

# The Link

**April 2017**

Monthly Publication of  
Garden City Baptist Church  
Volume 30 Number 4

## CHURCH EVENTS

**April 1**  
WM YARD SALE

**April 2**  
Church-wide Breakfast

**April 8**  
Priscilla Shirer Simulcast

**April 9**  
Palm Sunday

**April 10**  
JOY Fellowship & WMU Mtg  
Finance Committee  
Deacons Meeting

**April 12**  
Health Kits due in office

**April 15**  
9 am Church Pancake Breakfast  
10 am Easter Egg Hunt

**April 16**  
Easter Sunday

**April 18**  
Ladies Circle of Friends

**April 24**

### Teacher Appreciation

We provide lunch for teachers at  
Seaside Elementary School

**April 28**  
Ladies Lunch

**April 29**  
Dragon Boat Race  
Market Common

**April 30**

**Lord's Supper**  
Deacon Relief Fund Offering

Join the deacons the first  
Sunday of the month for an  
amazing breakfast at 8:15  
a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Donations go to the Deacon  
Relief Fund to help members  
who encounter a problem.

*From the Pastor . . .*

It is Easter season. What a great month ahead. We have a lot of things happening here in the month of April, so please mark your calendar and get involved with what the Lord is doing at Garden City Baptist Church.

You will see the most important dates in this edition of *The Link*. One thing I want to take a little extra time on in this edition is our Easter service. Traditionally, Easter is one of the highest attended Sundays in the calendar year. Last year we had just over 500 people attend for our worship service. Please keep a couple of things in mind:

- 1) We will have visitors. Treat them as a guest. Love on them. Show them Jesus. In his book *Fusion*, Searcy notes that a church has seven minutes to make a positive impression on someone. He writes, "Seven minutes is all you get to make a positive first impression. In the first seven minutes of contact with your church, your first time guests will know whether or not they are coming back." That means every person has to be friendly and we have to create an atmosphere that welcomes lost people.
- 2) Remember the size of our sanctuary. We cannot hold but so many people, but we can hold more. What I simply mean is that we can hold more people than one might think. I encourage you to scoot in and make room for others. I know we are Baptist and like to stay "nice and safe in our territory," but please make room for others.
- 3) Show people the real reason for Easter. As visitors come, make sure they know that Jesus is worth celebrating more than just on that one Sunday. He has risen! He is alive! Because of that, we should want to celebrate Him every day of our lives! Show people that on Easter by your posture in worship, attentiveness during the preaching event, and love for others throughout our worship experience.

Serving Him,

Jordan

**CHURCH-WIDE  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
&  
EASTER EGG HUNT  
April 15  
Breakfast @ 9 a.m.  
Egg Hunt @ 10 a.m.**



## CHURCH CONFERENCE SUMMARY: 03-19-17

**Nominating Committee:** Approval given to **By-Laws amendment** to change monthly conference meeting to quarterly. The meetings will be January, April, July and October. The **Church Council** will adapt its meetings to 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in March, June, September and December. Also, **Finance By-Laws** to reflect this change in providing monthly Financial Statements in the office for approval at the next Church Conference meeting.

**Trustees:** **Inventory** completed. Content value raised to \$700,000. Insured for one (1) year.

**Youth Committee:** Raised \$2,764 for Ground Zero Boat Race at Market Commons.

**Personnel Committee:** See resumes for prospective staff members included in *The Link*. April 1st Q&A for Associate Pastor and vote on April 2<sup>nd</sup> after morning worship. April 8<sup>th</sup> Q&A for Minister to Next Generation and vote on April 9<sup>th</sup> after morning worship. The time for the Q&A for both candidates is 4:30 - 6 p.m.

**JOY FELLOWSHIP: Monday, April 10 at Noon.** Members of **WMU** are joining the meeting. Martha Bullard, WMU Director from Surfside Baptist Church will tell us about the Sunburn Unit Summer Program and discuss its importance and the needs of the program. It is sponsored by the Waccamaw Baptist Association. Hall. The meeting is in the Fellowship hall. Chicken is provided but please bring a side dish. Charge: \$2.

**MAKING A HEALTH KIT** is a tangible way to meet the physical needs of people working in our community. **A Health Kit includes: 1 toothbrush (sealed) 1 toothpaste (6 oz.) 1 soap (4.5 oz. bath size) 1 washcloth 1 bath towel 1 comb. All placed in a 2-gallon Ziploc type bag.** Please bring to the church office by **April 12.**

### SOUTH STAND HELPING HAND (SSHH)

We are staying busy. Many people are still suffering from Hurricane Matthew. Some homes in Socastee are still not ready for occupancy. One of the clients said she is living with black mold in her house and doesn't have the money to get it removed

Another client who came in for food has contacted the director. Her family is doing okay now and she wants to give back. She is organizing a food drive in her neighborhood. We are always glad to see people get back on their feet.



