadership skills, who will preach the inerrant and infallible word of God without compromise, as well as someone who will work closely with our deacons in ministering to our active, inactive, sick and homebound members.

Please send resumes and references to:

Attn: Pastor Search Committee
Bold Spring Baptist Church
2806 Callison Road
Troy, SC 29848

Or email to boldspringbaptist2025@gmail.com



WMU Season of Prayer
for State Missions
&
Janie Chapman Offering
September 7-14

Associational WMU State Missions Meeting

Thursday, September 18 at 7:00

**Laurel Baptist Church
330 Sample Rd, Greenwood**

State Missions Study led by Rev. James Rodgers

Pastor²Pastor

Tuesday, October 7 at 11:00

**Lakelands Baptist Association
Followed by lunch out, Dutch treat**

CHRISTMAS BACKPACKS

The Christmas Backpacks Ministry seeks to meet the physical and spiritual needs of those living in the Appalachian Area and in upstate South Carolina. The backpacks received will be distributed to needy children and teenagers during events at which the Gospel will be shared.

Please visit <https://www.scwmu.org/christmas-backpacks> and click on the 2025 shopping list for details on how to pack and label the backpacks.

Drop off backpacks to LBA by October 9

Prisoner Packet Packing List

DUE TO LBA BY THURS. NOVEMBER 20

Approved Packing List from the SC Department of Corrections

ONE black non-retractable pen (*No wire clips, no other color ink*)

ONE 5" x 8" junior legal pad – white or yellow only

(*No wire bound books, composition books, journals, or post-it notes*)

ONE adult toothbrush (*individually factory sealed; no multi-packs, holders, floss, or folding/travel toothbrushes*)

ONE 4 oz. to 6 oz. toothpaste (*No travel size*)

ONE 3.2 oz. to 6 oz. bar of soap (*No travel size, no unwrapped/unboxed bars*)

TWO rolls of hard candy like LifeSavers, Breath Savers, or Mentos
(*No Smarties, Sweetarts, Necco Wafers, Rolos, Starburst, or TicTacs*)

TWO first-class #10 stamp-embossed envelopes (*from US Post Office – NO regular stamps or other size envelopea*)

ONE gallon size zipper bag – press and seal AND slider bags accepted.

ALL ITEMS MUST FIT IN THE ZIPPER BAG WITH ZIPPER CLOSED

DO NOT INCLUDE: washcloths, toothbrush holders, floss, combs, or any item not on the above list.

“Settling”

I learned all about the early “settlers” in school studying history. My mom used to tell me to “settle down.” As I grow older, I am finding out that there is great comfort in “settling” into my easy chair after a hard day. That reminds me of ole Joe. Joe and Brenda are good friends to Kim and me. Ole Joe is in his 80’s and he married a young gal, Brenda, years ago who is still only in her seventies. Kim and I enjoy spending time with them and occasionally we will meet for breakfast or lunch. They are older and wiser than I am, and yes, I know, that’s not saying much. But I have learned over the years to respect the “hoary heads” (Proverbs 16:31) among us because they are often full of wisdom. But ole Joe likes to say when asked what he’s doing with himself in retirement, that he is practicing his auto mechanic skills. Yessir, he says he is practicing putting a rear end in a recliner.

But there are many ways you settle, like settling in for the night, or settling a debt, or settling a dispute, or settling a wrong. Settling is just part of life! We settle a lot of things through the years. I’m currently trying to settle into this growing old phase of life. And while it’s a good phase of life to settle into, it ain’t all wine and roses. In fact, you can keep the wine cause I have never, or to use redneck vernacular, I ain’t never sipped wine in my whole entire life and I reckon I ain’t about to start drinking anything that the Bible calls a viper (Proverbs 23:31-33)...not now, not ever...I don’t do vipers. No sir...I just don’t! I refuse to settle on doing what everybody else is doing, just for the sake of fit’n in. Ain’t gonna do it!

But sometimes it’s just plain hard to settle into some things, cause life changes on a dime and so sometimes trying to settle in is like hitting a moving target. Like for me, trying to settle into this Gramps thing is difficult at best, simply because the sheer numbers of them little rascals just keep multiplying. As soon as you get used to the first one, low and behold, you turn around and all of a sudden there’s thirteen of them.

Or like a college student trying to settle into his freshman year and getting out on his own in a big old world. And then suddenly, college is over and a new job is on the horizon and marriage is right around the corner and then boom...babies! How does anyone settle into life when it moves so fast? It’s like we often say, “Stop the merry-go-round...I want to get off.” But...it never stops does it?

But there are still other ways to “settle.” Like sometimes we settle for mediocrity rather than settling only for our best. As Kim and I continue to build our new home, we’ve met some wonderful folks along the way, contractor types. Like old Coot, our seventy-five-year-old electrician. And then there’s Javan, our framer who also happens to be the lead pastor of a Mennonite church.

