

CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER



Equipping Churches to Reach "Laurens Island"

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

LBA NEWS

For HIS Kingdom, By HIS Power, For HIS Glory

September/October 2026

www.laurensisland.org

Volume 57 Issue 5

LBA Mission Center will be closed September 7th for Labor Day.

Laurens/Lakelands HOGFEST

JOIN US
FOR A
MEN'S
NIGHT



BAKED
BEANS

PULLED
PORK

Special Speaker: Dr. Carl Martin

Missions Strategist and on '81 Clemson National Championship team

SEPTEMBER 14th, 6:45 P.M

Disciple's Trail Retreat Center
Waterloo, SC

**Bring a Lawn Chair, a
Friend, and an Appetite**

COLE
SLAW

DESERT
PUDDING

This is a FREE event, but there will be a donation basket available to help cover the cost of the meal. For more information call 984-0123

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LBA MISSION CENTER
30 Ranch Rd, Laurens

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

(NOTE DATE CHANGE)

11:00 AM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE
PASTORS & 1 ELECTED LAY MEMBER
FROM EACH MEMBER CHURCH



www.laurensisland.org

864-984-0123



Laurens Baptist Association

Annual Meeting

20 October 2026

6:45 pm
Pre-Session Music
7:00 pm
Session begins

Wayside Baptist Church
1517 W. Main Street
Laurens, SC 29360

www.laurensisland.org

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For HIS Kingdom, By HIS Power, For HIS Glory



LAURENS BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

DEACON TRAINING

**A Deacon on Purpose: Four Biblical
Essentials book for every attendee**

Please let us know how many from each church will be attending to ensure enough books are purchased.

DETAIL INFORMATION

3 OCTOBER 2026

8:00 AM - Coffee Fellowship
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Training
12:00 PM - Debriefing Lunch Provided

LOCATION

Cedarwood Community
Baptist Church
17419 Highway 72 W
Waterloo, SC 29384



SCBC Executive Director-Treasurer
DR. TONY WOLFE

“Healthy Self-Awareness”

Having honest self-awareness is a really helpful trait to possess. I think all of us, at times, hope that we are something more (or less) than we really are. I don’t mean in a manipulative, Machiavellian kind of way, but rather in a way in which we hope people assume the best about us instead of assuming less. For some of us, it may be our accent or pronunciation of particular words that gives one impression or another. For others, it may be our vocabulary, or lack thereof, that causes people to assume something about us. Whatever the case, we all have a certain persona that shows through in our actions, attitudes, and speech and reveals certain characteristics about us.

I was watching a video recently of a commencement speaker at Clemson. If I remember correctly, it was a postgraduate commencement service for those receiving advanced degrees. Anyway, the speaker had a very distinct Southern drawl and played to it in his remarks. Most might have assumed, myself included, that he was some country boy who made good and was asked to speak because he had made it big. But as he continued to joke about his drawl, he let the audience know that he, too, had received a doctorate from Clemson sometime in the past. While one might have been led to assume that he was an uneducated hillbilly type, the truth was that he was a member of the educational elite - holding an advanced degree that only a few obtain.

Sometimes looks can be very deceiving, but for most of us, what people see is what they get. Most are not hiding great wealth, education, or remarkable accomplishments. We are who we are. Some of us may have a hard time with that reality, but that brings us back to this idea of self-awareness: knowing who you are, where you have come from, and understanding that we are all, in great part, the sum of our many life experiences. Those common life experiences are often the very things that bring people together and provide a foundation for real relationships.

Years ago, I was at a demographic training where the presenter shared a barrage of statistical data about different demographic groups of people. As he applied this information to the church, he made the statement that, for the most part, churches will only be able to effectively reach the two demographic groups on either side of the group to which they themselves belong. In other words, he was saying that, for the most part, we are able to reach those who are much like us. Now, he wasn’t saying that we shouldn’t try to reach everyone. Instead, he was saying that we most effectively reach people like ourselves

This is one reason why we need a diversity of churches. The greater the diversity in our churches, the more effectively we will be able to reach an increasingly diverse culture. We need different types of churches in order to reach all kinds of people. I say that because sometimes we may be tempted to look across the associational horizon and see a church that may be made up of a different demographic, has a different style of music, or does things a bit differently than we do. Instead of being tempted to look down on them, we can choose to be grateful that they are able to reach those whom we may not.

I’m reminded of Jesus’ story in Luke 18, where a Pharisee and a tax collector go to the temple to pray. The Pharisee prays, thanking God that he is not like those other sinners, and then proceeds to remind God of his virtues, at least as he perceives them. Meanwhile, the tax collector is completely self-aware of who he is and begs God for mercy. The story concludes that only one went home justified: the self-aware tax collector. Seeing ourselves as God sees us will lead us to fall at His feet and will help us see value in others, no matter how different they may be from us.

