



# Laurens Baptist Association

Equipping Churches To Reach

## “Laurens Island”

Churches Working Together For HIS Kingdom, By HIS Power, For HIS Glory

# LBA NEWS

September/ October 2024

www.laurensisland.org

Volume 55 Issue 5

**Laurens Baptist Association Office Closed**

For Labor Day



## Executive Board Meeting

September 23

11:00 am

LBA Conference Room

All pastors plus 1 representative from each church are invited and encouraged to attend. There will be a report from the Disciple's Trail ad hoc committee.



Pastor's Retreat

Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2024

at Camp McCall

Cost : \$30 w/ golf

\$10 w/o golf

Join us for a time of fellowship and rest. There is much to do including golf, disc golf nearby, hiking, fishing, etc. You will need to let us know if you plan to play golf as reservations are required for this.

Contact Reiny for more information.



Let your pastor know how much you appreciate him. Look for ways to express that appreciation to him and his family.

# Annual Meeting

As we celebrate newly renovated buildings at Disciple's Trail.

## at Disciples Trail

“Generational Gospel Impact”

Tuesday, October 22

(Please note date change)

Speaker: Seth Buckley,  
Fire Pit Ranch

6:45 pm - Pre-session Music

7:00 pm - Meeting begins

The Disciple's Trail Ad Hoc Committee will be making a recommendation regarding the future.

### ABC'S OF BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

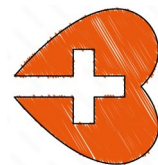
**A—Admit** to God you are a sinner. Repent and turn away from your sin. (Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19)

**B—Believe** that Jesus is God's Son and that God sent Jesus to save people from their sin. (Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:16)

**C—Commit** your life to Jesus. Trust Him to be your Savior and Lord. (Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)



Season of Prayer for SC State Missions  
& Janie Chapman Offering  
September 8-15, 2024



If this is addressed incorrectly, please call to let us know.

NEWSLETTER  
Laurens Baptist Association  
Post Office Box 745  
Laurens, SC 29360  
(864) 984-0123

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Laurens, SC 29360  
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### CHURCH NEWS

**Bethabara** will be having Revival September 15th-20th at 6 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. They will also be celebrating Homecoming on October 6th during their 11 am service. It will be their 230th Anniversary.

**Friendship** Pastor Caleb and wife, Sydney welcomed a baby boy, Andy Levi.

**New Prospect** is seeking a part-time (20 Hours a week) Ministry Assistant. The job will involve being the first contact during the week with members and the community. The ideal candidate will possess excellent computer skills, proficiency in creating bulletins and PowerPoint presentations, and the ability to do financial bookkeeping and pay bills. Send resume to New Prospect Baptist Church 4996 Hwy 221 S, Laurens SC 29360.

**Fairview Baptist, Kinards**, is seeking a part-time youth minister. Contact Pastor Sam Cox at 731-609-4161.

### Event Dates for September and October 2024

- Sept 8-15 Season of Prayer for State Missions
- Sept 05 Ministers' Conference at 10:30 am
- Sept 09 Combined Hogfest at 6:45 pm
- Sept 26 Connie Maxwell Items due to LBA Office
- Oct 01 Trustee /Budget/Nominating and Team Leader Reports due to the LBA office
- Oct 17 Money Due for "Joy" Bags



## 2024 Disaster Relief Training

October 12th

First Baptist, Spartanburg

Registration forms are available at the LBA Mission Center or you can visit [www.scbaptist.org/dr](http://www.scbaptist.org/dr)

### Pastor's Wives Dinner & Fellowship

September 17th

6:30 pm

at Tacos Blah Blah

Dinner will be provided.

### Associational Staff

#### Associational Missionary

Reiny Koschel

#### Crisis Center Director

Kay Leagans

#### Administrative Assistant

Crystal Goforth

#### Financial Secretary

Lory Satterfield

#### MISSION CENTER HOURS

Monday-Thursday

8:30 am-4:30 pm

Lunch hour 12:30pm-1:30pm

### Annual Church Profiles

Due October 7, 2024

Website for reports:

<https://www.sbcworkspace.com>

You will need your SBC ID with Username and Password that you may obtain from the LBA office. ACP Profile and the supplemental survey need to be completed and submitted by 10/7/2024. The Church Leadership Report is an open report and can be updated as needed.

If you need any help, we will be glad to assist.

**“Open House”**

I have only purchased a couple of houses in my lifetime and have only had to sell one (and that was trying enough). Those of you who were around when I came to serve here in Laurens might remember that it took me about 3 ½ years to sell my house in Abbeville. I can’t tell you how many times we had to “show” our house in hopes that we could secure a buyer and move this way. “Showing” a house doesn’t in itself sound that taxing, except when you add a working couple, three kids, and a dog. Like most of you (I’d guess), keeping a house in “show” condition in real life can be a daunting challenge. You see, there is the thing called “life” that tends to put a kink in keeping a house ready to show at a moment’s notice.