I met him when I saw him framing another house in our area. I immediately liked him and knew he was the guy I wanted to

frame my house. And oh my, what a good choice that was. He told Kim and I one day while we were complimenting him on the quality of his work, that his motto has always been, “I strive for perfection, but I will settle for excellence!” Now, sit back, settle into your easy chair, and chew on that for a while. “I strive for perfection, but I will settle for excellence!”

What’s not anywhere in that statement is any room for slacking or mediocrity. It’s no wonder getting him to frame a house is near’ bouts impossible cause he stays booked up. With a work ethic like that, and a genuine desire to do a job well, that is a combination for success every time. An old say’n amongst us hunter types is, “Aim small, hit small!” Which means if you aim for a very small spot on the target, you have a much greater expectation of hitting close to your bullseye. However, just aiming at the whole target means you have a very high likelihood of never hitting the bullseye.

I wonder, what are we aiming for in our individual Christian lives, or in the life of our churches. Are we aiming for excellence or do we all too often settle for mediocrity? Are we aiming to keep the main thing the main thing or are we settling for whatever comes along that might attract the attention of some for a short time, only to then have to chase the next popular thing. Going above and beyond often requires time, effort and sacrifice, yet that is the very example Christ set for us. Randy Day taught me years ago in the building industry, that merely meeting building code is just one step above unacceptable. Malachi 1:8-9 admonishes us to bring our best to the Lord, anything less than that is unacceptable.

Settling is acceptable at certain times in life, but totally unacceptable when it comes to our relationship with God. An old hymn goes like this, “Give of your best to the Master, give Him the strength of your youth,” and every line thereafter begins with, “Give of your best to the Master...!” Never settle...give God your best today...and every day hereafter! He’ll accept nothing less!



BUILDING FUND UPDATE

Amount needed for loan payoff:	\$427,539.99
Building Fund Saving:	\$73,911.81
Remaining balance:	\$353,628.18
We are grateful for your continued support!	

How to Become a Christian

Jesus Christ was with God the Father before the world was created. He became human and lived among humanity as Jesus of Nazareth. He came to show us what God the Father is like. He lived a sinless life, showing us how to live, and He died on a cross to pay for our sins. God raised Him from the dead. Jesus is the source of eternal life. Jesus wants to be the doorway of new life for you. In the Bible, He was called "Lamb of God" (John 1:29). In the Old Testament, sacrifices were made for the sins of the people. Jesus became the sacrificial Lamb offered for our sin. Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). He is waiting for you now.

Admit to God that you are a sinner. Repent, turning away from your sin. By faith, receive Jesus Christ as God's Son and accept Jesus' gift of forgiveness by dying on the cross.

Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

You may pray a silent prayer similar to this as you call on God to save you.

"Dear God, I know that You love me. I confess my sin and need of salvation. I turn away from my sin and place my faith in Jesus as my Savior and Lord. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen." After you have received Jesus Christ into your life, tell a pastor or another Christian about your decision. Show others your faith in Christ by asking for a baptism by immersion in your local church as a public expression of your faith.

The Holy Bible, Book of Romans 10:9-13

Lakelands Baptist Leader

SEPT/OCT 2025



Lakelands Baptist Association Periodical Paid At
David W. Little, Associational Missionary
 Greenwood, SC 29649-9998
 USPS 391-110
 232 Bypass 225
 Greenwood, South Carolina 29646

dlittle@lakelandsbaptist.org (Associational Missionary)

finance@lakelandsbaptist.org (Financial Secretary)

admin@lakelandsbaptist.org (Administrative Assistant)

Website: www.lakelandsbaptist.org

Telephone: (864) 227-6261



Lowndesville Baptist Church
 A Ministry Partner of LIFE FM Radio
Presents:
Back To
Mayberry
Day

Saturday
September 13th
10am - 2pm

464 Main Street
Lowndesville SC, 29659

A Love Offering Event For
 Connie Maxwell Children's Home
Guests:
Fearless Five Ministries

 Barney Fife
 & Thelma Lou - Chrisitan
 comedians will be here with
 their 1962 Squad Car

Free Smokey Gray's BBQ Plates for the first 100 participants
 (No "to-go" plates)

Inflatables by: **"Frozen Frog" Food Truck**
"Bounce It Up"
 Bouncy House
 Waterslide
 Dunking Booth
 Axe Throwing

Shaved Ice
 Lemonade
 Boba Lemonade
 Frozen Lemonade
 Bubble Waffles w/ Ice Cream

Funnel Cakes
 Fried Oreos
 Chocolate Covered Cheesecake
 Pretzels
 Nachos

Craft Vendors ...*And More!*

Food **Calling All Craft Lovers!** **Baked Goods**

FAITHFUL FINDS ARTS & CRAFT SHOW

SAT. OCTOBER 18TH
9AM - 3PM
HARRIS BAPTIST
300 CENTER ST.
GREENWOOD, SC 29649

Cards, Jewelry, Key chains, Purses,
Resin Art, Note Cards, Clothing,
3d printed items, Soups, Desserts
& much more

Sponsored by
Harris Baptist
The Women's Prayer Ministry

Arts & Crafts **And Lots More**

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