



“One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:13-14

As we move forward as a church, know that I am committed to serve as I have been serving the past year and a half. I remain committed through thick or thin, for better or for worse, in good times or in bad. I love you all dearly. I'm honored and humbled to serve such a congregation.

I encourage everybody to enjoy peace and harmony, void of church politics and personal preferences. I encourage all of us to intentionally look to the future. Anticipate what God has in store for us this upcoming year. Join with me as we commit to looking forward! Think of the people that will walk through those doors. Think of the people who will be baptized in those waters. Think of the ministry opportunities that we will have together. Think of the truths that God will reveal to our hearts. Today is a new day! This is a new year!

We began January with 253 in worship. There is a sweet spirit of fellowship and joyful worship. John Henderson and I have made several visits to first-time guests. We welcomed Betty Hamilton as a new member. Wednesday Nights have been strong. Thank you to all who volunteer and serve. We have

eleven men that agreed to be deacons if called upon by the church. That is tremendous! Women's Ministry has over forty involved in the Thursday Bible Study. Financially, so far, we remain in the black for 2019. We've had many volunteers step up for the Children's Ministry. Our church has kids that are asking deep questions. Some are on the brink of giving their lives over to Jesus. There is enthusiasm as we near our \$100,000 goal of paying off the land across the street.



Our church is not dead, just like our God is not dead! We are alive and well. We are indeed Blessed!!!

Pastor Charlie

CHURCHWIDE BREAKFAST Next Sunday. Deacons start serving at 8:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship, then at 9:30-9:45 a.m. you're ready for Sunday School. If you don't have a class we can find you one.

From the Media Messenger...

This month's book in review is a children's story. **Garbo the Gorilla and His Adventures in Waterville**, written by Gail Butler Hurst, is a delightful tale about a gorilla who wanted a friend. Unfortunately, everyone in the town was afraid of him because of his size. Eventually, Garbo finds a friend and advocate in a young boy named Thomas. Thomas defends Garbo, making the people in the town realize they had rejected Garbo because of his size and the way he looked.



The author uses her story to teach children an important lesson. Sometimes we are guilty of judging animals and people based on how they look, especially if they are different from us. That is what the people in the town of Waterville did. They were even cruel. All they saw was a large beast and they feared him because he was different. He was kind, good, and friendly. What really matters is what is in one's "heart."

Garbo the Gorilla and His Adventures in Waterville was donated to the GCBC Media Center by Dottie Butler, beloved member of our church. Her niece is the author. Gail Butler Hurst lives in Moncks Corner, South Carolina. She retired in 2012 and is active in her community and church. In 2015 she began writing children's books after being inspired by all the stories she wrote for her grandchildren. This is her second published children's book. It is available through Barnes and Noble.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING is Sunday, February 3. The goal is to use the energy of the Super Bowl to care for people in the local communities who are hungry and those in need. Hunger and poverty have a negative impact on individuals and the communities where they live. All the money donated through Souper Bowl of Caring goes to South Strand Helping Hand. After the worship hour members of the Youth department will be at the doors to receive your donations.

JOY

Fellowship

Meets **Monday, February 11** at noon in the Fellowship Hall for a covered dish luncheon. Fried chicken provided. Please bring \$2 to help with the cost of the chicken. The program is "For the Love of Words" presented by Phyllis Gore, Director of the Media Center.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION (WMU) Meeting is Thursday, February 7 at noon for lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring sandwiches, cornbread, crackers or dessert to go with soup. All women are invited to come and learn about our church and missions.

LADIES LUNCHEON We are going to Tupelo Honey in Market Common on Friday, February 22. We will be leaving the church at 11:30 a.m. Sign-up sheets are in the front foyer and side hall. .

Ladies, if you are interested in going to the **Culinary School** for lunch you need to give Sue Gelman or Shirley Oesterle \$24.00 in an envelope with your name on it. Shirley must have your money **NOW** in order to make reservations.

MOBILE MEALS OF THE SOUTH STRAND – February 18-22. See Esther Holland & Phyllis Melton to volunteer!

Varina's

JOYFUL PRAISE KIDS (Kindergarten-5th grade)

- The children and youth will sing for the residents of NHC on Saturday, February 9. We will meet at the church by 10:45 a.m. and leave no later than 11 a.m. We will eat at Chick-fil-a afterwards. You may pick up your child, at the church, at 1:15 p.m.
- The children have been learning how to use the hymnal. They will sing several of the hymns on Sunday, February 17 during the worship service.
- Rehearsal is every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

CHANCEL CHOIR (High School-Adults)

- Calling all men! We would love for YOU to join the Chancel Choir. Please prayerfully consider!
- We are looking forward to worshipping the Lord with our exciting new music during our worship services. Please pray for the choir as we prepare for each service.
- Rehearsal is every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

PRAISE BAND

- We would love to add a BASS GUITAR and a MALE VOCALIST to the band. If you are interested, please see me for details.
- Praise Band rehearsal is every Monday at 7:00 p.m.