Reiny

	Jul-Aug 2026	YTD Aug 2026	YTD Aug 2025
*Bar None Cowboy	146.67	146.67	121.95
Beaverdam	375.00	750.00	750.00
Bellview	3,857.17	14,810.97	14,583.20
Bethabara	-	100.00	-
Bethel	-	-	-
Beulah	1526.66	5,757.81	5,590.42
Cedarwood	1,628.88	3,962.08	3,081.21
Chestnut Ridge	6,166.66	21,583.31	32,947.36
Clinton First	1000.00	3,500.00	-
Community	900.00	2,100.00	2,100.00
Cross Hill First	1353.00	2,812.00	2,417.00
Davidson Street	-	1,362.10	2,923.03
Durbin Creek	285.41	950.52	968.06
Eastside	333.34	1,166.69	1,166.69
Fairview	534.40	1,870.40	250.00
Friendship	1250.00	3,750.00	1,139.49
Gray Court First	-	200.00	200.00
Harmony	198.24	662.55	1,207.95
Henderson	587.27	2,444.47	2,187.05
Highland Home	-	375.00	750.00
Holly Grove	1,186.84	3,982.84	2,613.00
Hurricane	385.26	1,110.99	1,068.92
Joanna First	200.00	700.00	700.00
Lanford	250.00	900.00	875.00
Laurens First	3,114.97	11,790.31	10,343.11
Laurens Second	-	-	445.15
Lucas Avenue	583.34	1,750.02	2,310.92
Mt. Gallagher	600.00	2,100.00	2,700.00
Mt. Olive	200.00	700.00	700.00
Mt. Pleasant	-	-	-
Mountville	835.54	2,024.47	1,981.05
New Beginning	90.00	210.00	210.00
New Prospect	333.32	1,510.89	1,492.83
Northside	100.00	350.00	350.00
Pine Grove	924.39	2,731.69	2,258.56
Pleasant Grove	989.22	3,238.70	3,311.59
Poplar Springs	200.00	700.00	700.00
Princeton	164.44	1,244.60	1,330.11
Rabun Creek	427.29	1,788.06	1,372.56
Rosemont	975.00	3,232.00	3,345.00
Union	415.90	1,299.50	2,074.47
Upstate Church	-	-	2,000.00
Warrior Creek	701.16	701.16	1,166.63
Wayside	44.55	255.78	414.12
Welcome	305.52	996.36	1,013.18
TOTAL	32,643.44	111,651.94	117,159.61
Thank you for supporting Associational Missions by giving at least 3% of your undesignated offerings. * Other Church Starts			

