

The Encourager

Volume 9, Issue 7
July 2024

Until the whole World hears. Matthew 24:14

IF YOUR CHURCH DIDN'T EXIST, WOULD YOUR COMMUNITY NOTICE?



August 3-10, 2024 *Any project. Any day.*

ServeNC is an opportunity for every NC Baptist church to love its community in Jesus' name through service projects.

Local Ideas/ ServeNC

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Children's Projects | Elderly Projects | Construction Projects |
| Economic Needs Projects | Sports Projects | Community Ministry Projects |
| Health Care Projects | | Servant Evangelism Projects |

For more ideas for your church, go to:

<https://baptistsonmission.org/local-ideas-servenc>

Mt. Zion Baptist Association 2024

SENIOR ADULT BANQUET

**REGISTRATION BEGINS SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND
AND ENDS MONDAY, JULY 22ND
COST \$7 PER PERSON**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8TH

6:30PM - 8:30PM

With Special Guest

*Denise Wilson
Christian Comedian*

We'd like to introduce you to Denise Wilson. Denise is retired from the Randolph County DSS where she worked in Adult Medicaid for 9 years. Prior to that she worked for 23 years with the Randolph County Schools in Migrant Education.

Denise is married to Stevie and she attends Oakwood Park Baptist where she is the pianist. She has 2 children and 4 grandchildren and enjoys spending time with her family. Her interests include music and art.

She recently started her new ministry, "Share a Smile" after she was asked to sing at a local nursing home. She has combined her love of laughter and music and created stories of a mischievous little girl, Edith Ann. Her mission is to inspire smiles through the love of Jesus.



Event Location:

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH * 3572 W. GREENSBORO-CHAPEL HILL ROAD * LIBERTY, NC 27298

Mt. Zion Baptist Association

Our Mission

Mt. Zion Baptist Association exists to Engage, Equip, and Empower our churches to fulfill the Great Commission

Who We Are

We are an association of 40 churches that willingly cooperate together to further the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We have several churches that are looking to join us as well.

Mobilizing our resources as an Association, we are able to partner with our churches and join them as they endeavor to carry out their God given mission.

We strongly believe that each church, regardless of size or demographics, is a vital AND active part of the Great Commission.

Engaging

- We engage our churches by communicating with their pastors and members through various training and events meant to enrich the life of their church.
- We can help a church assess where they are as a church and work together planning for church growth.
- We publish an electronic newsletter (E- Newsletter), "The Encourager", that is easily accessible on your computer.
- Up-to-date website.
- We encourage churches of various sizes to work together and share resources that impact kingdom ministry
- We seek to provide motivation and support to pastors and churches.

Equipping

We equip our churches by providing excellent resources and opportunities that enhance their leadership and existing ministries.

- Church Revitalization Seminars
- Small Group Workshops for all ages
- Elder/Deacon Training
- "Strengthening the Family" Seminars
- RightNow Media - Online library of Biblical Resources
- VBS/Backyard Bible Club Clinics
- Safety and Security Seminars
- Minister's Banquet
- Yearly Associational Meeting
- Church Grant Program
- Roy P. Taylor Scholarship Fund for students in Pastoral Ministry
- Lunch and Learn Series for Older Adults. We provide lunch, and speakers to engage and inform our Senior Adults. Topics include:
 - NCBAM - Money Saving techniques, Physical Wellness, Medicare & SSI enrollment, Fall prevention, etc.
 - Alamance County Sheriff - Home Safety
 - NC Dept of Justice - Scams & Fraud
 - Alzheimer's Association - Dementia and Alzheimer's
 - Pharmacists - Medication Safety
 - ...and more!
- Ministers Monthly Gatherings - Our Monthly Pastor Gatherings have increased from approx. 12 participants, to over 30 in the past 5 years. (cont'd)

Here are a few of the speakers/topics that have been provided through the association.

- NCBSC - NC Serve, Fill the Tank, and more
- Guidestone - Retention Credit, Church Financials
- Provision (Formerly NC Baptist Foundation) - Info for church loans, and church investing
- Missionaries
- Baptist Children's Home Fostering Program
- Baptist Retirement Homes - Retirement
- Pastor Renewal opportunities
- ...and more!

Empowering

We empower our churches by providing resources that assist them in reaching beyond their four walls; that is, to extend the reach of God's mission throughout their respective communities. Here are the wonderful amenities that are readily available to our churches upon request at no charge:

- C.A.T. or Church Activities Trailer – Customizable to your needs. It includes these items:
 - 6'x12' Trailer
 - Tables and chairs
 - Quest Instant Canopy
- Projector and Screen - Available for doing presentations, or for a church movie night.
- Lending Library - There is a wide assortment of Bible Studies and musicals for all ages.

I'm thankful for the training events, pastors' gatherings, and ministry events that have occurred over the past year. We have worked with various churches in the area of Revitalization, and led pastor search committees or team trainings, while also providing informative statistics about their surrounding populations through Demographic Research reports. We have also provided small group leader training, A Freedom in Christ study, D life discipleship training, Pastor Cohort groups, and Pastor Round Table meetings. We have obtained informational and motivational speakers to equip and share other ministry ideas at our monthly Pastor's Gatherings. We have participated in several ministry initiatives, such as the Baptist Children's Home Food Round Up, Coats for the City, building wheelchair ramps, and a VBS clinic. We have also hosted an Appreciation Dinner for our Ministry Assistants, a Minister & Wives Christmas Banquet, many Sr. Adult lunch and learn programs, as well as a yearly Sr. Adult Banquet for all association seniors. We recently had a dinner for our Minister's Wives, and are excited about beginning our new Minister's Wives Ministry to engage and support these women throughout the year.

