



Kingdom Partners  
Philippians 1:3-7

# The ENCOURAGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOLMES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Encourage - Equip - Engage

June 2024

## HAPPENING THROUGHOUT THE ASSOCIATION

### MISSION TRIP

July 13-20, 2024  
Anderson, SC

Last Meeting: Monday, June 17th @  
6:00 pm @ Beulah Anna Baptist  
Church

This meeting is for anyone who wants to learn more about the trip. This is not a commitment to go on the trip. If you are planning to go on the trip, please try to be at this meeting for additional details/forms.

**Deadline:** Wednesday, June 19th. All money and t-shirt sizes have to be turned in.

We will be traveling to Anderson, SC this summer.

Cost: \$40 per person, with a cap of \$140 for an immediate family of four or more.

This covers a shirt for each person and your food while up there. You will only be responsible for your food up there and back and anything extra you decide to purchase. You will also be responsible for anything on Fun Day. Have questions? Contact the Association Office at 850-547-4079. There is a place for everyone on this trip! Join us in Kingdom Partnership with Saluda Baptist Association.

*Equip* WALTON Be equipped to fulfill ministry

TUESDAY  
27 August 2024

DINNER | 5:45-6:20  
GROUP | 6:20-6:30  
SESSION 1 | 6:30-7:20  
TRANSITION | 7:20-7:30  
SESSION 2 | 7:30-8:20

LOCATION  
FBC, DeFuniak Springs  
216 East Live Oak Ave

<p>Building a Personal and Church Prayer Life</p> <p>Gary Wiggins</p>	<p>Defending Your Faith</p> <p>Mark Rathel</p>
<p>Practices in Preaching</p> <p>Craig Connor</p>	<p>Taking a Step Toward a Healthier Church</p> <p>Brian Nall</p>

**RSVP TODAY**

We wanted to share this opportunity from our neighboring association for anyone who wishes to attend. You must register for the meal. Click the link below to do so.

[Equip Walton - waltoncountybaptistassociation.org](http://waltoncountybaptistassociation.org)

- ◆ Building a Personal and Church Prayer Life—Gary Wiggins
- ◆ Defending Your Faith—Mark Rathel
- ◆ Practices in Preaching—Craig Connor
- ◆ Taking a Step Toward a Healthier Church—Brian Nall.

Monday, June 24th at 6:30 pm.  
Location TBA

Pastors will receive more information about this.  
It will also be posted on Facebook.

**PASTOR'S**

**FORUM**

Holmes Baptist Association



# RANDYm THOUGHTS...

Randy Torrance, Mission Strategist - Holmes Baptist Association

In case you haven't been outside lately, let me inform you that Summer is upon us. With the season of Summer comes great ministry opportunities. From Vacation Bible School to Block Parties to Summer Movie Nights, the ministry possibilities are endless.

The primary summer outreach program for many churches has always been Vacation Bible School. VBS is synonymous with summer in many church settings because it's been around in one form or another since 1898. VBS has been a part of Southern Baptists' evangelistic strategy since the 1920s.

According to Melita Thomas, VBS and Kids Ministry Specialist with LifeWay Christian Resources, "VBS consistently accounts for roughly 25 percent of baptisms in Southern Baptist churches annually. One-quarter of all people reached annually by any given church are reached through VBS." As a personal result of VBS evangelistic ministry of my small home church of Waverly, Florida in the summer of 1981, I know first-hand the life changing, everlasting impact of such a ministry. Please join me in prayer for this exciting ministry opportunity. I will be making effort to attend Family Night VBS activities within our association as I am able to do so.

While not all churches are equipped to conduct a Vacation Bible School ministry, I believe that all churches are equipped to conduct some type of summer outreach event, or to partner with a neighboring church to do so. These activities may include a free car wash and water fun day, an outdoor community concert, an active sports ministry, a classic car show, a community block party or a family fun-fest.