People would parade through our house looking at every detail and would make a determination as to why or how it didn’t quite work for them. For those that really wanted to purchase the house, they seemed to have their own challenges in finalizing the purchase. Finally, God worked it out to connect someone who liked the house and had the money to make it happen. That was a good day for our entire family. Anyway, I am so glad that we got through that process and were able to get moved to Laurens County. I don’t plan to go anywhere anytime soon (read never). Hopefully, my days of staging for an open house are over.

As I was thinking about all of this, I started thinking about how houses have some similarities to our lives. You see, it is human nature to want for others to see us at our best “show” condition. The problem is that we know our own hearts, along with our weaknesses and our tendency toward sin. Like the old hymn says, “Prone to wander Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the one I love.” As a result, what can happen is that in our desire to be seen all cleaned up and looking good, we can begin to lean toward fakeness. Much like the children’s toys that we masterfully stuffed in the closet obstructed from view during some of our house “showings,” our cluttered lives can become nothing more than a carefully orchestrated façade. Many of us have disappointments, heart-ache, failures, and more that we too often want to pretend are not a part of life’s situation. We hope that others will not see through it all and see the real us. We may think that if people really knew what we were struggling with, that they may choose not befriend us. Since those fears are often warranted, it oftentimes seems easier to cover up rather than risk transparency. However, the truth is that we all broken people, scarred by our own sin and the sinful world we live in.

Here is the wonderful truth about the gospel of Jesus Christ. We don’t have to pretend that we are not broken ourselves, but we can choose to acknowledge it, repent of it, trust Jesus with it and allow Him to make a mosaic from our broken pieces. That is amazing grace! It always amazes me the way that messed up and broken people were drawn to Jesus, all while the religious elites (Pharisees) were repulsed by “those people.” It’s not that Jesus overlooked people’s brokenness and sin, but that He came to heal and forgive it. Too often, I fear we as church folks resemble those religious elites more than we do our Savior. The sooner we become more grateful about what Christ has done and is doing in us than we are about what people think of us, the sooner we will begin to have a gospel impact in our County and world. So, let’s choose to have an “open house” of our lives gratefully displaying what Christ has done by His grace, while proclaiming the amazing truth that He can do it for the other broken, sinful people as well!

All this “open house” talk makes me begin thinking about that the renovation at our Disciple’s trail property (the main building and shelter) is nearing completion. You will be amazed at how it looks, if you hadn’t been down to the property for some years. So, in order to facilitate the folks from our churches having an opportunity to see the property, we plan to have an “open house” (of sorts) by having our Associational annual meeting at the Disciple’s Trail Retreat Center this year. The date for our meeting will be October 22nd at 6:45 pm (note the date change as it had been previously set for the week earlier). This will be an opportunity to not only come and gather for our annual meeting, but also to celebrate where we’ve come with OUR property and hear from the ad hoc committee about where we plan to go. We have some spit shining to do before then, but Lord willing it will be ready to “show” when we gather together on October 22nd.

	Jun-July 2024	Thru 7/31/24	Thru 7/31/23
*Bar None Cowboy	0.00	295.95	351.71
Beaverdam	375.00	750.00	750.00
Bellview	3,994.00	11,853.04	9,813.09
Bethabara	0.00	150.00	350.00
Bethel	0.00	0.00	0.00
Beulah	1,488.29	5,840.93	4,727.57
Calvary	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cedarwood	1,035.04	3,813.05	3,504.68
Chestnut Ridge	3,731.24	20,113.61	18,570.05
Clinton First	500.00	3,000.00	3,500.00
Community	300.00	1,800.00	2,100.00
Cornerstone	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cross Hill First	750.00	2,307.00	2,143.00
Davidson Street	446.80	2,747.59	2,509.62
Durbin Creek	121.65	881.71	1,058.87
Eastside	333.34	1,166.69	1,166.69
Friendship	1,524.27	3,062.58	4,054.22
Gray Court First	0.00	200.00	200.00
Harmony	219.00	754.60	620.97
Henderson	629.71	1,982.98	1,947.57
Highland Home	375.00	750.00	1,000.00
Holly Grove	168.00	2,094.00	965.00
Hurricane	167.00	791.72	982.63
Joanna First	400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
Lanford	250.00	875.00	875.00
Laurens First	3,391.74	14,198.69	14,046.80
Laurens Second	100.00	774.46	404.21
Lucas Avenue	502.36	2,244.13	2,748.02
Mountville	1,337.76	3,350.29	2,860.28
Mt. Gallagher	300.00	1,800.00	2,300.00
Mt. Olive	200.00	700.00	700.00
Mt. Pleasant	0.00	53.36	147.08
New Beginning	60.00	230.00	255.00
New Prospect	389.18	1,671.44	1,615.63
Northside	100.00	350.00	350.00
Pine Grove	640.33	2,642.72	1,935.71
Pleasant Grove	898.75	3,007.05	3,101.87
Poplar Springs	200.00	700.00	499.98
Princeton	237.94	1,123.23	1,197.52
Rabun Creek	454.29	1,657.08	1,389.44
Rosemont	992.00	3,683.00	3,208.00
Union	1,265.40	4,151.02	2,954.34
Upstate Gathering	0.00	144.69	1,545.90
Warrior Creek	1,143.66	1,143.66	2,411.27
Waterloo	171.00	567.00	210.00
Wayside	106.74	354.18	571.60
Welcome	278.44	1,280.16	1,031.24
TOTAL	29,578.02	112,456.37	108,074.56