It is exciting that we as an association of churches, along with the Baptist State Convention, and the North American Mission Board have assisted Glen Hope Baptist Church in establishing a Hispanic church plant.

We are also working with two churches with the State Convention to merge with two other churches to have churches that are healthy and vibrant.

The key to viewing faith and works is that true good works do not come from us, it comes from God alone. If we have trusted in Christ, we bear His image and carry His Spirit, and that enables us to do any good works. When Christ transforms us, our good deeds become God's good work through us by His Spirit. God's grace and love transforms our hearts and drives us to be vessels of that same grace and love toward others. (from July Mission Mosaic magazine, page 23)

WE STILL NEED YOU!!!! PLEASE JOIN US!!!!

WMU Leadership Team OPEN POSITIONS – We'd love to have you join us and share your ideas and expertise in planning events. If you are interested in knowing more about these opportunities, please contact Pat Parks at jwprii@att.net or Cindy Atkins at cowboyrex99@gmail.com.

Assistant Director (1 position open)

This position helps prepare for potentially becoming WMU Director as well as assisting the current Director.

Missions Involvement Team Co-Consultant (2 positions open, part of 4-person team)

This team plans the WMU events held during the year – theme, speaker, location, etc.

Upcoming

Tuesday, September 17, Picnic for the Hearing Impaired will be held at Riverside Baptist Church, 1568 E Harden Street, Graham. 5:30 registration, 6:00 meal and program.

Thursday, October 24, Red Box Ministry due date – the Association churches are asked to provide 500 packs of chewing gum – 5 sticks of gum per pack, at least 35 packs per church. Bring to the Association office, 2744 Ramada Road, Burlington.

Saturday, November 2, Appalachian Backpack Ministry. Bring filled backpacks to the First Baptist Church of Burlington, 400 S Broad Street. Details to be provided closer to the date.

Monday, November 4, Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer will be held at Eastlawn Baptist Church, 432 N Sellars Mill Road, Burlington. Program begins at 7:00 p.m.

Ongoing

BINGO volunteers are needed! The WMU hosts Bingo each month as listed below; some attendees have a type of disability. Prizes and refreshments are always needed, take them to the Association office. Contact Pat Parks to let her know you can help - jwprii@att.net.

Ralph Scott Residents, 3rd Thurs. monthly - Holly Hill Baptist Church, 2818 Edgewood Av, Burlington, 6:00 pm for about an hour. Refreshments are provided by the Association churches. 20-40 attendees.

John Robert Kernodle Sr. Center, 4th Tuesday monthly - 1535 South Mebane Street, Burlington, 1:00 pm, volunteers arrive at 12:15 pm to set up. No refreshments. 45-50 attendees.

Oak Creek Retirement Community, 1st Thursday & 3rd Monday, 343 Baldwin Road, Burlington, 3:00 pm, volunteers arrive at 2:15 pm to set up. No refreshments. 20 attendees.



Monday, July 8th
from 10am - 11:30am with lunch to follow

Westside Fellowship
1651 Highway 87N, Elon

Speaker: Larry Lamberth

We need a headcount by Friday, July 5th so that lunch can be ordered.
Contact Garry at ggates@mtzionassociation.com

2024 Mount Zion Association Calendar

Pastors Gathering

2nd Monday of each month

Senior Adult Banquet - Mt. Zion Baptist

6:30 – 8:30pm August 8th

MZBA ANNUAL MEETING - Crosslink Community Church **October 21st**

Senior Adult Lunch and Learn

11:00 am – 1:00pm

November 7th - Graham First Baptist

"Dollar Days" - Learn how to stretch yours!

Austin Decker, NCBAM

Please Note. The dates and times of the 2024 proposed calendar are subject to change based on future availabilities of venues and speakers. MZBA reserves the right to cancel or reschedule any event due to low enrollment.

Other Events with NC Baptists

July 11-13 **Worship Leadership Training**
Charity Rebuild Center, Rose Hill, NC

Jul 8-10 **NC Baptist Minister's Wives Retreat**
Caraway Conference Center

For more information on these events and more, visit: <https://ncbaptist.org/events/>

Mt. Zion Baptist Association
P.O. Box 1005
Burlington, NC 27216



Garry Gates
Associational Missions Strategist

Sandi King
Office Administrator

OFFICE HOURS
M - TH
9AM - 2PM
336.226.0249

Physical Location
2744 Ramada Road
Burlington, NC 27215

Visit Us On the Web and on Facebook!



www.mtzionassociation.com



<https://www.facebook.com/MtZionAssociation/>

Arms of Grace Pregnancy
Resource Center is a
Christian non-profit
here in Alamance County.
Their goal is to educate,
encourage, and empower
individuals through their journey of parenthood.



They are in need of partners, donors, and volunteers. This could be a great ministry outreach for your church! Here are some of the ministry opportunities that you and/or your church could partner with them to help those in your surrounding communities!

- Embrace Grace
- Baby Bottle Drive
- Baby Shower
- Mentorship Program
- Sexual Integrity Program for Youth
- Miscarriage / Abortion Recovery
- Group Projects for center
- Quarterly Pastor led devotions for center staff and board members

You can reach their office at 336-438-1500 or email:
info@thearmsofgrace.org.

You can also visit their website at www.thearmsofgrace.org.



D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Integrity Church
Burlington, North Carolina

Saturday, October 5
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
(Light Breakfast at 8:30 AM)

REGISTER
NOW
\$15 PER
PERSON



Dr. Bill & Rondie Wilks, D-Life Trainers

Join us in training for a lifestyle of disciple-making.