Most communities have residents that are seeking things to do during the summer months. While it is our goal to see more folks in our churches, it should be our primary goal to see souls saved. Therefore, all summer outreach events should include the sharing of the Gospel. This can be done either in a large- group setting or individually with trained church members. There are many resources available for the sharing of the Gospel message through the North American Mission Board. We have a few Evangelism Kits available here at the association office and resource center.

With any outreach and evangelistic opportunity, let me remind you of the importance of Follow-up. It's one thing to have children and families attend your outreach event, but it's an entirely different thing to be able to visit them and encourage them to visit you for worship and church programs. Using the analogy of 'fishing for men', and 'dropping the net' for contacts and ministry, let us remember that we should not be operating a 'catch and release' ministry. Once our children and families have been reached through summer outreach events, I encourage you to establish a system for contacting them for additional growth and evangelistic opportunities.

If I, as your AMS, can assist you or your church in any way, in the area of evangelism or outreach or any other need that your church might have, please do not hesitate to contact me.

-Randy Torrance  
Mission Strategist  
Holmes Baptist Association  
850.547.4079  
386.209.7936

<https://www.namb.net/church-replanting/resource/3-simple-summer-outreach-ideas/>  
<https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/what-is-so-important-about-vbs>  
<https://outreachmagazine.com/ideas/23116-summer-outreach-ideas.html>  
<https://www.namb.net/evangelism/evangelism-resources/>  
<https://ministry-to-children.com/after-the-outreach/>

**Please note: Thursday morning  
breakfast has been cancelled until  
further notice.**

# HBA/NEW BEGINNINGS FINANCIAL UPDATE

## Financial Report 2024

Holmes Baptist Association  
***Needed to meet budget***  
**January-April: \$32,971.87**

***(January-April Actual)***

Church Giving YTD \$25,577.07  
 Money Market Interest YTD:  
 \$184.49  
 Other Giving YTD: \$0  
 Expenses YTD \$27,530.82  
 Excess YTD \$-1,769.26

New Beginnings

***Needed to meet budget***  
**January-April: \$8,795.49**

***(January -April: Actual)***

Church Giving YTD \$6,971.39  
 Money Market Interest YTD: \$136.64  
 Other Giving YTD \$20  
 Expenses YTD \$6,851.62  
 Excess YTD \$276.41

## Giving is January—April 2024

### HBA Church Giving



Bethel	\$3,289.82
Beulah Anna	\$828.00
Bonifay First	\$4,000.00
Bridge Creek	\$2,122.10
Esto First	\$281.19
Evergreen	\$1,147.00
Grace Church - Bonifay	\$500.00
Gully Springs	\$100.00
Hickory Hill	\$1,348.00
Leonia	\$446.95
Mount Olive	\$1,126.58
New Hope	\$551.08
Noma	\$181.75
Northside	\$1,236.36
Pleasant Ridge	\$434.00
Pleasant Valley	\$1,120.02
Ponce de Leon First	\$400.00
Sandy Creek	\$3,141.00
Shady Grove	\$906.59
Union Hill	\$519.46
West Pittman	\$1,786.17
Westville	\$111.00

### New Beginnings Church Giving



Bethel	\$400.00
Beulah Anna	\$240.00
Bonifay First	\$824.99
Bridge Creek	\$200.00
Esto	\$1,000.00
Evergreen	\$286.00
Mount Olive	\$150.00
New Hope	\$275.54
Noma	\$600.00
Northside	\$1,526.36
Pleasant Valley	\$100.00
Ponce de Leon First	\$300.00
Sandy Creek	\$400.00
Shady Grove	\$120.00
Union Hill	\$300.00
West Pittman	\$137.50
Westville	\$111.00

Please note:  
 Churches give at various times.  
 They may give monthly,  
 quarterly, or yearly. This  
 giving is for a specific time period  
 (please see above).

## NEW BEGINNINGS COUNSELING & SUPPORT CENTER

Kristin is available to speak at your church, main worship service, small group, ladies group, etc.... to share about the ministry of New Beginnings. Please give her a call to set up a day and time that would work best.