1 – David Lane  
1 – Rayne Stoll  
3 – Steely Hays  
3 – Oliva Dorman  
3 – Bill Bayer  
3 – Lisa Turner  
3—Maddox Gandy  
3—Faith Hopkins  
6 – Marlene Keith  
9 – Elaine Harrelson  
10 – Chris Aynes  
10 – John Moseley  
10 – Layla Pierce  
11 – Chris Owens  
11 – Caden Devlin  
12 – Randy Lampley  
14 – Jerry Dean  
14 – Jaceb Brown  
16 – Allene Whitaker  
17 – Hayden Cleveland  
17 – Donna Nathlar- Shirley  
19 – Joe Brown  
20 – Allan Wight  
20 – Randy Roof  
21 – Tony Aumiller  
21 – Brenda Martin  
24 – Mary Payne  
25 – Bothwell Painter  
25 – Kate Evans  
26 – Sandra Painter  
27 – Varina Alexander  
29 – Betty Jo Grice  
30 – Barbara Anthony

### MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The church is recognizing the teachers of Seaside Elementary School during Teacher Appreciation Week with a Spaghetti Lunch on **Monday, April 24.** If you can help, call the office.

We had a great collection of hygiene items (enough for 80 ziploc bags) for the homeless, socks, and small stuffed animals. The items were shared between Horry County Police, Victim Advocate for Horry County, Community Kitchen, and South Strand Helping Hand. The Community Kitchen feeds a large number of homeless every day and keeps clothing and other items that they need.

### SOUTH STRAND MOBILE MEALS ❖ April 17-21– Van 2 To volunteer contact Esther Holland or Phyllis Melton

Two part-time volunteer van drivers needed to help in the operations of the organization. You can drive one or more times a month. You will be trained. For more information, contact Nick Gennarelli at 843-651-6310 or 843-251-5213 (cell).

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

**WIDOW'S MINISTRY LUNCHEON** is **Sunday, April 23** at Red Lobster. We will meet down front after the service to car pool. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact Pat Hamble 843-748-0163 or 704-460-4056.

**SANCTUARY ANGELS** Women's Ministry is beginning a special area of service for members of our church. We are calling this ministry "Sanctuary Angels". If you can pick up trash from the pews, replace the offering envelopes, sharpen pencils, straighten hymnals, etc. once a month or less, please contact Joan Brewer or the church office. Two people can work together. This is a great ministry for couples!

**GCBC Women's Ministry *UPSCALE* YARD SALE**  
**Saturday, April 1 ❖ 8 am - 2 pm**  
**Garden City Baptist Church Fellowship Hall**  
**8:00 am Donuts & Coffee \$1.50**  
**11:30 am -1 pm Hotdog Lunch \$3**

**Bring your donated items to the Fellowship Hall Thursday & Friday between 10 am – 6 pm.**

### **CIRCLE OF FRIENDS**

by: Yvonne Marcum

Our next meeting is planned for April 18, so ladies mark your calendar so you can join us for the festivities. You just never know what we might do. In our last meeting we colored in Adult Coloring Books and chatted with one and another. Just a relaxing evening of friendship. Thanks to all the ladies that came out to join us.

**BODY GOSPEL** is still going good! You're missing out on some wonderful Fellowship if you haven't joined us. It's free so what have you got to lose.

In Christian Love,

### **AMMONS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

It's time to get an application for the coming school year. Applications are available from the church office and must be returned by **April 16**.

Due to low interest rates, the amount available from the endowment for scholarships is also low. **Please consider donating for scholarships to be used this year.**

### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TRAINING**

**Wednesday, April 5 at 10 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone who works with the children in any capacity is encouraged to attend.  
Lunch provided.

### **REALTOR SUMMER FOOD COLLECTION & SOUTH STRAND HELPING HAND**

Each summer, area real estate companies give information to their renters about the program. When the renters are ready to return home, they have the opportunity to leave any unopened foods at the office as they drop off the key. Church volunteers are needed to collect the food from the real estate offices each Saturday at 11 a.m. for 1-2 hours. A sign-up sheet is available in the side hall.

### **COOKBOOKS AND THE RECIPES OF NEW MEMBERS**

are available for purchase in the Media Library or church office.

Packet of new recipes alone is \$5.  
Cookbook with the new recipes is \$20.  
Sponsored by Women's Ministry.