Connie Maxwell Children's Home

CRISIS CENTER

Hours of Operation

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00 am - 11:30 am

September Schedule

Tuesday, 1 - New Beginning

Thursday, 3 - Beaverdam

Tuesday, 8 - Clinton First

Thursday, 10 - Union

Tuesday, 15 - Northside

Thursday, 17 - Martha Franks

Tuesday, 22 - Warrior Creek

Thursday, 24 - Upstate Church

Tuesday, 29 - Laurens First

October Schedule

Thursday, 1 - St. James

Tuesday, 6 - Welcome

Thursday, 8 - New Prospect

**Tuesday, 13 - Bethel/Davidson
St.**

Thursday, 15 - Marta Franks

Tuesday, 20 - Pine Grove

Thursday, 22 - Mountville

Tuesday, 27 - Friendship

Thursday, 29 - Chestnut Ridge

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

September Needs

**Flour, Cornmeal, Baking Mix, Jiffy
Mix**

October Needs

Canned beans, Coffee, Tea

**HomeLife, Mature Living,
and Devotionals are
desperately needed**

**Be a Blessing to local children in need!
Collect your assigned item and bring to LBA
Mission Center by September 10.**

Paper Plates - Beaverdam, Bellview, Bethabara, Bethel

Paper Towels - Beulah, Cedarwood, Chestnut Ridge

Liquid Hand Soap - Clinton 1st, Community, Cross Hill 1st, Davidson St

Body Wash - Durbin Creek, Eastside, Fairview, Friendship

Dryer Sheets - Gray Court 1st, Harmony, Henderson, Highland Home

Facial Tissue - Holly Grove, Hurricane, Joanna 1st

Shampoo - Lanford, Laurens 1st, Laurens Second

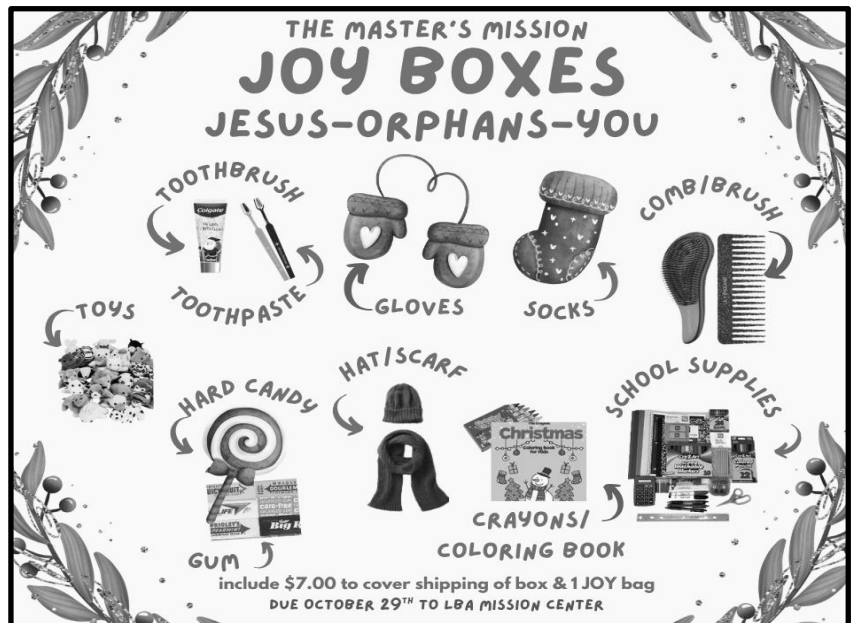
Conditioner - Lucas Ave., Mt. Gallagher, Mt. Olive, Mt. Pleasant

Toothpaste - Mountville, New Beginning, New Prospect, Northside

Toothbrush - Pine Grove, Pleasant Grove, Poplar Springs, Princeton

Deodorant - Rabun Creek, Rosemont, Union, Upstate Church

Bathroom Tissue - Warrior Creek, Wayside, Welcome



DJJ Packets

2026 SCDC

Approved List

NOTE:

Specific items have been
requested to prevent conflict
among inmates

- 1 - Pair White low-socks
 - 1 - Travel-size deodorant
 - 1 - Travel-size lotion
 - 1 - Travel-size bodywash (unscented)
 - 1 - Standard deck of playing cards
 - 1 - Crossword puzzle book
 - 1 - Black & white composition book
 - 2 - First-class #10 Stamp-embossed envelopes
- Place all items in a gallon-size Ziplock Bag
DO NOT include any other items



Due to LBA Mission Center by Nov. 17th

Packets will be delivered to Columbia on Dec. 8th - Volunteers needed

Church News

Cross Hill First will celebrate their 147th Homecoming on October 11th with The Rankin Family singing beginning at 10:00 am and the worship service with guest speaker, Rev. Curtis Marshall at 11:00 am. Luncheon to follow provided by the church.

Davidson Street is seeking a Part-time Minister of Music. Submit resume by September 30, 2026 to jolwebb2254@gmail.com

Lanford is seeking a church pianist. Includes Sunday morning worship @ 11:00 and choir practice on Wednesday evenings 6-7 pm & may include funerals and weddings. Please call Richard Cain at 864-981-2155 or by mail to the church at 104 Patterson Plant Rd, Enoree, SC 29335.

2026 WMU Fall Training

Monday, November 7th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Martha Franks Retirement Center
Cooper Dining Room

This training is for all age levels and years of experience in WMU to share and learn ideas to use On Mission this year in our LBA churches.

If you have any questions, contact amandaesuares@gmail.com.

We look forward to sharing together soon!



Janie Chapman
Offering for State Missions
September 6-13
Go Boldly
Ephesians 6:19-20

Annual Church Profiles

Reports go live on September 1st.

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 if you don't have that saved.

The Church Leadership Report is an open report and can be updated as needed throughout the year. If you need any help, we will be glad to assist.



October is Pastor
-Appreciation Month-

Honor those who shepherd

Celebrate your pastor this October!
There are many wonderful ideas
online to inspire you.
Search Pastor Appreciation Ideas



LAURENS BAPTIST
ASSOCIATIONAL
Acteens
(7th - 12th grade girls)
Meeting
09.14.26 @ 7:00 PM
Second Baptist Church
414 Fleming Street, Laurens
Call 984-0123 for more info

Associational Staff

Associational Missionary

Reiny Koschel

Crisis Center Director

Kay Leagans

Office Manager

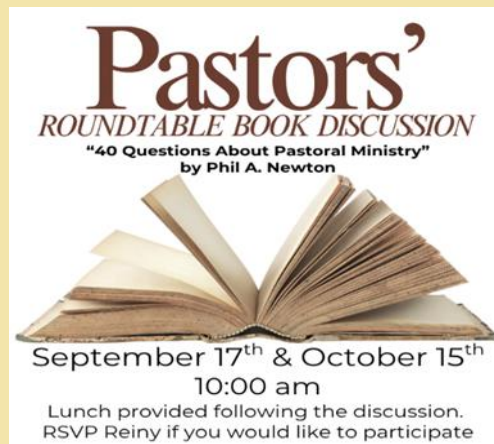
Lory Satterfield

MISSION CENTER HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Lunch hour 12:30pm - 1:30pm



Pastors'
ROUNDTABLE BOOK DISCUSSION
"40 Questions About Pastoral Ministry"
by Phil A. Newton
September 17th & October 15th
10:00 am
Lunch provided following the discussion.
RSVP Reiny if you would like to participate



NEWSLETTER
Laurens Baptist
Association
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Laurens, SC 29360

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