MUSIC COMMITTEE

- Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 6 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 109.



1 – Sara Alexander
2 – Nathan Rutherford
3 – Richard Sapp
7 – Roy Ruff
7 – Donna Dame
8 – Jim Anthony
8 – Jordan Reese
8 – Deena Langston
9 – Parker King
11 – James Walker
13 – Brenda Richardson
14 – Freda Dempsey
14 – Joanne Adams
15 – Brandon Parker
16 – Kayla Thompson
16 – Ray Adams
17 – Stan Jackson
17 – Melissa Reese
17 – Billy Broome
18 – Crawford Walters
18 – Hervey Smith
19 – Jana Thompson
20 – Lorraine Sergeant
20 – Tim Hutto
21 – Shirley Campbell
21 – Ken Whiteaker
22 – Julianna Lanier
22 – Joyce Eblen
22 – David MacDonald
26 – Patty Taverno
28 – Linda Wells
28 – Elaine MacFarlane
28 – Connie Lockaby

PRAYER MINISTRY A group of people meets **each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in Room 117, Prayer Room.** Each session last for about one hour, but come for the amount of time that suits your schedule. Also, there is the freedom to leave a prayer session if a need occurs. We pray out of love and concern for God's people, we pray for anyone who asks with a need. We allow the Holy Spirit to guide us as we pray.

The following questions will guide you if you are interested in becoming a regular member of this prayer ministry:

Do you feel that God is leading you into a prayer ministry?

Do you believe that prayer is important and that God can and does answer prayer?

Do you understand that God answers all our prayers even though the answer may not be the one you desire?

Are you able to keep the information you receive confidential?

To join the group call the church office or come in on a Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

*Happy
Valentine's Day*

CHURCH-WIDE CHRONOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT started in January of 2016 and is still going strong. As a short break at the end of 2018, they started back in January in The book of Judges. The class meets on Sundays from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Room 109 and is led by Tish Walker and Mike Reese. You can join at any time—there is so much to learn!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

WIDOW'S LUNCHEON is **Sunday, February 24** after the morning worship service at Olive Garden Restaurant to celebrate Lorraine Sergeant's birthday. Meet down front in the Sanctuary to carpool. Call Pat Hample for information at 843-748-0163 or 704-460-4056.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS will meet **Tuesday, February 19th** at 7:00pm and we will have someone giving us information about the use of Essential Oils. We have been hearing so much information about the use of oils and I personally would like to learn more about their benefits. Don't feel obligated to purchase anything, but she will give us the information and then we decide if we want to contact her to learn more. Please bring a snack to share with others and come and meet a new friend.

GOSPEL BODY is doing well and I am back to exercising after 5 broken ribs. I would like to thank Sandy Shell for filling in for me while I was recuperating. So come and join us for a walk-in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. Our motto is "Make it your own" so just come and do what you are able to do. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:00am we are there praying for others and then moving. Hope to see you there!

Sister in Christ
Yvonne Marcum

SAVE THESE DATES

ANNUAL

YARD SALE

March 29-30

Start saving your treasures to donate for the sale!

Annual Ladies Banquet
May 3

Any questions... Call Joan Brewer
803-467-4464

← Heart to Heart →
meeting



What is Heart-to-Heart? An opportunity for women in the church to reach out to each other on a one-to-one basis, to develop friendships, and to grow together in Christ. Whether you are new to the church or a long time member, we encourage you to join us.

How does it work?

First: Sign up! (In the foyer or the side hallway)

Second: A participant's questionnaire will be mailed to you.

Third: Attend the meeting--**Wednesday, February 6 at 4:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.** If you need transportation to the meeting let us know.

For information, contact Chris Aynes at 910-988-1665 or Roberta Collins at 843-712-1257.

FEBRUARY 11-12, 2019

KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER **JOY** THE HOPPERS
Retreat

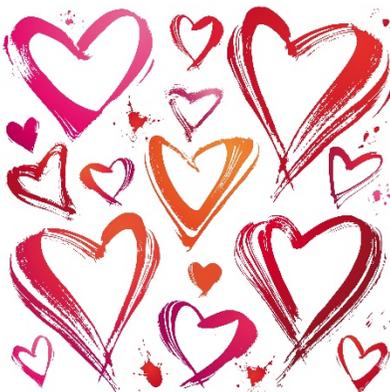
JEFF LABORG DOWN EAST BOYS TIM LOVELACE

2-days 3-sessions ONLY \$39

CROWN REEF RESORT CONFERENCE CENTER
MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
for tickets or reservations call: (843)999-2208

Best pricing! Great speaker lineup! Crown Reef Resort \$85 per night (includes breakfast)

LOVE



WOMEN'S MINISTRY WIDOW'S VALENTINE'S DAY

BRUNCH Celebration of Love for their Husbands

February 14 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. "Even though they are no longer with us, they will always be in our hearts." Food Provided. Bring memorabilia to share (pictures of you and your husband, wedding album, etc.) Special speaker and music planned. Call Pat Hample to sign-up at 843-748-0163 or 704-460-4056.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY MOMS & MORE *"Revive Our Hearts"*

Friday, February 8 in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Food and a craft project will be provided.