If you would like to volunteer at New Beginnings, please contact Kristin and she can give you information on the steps it takes to become a volunteer. She is needing help with media, the boutique, and more.

Check with Kristin to see if there are specific needs, such as specific size diapers, baby shampoo, creams or more that she may be in need of in the center. Please check with her first before purchasing items due to the fact that she may have an overstock of some items.

If you would like to receive prayer requests (all information is kept private; names **are not** shared), please contact Kristin to learn how to sign up.

**Director:** Kristin Baker

**Website:** [newbeginningsholmes.com](http://newbeginningsholmes.com)  
**E-mail:** [holmescoreqcenter13@yahoo.com](mailto:holmescoreqcenter13@yahoo.com)



**Office #** 850-547-5213

**Office Hours:** **Thursday** 1:00pm—8:00 pm & **Friday**  
 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Some of the services that are offered:

- ◆ Bible counseling
- ◆ Bible classes
- ◆ Pregnancy options info
- ◆ Parenting classes
- ◆ Life skill classes
- ◆ Domestic abuse & childhood abuse recovery support

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JUNE

- ◆ **2nd-6th: VBS—Hickory Hill** Baptist Church 6-8pm (Family night on the 6th)
- ◆ **2nd—6th: VBS—Northside** Baptist Church 5:30-8pm
- ◆ **3rd-7th: VBS—Leonia** Baptist Church. 5:30-8:00 pm; Family Day will be on the 9th at 10am.
- ◆ **9th-11th: VBS—Bethany** Baptist Church 6-8:30 pm; Supper each night
- ◆ **9th-13th: VBS—West Pittman** Baptist Church 5-8pm; Supper each night
- ◆ **10th-14th: VBS—1st PDL** Baptist Church 6-8pm
- ◆ **16th:** Father's Day
- ◆ **16th-21st: VBS—Bethel** Baptist Church; Pre-K to 6th grade
- ◆ **17th:** HBA Mission Trip Information/Planning Meeting @ 6:30 pm @ **Beulah Anna** Baptist Church
- ◆ **19th:** HBA Mission Trip Deadline. All money and t-shirt sizes must be turned in.
- ◆ **24th:** Pastors' Forum: Pastors will receive an email about this event.
- ◆ **28th-29th:** Best Marriage Ever: **1st Baptist Bonifay**

### JULY

- ◆ **4th:** Independence Day: Office Closed
- ◆ **8th-12th: VBS—Shady Grove** Baptist Church 10am -12:30pm
- ◆ **13th-20th:** HBA Mission Trip — Anderson, SC; Association office will be closed. We can be reached by phone.
- ◆ **21st-26th: VBS—Pleasant Valley** Baptist Church

## ASSOCIATION PRAYER CALENDAR

- ◆ June 2 - Special Prayer: Vacation Bible School
- ◆ June 9 - Hickory Hill Baptist Church, Westville (Pastor: N/A)
- ◆ June 16 - Leonia Baptist Church, Westville (Pastor: Rodd Jones)
- ◆ June 23 - Week of Prayer: The lost in our communities
- ◆ June 30- – Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Bonifay (Pastor: James Pate)
- ◆ July 7 - Week of Prayer: Holmes Baptist Association Mission Trip (July 13th – 20th)
- ◆ July 14 - New Hope Baptist Church, Westville (Pastor: Bob Sanders: Interim)
- ◆ July 21 - Noma Baptist Church, Noma-Graceville (Pastor: Don Irwin)
- ◆ July 28 – Week of Prayer: School District, Administration, Teachers and Children

## SPECIAL PRAYER

Please continue to be in prayer for our churches currently without pastors:

\*New Hope

\*Hickory Hill

\*Union Hill

### CONTACT US:

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850.547.4079 [Holmesbaptist.org](http://Holmesbaptist.org)

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