### **Bible Studies in progress:**

Sunday's Chronological study of the Old Testament 4-6 p.m.

Thursday's Beth Moore - Becoming a Woman After God's Own Heart  
10 a.m.-12 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.

*Happy Easter*

# Varina's

Tim and I want to thank all of you for your prayers and concerns during these past six weeks since my breast cancer diagnosis. This has been an incredible journey – one that no one wants to travel but one that has brought tremendous blessings. We have been blessed with delicious meals and desserts, visits, calls, texts, cards, and flowers. Tim and I were so thankful for the very special couple who were with us during surgery and thanks to our pastor who came to pray with us at the hospital. So many volunteered to shuttle me back and forth to Georgetown for my radiation treatments – thank you. I'm so very thankful for a wonderful Music Ministry team who have filled in during my absence and a choir who has been faithful to serve the Lord. I've been blessed with great doctors who have prayed over me many times. The team who administered the CT scans and radiation were so loving, kind, caring, and compassionate that it was bittersweet for me as I said goodbye to them on the (hopefully) last day. I am thankful for my husband and family who have held my hand, dried my tears, and lifted me up in prayer. I am thankful for a heavenly Father Who knows what the future holds for me and Who shields and protects me. He is my strength and refuge and I am so thankful I have Him in my life. He is the One Who is picking up the pieces, putting me back together again, and Who is my praise (Jeremiah 17:14 The Message).

The scripture that has been so comforting to me is Psalm 91 (NLT): Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. This I declare about the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; He is my God, and I trust Him. For He will rescue you (me) from every trap and protect you (me) from deadly disease. He will cover you (me) with His feathers. He will shelter you (me) with His wings. His faithful promises are your (my) armor and protection. Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night, nor the arrow that flies in the day. Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness, nor the disaster that strikes at midday. Though a thousand fall at your (my) side, though ten thousand are dying around you (me), these evils will not touch you (me). Just open your (my) eyes, and see how the wicked are punished. If you (I) make the LORD your (my) refuge, if you (I) make the Most High your (my) shelter, no evil will conquer you (me); no plague will come near your (my) home. For He will order His angels to protect you (me) wherever you (I) go. They will hold you (me) up with their hands so you (I) won't even hurt your (my) foot on a stone. You (I) will trample upon lions and cobras; you (I) will crush fierce lions and serpents under your (my) feet! The LORD says, "I will rescue those who love Me. I will protect those who trust in My name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue and honor them. I will reward them with a long life and give them my salvation."

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

By: Tim Hutto, Sunday School Director

In mid-January, the Sunday School roll was adjusted to allow for those who no longer attend Garden City to **295**. We have quickly increased our membership to **307**. This is a complement to our teachers who give their time and energy preparing the lesson each Sunday.

Average attendance for the year is **178**. This is down from last church year's **183** but weather affects attendance during the winter.

Recently, Barbara and I toured the Holy Land. On 3-12 the SS quarterly mentioned Jesus sending Peter to catch a fish. (Matthew 17:24-27) When he found there was a coin in the fish's mouth and Jesus told Peter to use it to pay the temple tax.

The fish is a Tilapia, a bottom feeder. In Israel, it is called a St Peter's Fish. It lays eggs and then hatches the young in its mouth. One day at lunch, we had St. Peter's Fish; it was served whole with the eyes still looking at us.

We will share more about our trip later.

Have a blessed day.

## NEW MEMBERS

**WARLICK, Paul & Jean**

## LADIES LUNCHEON

By: Shirley Oesterle

**Friday, April 28** at Gulf Stream Café. The restaurant is opening its door to us for a private luncheon if we have 25 or more ladies. The lunch is \$18.25 which includes tax, tip and beverage. The options will be what is served on the dinner menu but a smaller portion.

If you are interested please sign-up quickly so I can get a head count. Sign-up sheets are on the tables in the front foyer and side hall.

I will have a backup plan if we don't get 25.

# From the Media Messenger...

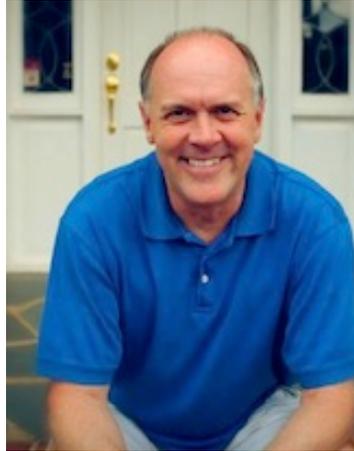
## SOLID GROUND STUDENT MINISTRY

### Robert Whitlow – Author of the Month

Robert Whitlow is one the best-selling Christian authors of legal novels set in the South and winner of the prestigious Christy Award for Contemporary Fiction. A Furman University graduate, Whitlow received his J.D. with honors from the University Of Georgia School Of Law where he served on the staff of the Georgia Law Review. A practicing attorney, Whitlow and his wife, Kathy, have four children. They make their home in North Carolina.