Thank you for supporting Associational Missions by giving at least 3% of your undesignated offerings.  
\* Other Church Starts

**CRISIS CENTER**

**Hours of Operation**

Tuesday & Thursday  
9:00 am - 11:30 am

**September Schedule**

Tuesday, September 03 - Beaverdam  
Thursday, September 05 - Holly Grove  
Tuesday, September 10 - Bellview  
Thursday, September 12 - Union  
Tuesday, September 17 - Clinton First  
Thursday, September 19 - Martha Franks  
Tuesday, September 24 - Laurens Second  
Thursday, September 26 - Cornerstone

**October Schedule**

Tuesday, October 01 - St. James  
Thursday, October 03 - Henderson  
Tuesday, October 08 - Upstate  
Thursday, October 10 - New Prospect  
Tuesday, October 15 - Laurens First  
Thursday, October 17 - Martha Franks  
Tuesday, October 22 - Welcome  
Thursday, October 24 - Warrior Creek  
Tuesday, October 29 - Friendship  
Thursday, October 31 - Chestnut Ridge

**If your church cannot provide at least 3 volunteers, call Kay at 984-0123**

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**Crisis Center Needs for September**

Flour, Cornmeal, Baking Mix, Jiffy Mix

**Crisis Center Needs for October**

Canned Beans, Coffee, Tea

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**HomeLife, Mature Living, & Devotionals are always needed.**

The Crisis Center is in need of plastic grocery bags. If anyone would like to go grocery shopping on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, please call Kay at 864-981-1084. Volunteers are needed on Wednesday morning from 10-11:30 am to stock shelves.



**Items Need for Connie Maxwell - Due at LBA by September 26th**

**Dinner/Lunch Napkins:** Beaverdam, Bellview, Bethabara, Bethel  
**Bath Soap / Body Wash:** Beulah, Calvary, Cedarwood, Chestnut Ridge  
**Dish Detergent:** Clinton First, Community, Cross Hill First, Davidson Street  
**Facial Tissue:** Durbin Creek, Eastside, Friendship  
**Shampoo:** Gray Court First, Harmony, Henderson, Highland Home  
**Conditioner:** Holly Grove, Hurricane, Joanna First  
**Toothpaste:** Lanford, Laurens First, Laurens Second  
**Toothbrushes:** Lucas Avenue, Mount Gallagher, Mount Olive, Mount Pleasant  
**Deodorant:** Mountville, New Beginning, New Prospect, Northside  
**Bathroom Tissue:** Pine Grove, Pleasant Grove, Poplar Springs, Princeton  
**Paper Plates:** Rabun Creek, Rosemont, Union, Upstate Gathering  
**Paper Towels:** Warrior Creek, Waterloo, Wayside, Welcome



**Clemson/Carolina CHALLENGE**

**Clemson Fans - collect jelly**

**Carolina Fans - collect peanut butter**

Bring the peanut butter and jelly to the Crisis Center  
by December 4, 2024

**“JOY” JESUS, ORPHANS & YOU**

“JOY” Boxes are sent to Kentucky and Mexico  
“JOY” Bags go to Ukraine and Guatemala

Each box should contain a toothbrush, toothpaste, comb/brush, socks, gloves, knit hat, scarf, crayons, coloring book, pencils/pens, toy, hard candy (in zip lock bag), & chewing gum.

**Please include \$7 per “JOY” Box to cover shipping or for a “JOY” bag**  
A Gospel tract will be included in every box in the native language

Donations are also accepted.

Make checks payable to: The Master’s Mission  
Deadline for “JOY” Bags– **October 17th**  
Deadline for “JOY” Boxes: **November 4th**

**2024 PRISON PACKET LIST FOR D J J**

1 Toothpaste (4 to 6 oz)  
1 Adult Toothbrush (factory sealed)  
1 Bar Of Soap (3.2 to 6 oz)  
1 Writing Tablet (40 to 50 pages) (5” x 8” Mini-Legal Pad)  
(No Wire Bound or Composition Notebooks or Post-it Notes)  
NO PENS FOR DJJ  
3 Stamp-Embossed #10 Envelopes from US Post Office  
2 Rolls of Candy (Lifesavers, Tic-tac’s, Starburst)

PLACE ALL ABOVE ITEMS IN A ONE GALLON ZIPLOC BAG  
ALL PACKETS DUE BY NOVEMBER 14, 2024

**Goal: 500**