Childcare is available, please let Pam know one week in advance at
843-907-3528.

Bring a sweet treat (wrapped and cost no more than \$5) to exchange.

Dear Parents and Grandparents,

On Saturday, **February 9** the children and youth will be passing out Valentine's and singing songs for the residents of NHC HealthCare, Garden City. We will meet at the church at **10:45am** and leave no later than **11:00am**. After our time at NHC, we will enjoy lunch at Chick-fil-a Murrells Inlet. You may pick your child(ren) up at the church at **1:15pm**.

In order for students to ride the bus, the church needs a release form to be returned to the office. Please fill out the attached form and give it to a chaperone by the time of our trip. (If you've submitted one since September 2018, we already have yours on file.)

Please send enough money for your child(ren) to eat lunch. If you would like the adults present to keep the money, please send it in an envelope with the child's name.

Thank you for helping our students share the love of Jesus with our community!

Sincerely,

The Children and Youth Ministry Teams

reasonable efforts will be made to contact me; however, if I cannot be reached, I hereby consent and give permission to this ministry or any adult counselor acting on behalf of this ministry with respect to this activity, as agent for me, to consent to any X-ray examination; injections; anesthesia; medical, dental or surgical diagnosis and treatment; and hospital care and treatment advised and supervised by a physician, surgeon, or dentist licensed under the law of the State where the services are rendered, either as an out patient or in any facility. To the best of my knowledge, I have listed above all of my child's medical allergies, medications being taken, medical problems, and other pertinent information. My child has permission to participate in all prescribed activities except as noted by me.

I hereby release, and forever discharge GARDEN CITY BAPTIST CHURCH, its agents, servants, and all other persons, firms and corporations whomsoever of and from any and all actions, claims and demands, whatsoever which claimant now has or may hereafter have on account of or arising out of any accident, casualty, and/or event which might happen while on the premises of the church or while engaged in any activity of the church on or off the premises. I hereby give permission to Garden City Baptist Church to transport my child to and from any event or church services they will be attending.

I understand that, upon attending a youth/children event, my child's image may be captured with a picture and/or video to be used strictly for promotional purposes. I hereby consent to my child's image being posted online by Garden City Baptist Church (GCBC) and release GCBC from responsibility for any negative consequence that may result from my child having an online presence.

REPORT FROM THE APPALACHIAN MISSION FIELD – Eric & Sissy Rutherford

Well, it appears my life has come full circle. The first two jobs I had as a teenager a hundred years ago were washing dishes and pumping gas. Sissy and I operate Lamp House Coffee as a business outreach ministry where I've washed my share of dishes. (Our staff may disagree.) Now, I find myself "pumping gas" as the Interim Director at Meridzo's Black Mountain Exchange convenience store/gas station ministry. It has been exciting to have the opportunity to look for ways to make the store more effective as both a business and a ministry. This is obviously a much different and more rewarding experience than I had as a teenager (and for a much better cause). I have the opportunity to mentor our one full-time employee, Kenny, who is doing a great job at the store; and, who joined us at church for the first time two weeks ago!

When we opened the coffee shop, we figured God would use it to provide a few jobs and to let us share our testimonies with locals, tourists, and visiting mission teams. We had no idea how widely and dramatically He would use this little shop. We even got to share our mission with Jonathan Scott, one of HGTV's *Property Brothers* (pictured below) and his crew who were in town shooting a documentary about energy.



Over the last four years God has allowed us to work with several Christian coffee shops. To date we've provided more than 30 part-time jobs where there are not a lot of opportunities. We have hosted three summer interns, and also done a number of discipleship studies, including our weekly "Coffee & Jesus" Sunday School class.

We always figured the coffee shop could be a stepping stone, but God has turned it into a launch pad. This past year we have been able to help several recovering addicts we met through the ministry's church's Celebrate Recovery program. As we identify the ones who are ready to rejoin society, we are able to offer them jobs to rebuild a reference. (Most have a pretty sketchy work history and a criminal record.) To the outside world they'd be written off as unemployable, but in God's eyes they are worth restoring and they are proving to be our best workers. (One explained that gratitude is an action word.) Even more exciting to report, last Sunday we baptized six women who accepted Christ while in the program!

Another one of the ladies who completed the program and has been a regular with us in Bible study and church just put an offer in on her first house and Sissy is teaching her to drive as we speak! She recently reported that her boyfriend accepted Christ at another church after seeing how He has turned her life around.

Lamp House Coffee also sponsored a couple of new community events in 2018 including a summer concert series and a gingerbread house contest (pictured above) that benefitted the city's coffers. We are hoping 2019 will be the year we start packaging Lamp House Coffee in K-Cups and that we can start roasting some of our own coffee, which would not only increase profits (that all go back into the community and ministry); but, would also provide a few new jobs. Thank you for your continued prayers, love, and support. We are looking forward to a very busy and exciting year.

In His Love & Service, Eric & Sissy