Books by Robert Whitlow in the Garden City Baptist Church Media Center:

The Sacrifice  
Deeper Water  
Life Support  
Everlasting Life  
The Trial  
The List  
The Choice  
Water's Edge  
Higher Hope  
Greater Love  
Life Everlasting  
Mountain Top  
The Confession  
Jimmy



What a busy month we had in the Youth Department! Car wash... Spaghetti lunch..... Wednesday night and Sunday Bible studies..... Everyone is excited about the Dragon boat races in April. Thank you one and all for your generosity in supporting our Youth in their efforts to support Ground Zero. Our church family really came through in so many ways! Mr. Alan Cooper was our hero in putting together the Spaghetti dinner, and all the ladies who baked desserts were wonderful! We really felt the love from ALL OF YOU!

We will be racing at the Dragon boat festival on April 29 at Market Common. Our practice is the evening before at 6pm (a necessity, since we have never done this before). We also have a Discipleship weekend. Of course, there is also Easter coming up, and we look forward to celebrating with our church family. Thank you again for everything you do to support the Youth team! Don't know what we would do without you all!

#### DISCIPLE NOW WEEKEND for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders and Leaders APRIL 7-9

Camp Pinehill, Bennettsville, SC

The weekend will be a FULL weekend of Bible study, learning how to give your testimony, fellowship, evangelism, games, music, and more. The goal is to learn and to share the Gospel.



**The Personnel Committee recommended The Reverend Charlie W. Lanier as Associate Pastor and The Reverend Timothy Laurent as Minister to the Next Generation for Garden City Baptist Church.**

Following the By-Laws the recommendation was announced from the pulpit **March 19, 2017**. There will be a special called church conference after worship service on **April 2 for the election by the membership of Reverend Lanier and on April 9 for the election of Reverend Laurent**. This gives the membership two weeks to give the office an updated/alternate mailing address (and/or email address). Written notice, including an abbreviated resume of the candidates, must be sent to resident members on the Monday preceding the church conference.

.If you need an absentee ballot, please notify the church office. The absentee ballot must be signed, sealed and delivered to the church office two (2) days prior to the election.

Election is by secret ballot after discussion. An affirmative vote of three-fourths (3/4) of those present and voting, absentee ballots included, shall constitute election.

## Here is the latest from the mission fields of eastern Kentucky...

March 2017 - Submitted by Eric Rutherford

March 3rd marked the 3rd Anniversary of the opening of the Lamp House Coffee shop in Lynch, Kentucky. Thank you again to everyone who supports what we are doing here. God continues to use the shop in amazing ways. Earlier this month, one of our regular customers came in seeking baptism! I've always said this shop is our church. In fact we just had a good discussion with "the breakfast club" about the validity of the Bible in today's world from 2 Tim 3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:"



Above/left: Terry "Brother T" Tipton (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) discusses the Bible with "the breakfast club", our morning regulars at Lamp House Coffee. Bro. T is a fellow Meridzo Staffer and the lead Pastor at Meridzo's Community Christian Center (C3).

March means it is time to come out of hibernation for us. We're back to our regular hours; staying open until 5 p.m. (We close at 3 in January and February.) The Portal 31 mine tours across the street are also re-opening for the season. We have already seen a few mission teams and will get more during spring breaks before running wide open this summer.

We just hired two more part-time employees, bringing the number of jobs we've provided to fifteen since we opened 3 years ago; and, another new, ministry-related coffee shop has come to us for some advice. That makes 7 shops in 3 states (3 that are up-and-running and 4 that are in the planning stages) that God has allowed us to help! We can't wait to see what else He brings us to share with y'all this year. Stay tuned!

It is not always easy, but it is always worth it.

-Eric and Sissy

### PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

The present equipment has been outside the Children's Wing since the days of the day care and it is showing its age. **\$25,000 is needed** to update the equipment, provide new ground cover that will absorb falls better, a canopy for shade and associated costs.

**We have already received have \$12,590 towards the goal. Please prayerfully consider what you can contribute and watch the measuring stick on the right side of the stage to check our progress towards the goal.**

The weather is getting so pretty and the children want to be outside.