

The Informer

July 2011

Three Forks Baptist Association

www.3forksassoc.org

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.”

Psalms 33:12



Phyllis Elvington Conference

Ladies, thank you so much for making our Renewal Conference at Laurel Springs such a success! We had over sixty people in attendance from many of our association churches. The WMU team has been voted in for another year and the scholarships recipients are Shannon Fox and Jennifer Rominger. Congratulations ladies!

Appreciation is extended to: our hosts at Laurel Springs for their great help, support, and decorations (Linda Vandiford, Elaine Davis, Caroleen Watson, Donna Houck and all of the Laurel Springs WMU); Pastor Brent Bolick for the use of their facilities; Brent Graybeal for his time and technical support; Kim Sutton for her special music; Cyndi Ziegler and her drama team and their message; Christina Davis for her time and talents as worship leader; the Indian Hills Choir for braving the storm and coming to share their musical talents; our amazing speaker Phyllis Elvington who opened our eyes, ears, and hearts show us how to be "Unhindered" in our personal walk with our Father. Please continue to pray for her ongoing work with the churches.

Finally, thank you to the Associational WMU team for their support, hard work, time, and talents to make this Renewal Event such a wonderful success!

Many blessings to all,
Linda Sutton
Associational WMU Director

SUMMER SERVANTS

Several Mission teams will be visiting our area this summer to help with the MANY incomplete projects in our area. Groups from Gibson, Concord and Greensboro, NC have already volunteered their time, talents and skills to help us with our backlog of projects here in the High Country.

God Answers Prayers!



Both phases of our roofing project have been completed! Splitting the project up into one weekend in May and one weekend in June worked well and workers managed to re-roof the entire building. Three questionable areas of water damage were discovered during the process, proving that

God's timing for this project could not have been more perfect! Special thank goes to Mount Vernon for the use of their trucks to haul-off debris, to the volunteers from South Fork, Meat Camp, Rutherford and Union for roofing and to the volunteers from South Fork, Mount Vernon and Howard's Creek that provided lunches for the roofers.

The June 6th day of prayer and fasting had hundreds of participants. Several churches have called and pledged to increase their support of the Association through finances, volunteering and continued prayers.

Our website has moved to a new hosting company. Rev. Billy Norris of Stony Fork has been working diligently to get the new and improved site up and running without any hitches. Thank you for your patience as he creates more interactive pages, adds photos, history, calendars and so much more to the site. The web address is still the same (www.3forksassoc.org)

Calendar of Events for July

- 4th Associational Office Closed for Independence Day
11th – 13th DOM Conference at Caraway Conference Center
14th 6PM Finance Committee & 2012 Budget Planning



July Birthdays and Anniversaries



- 1st Kanoot Midkiff Minister of Missions & Senior Adults, Mt. Vernon
2nd Rusty Guenther 1st Baptist Church, Blowing Rock
2nd Dan & Barbara Featherstone Laurel Fork
7th Chris & Julianna Johnston Youth Minister & wife, Bethel
15th Burl & Linda Greer Cool Springs
19th David Ricker Three Forks
21st Barbara Murdock Pastor's wife, South Fork
21st Jeff Bradley CCM Director's husband, TFBA
21st Cindy & David Retherford Minister of Children & husband, Mt. Vernon
22nd Bud & Betty Russell Assoc Pastor & wife, Mt. Vernon
26th Vertie Watson Pastor's wife, Tabernacle
26th Mark Chaney Howard's Creek
31st George & Debbie Wright Mount Calvary

Church Anniversaries:

Rusty Guenther, 1st Baptist Blowing Rock, 4 years
Charlie Martin, Bethel, 4 years
Brent Bolick, Laurel Springs, 8 years

Church Milestones:

Bethel 160 years; 1st Baptist Blowing Rock 108 years;
Cool Springs 124 years; Laurel Fork 156 years; Meat Camp 160 years;
Mount Calvary 132 years; Poplar Grove 139 years; Shepherd's Heart 8 years

Jail Ministry: Thursdays, 3:00PM

- July 7th Rev. David Ricker, Three Forks
July 14th Dr. Charlie Martin, Bethel
July 21st Rev. Brent Bolick, Laurel Springs
July 28th Dr. Gary Lawrence, Rutherford

Ongoing Opportunities, Ministries & Requests

Green Street Catering serves dinner at Alliance Bible Fellowship Thursday's from 5PM-6PM. Take-out meals are available from 3:30PM-5PM. Call Chastity Lesene at 278-2050 to place your order for dining in or taking out large quantities to deliver a meal to someone that is home-bound, struggling financially, has an illness, or could just use a blessing. The dinner is free.

Men's Connection Bible Study will begin its' summer season Tuesday, May 31st, with Chip Cash as our teacher. Chip will lead us through John's Gospel through the end of August. The group meets at Chetola with breakfast at 7:30AM; teaching begins at 7:50AM every Tuesday. For more information, contact Tucker or Ginny Yates at 295-7936 or by email at gintuc@bellsouth.net

Mowing at the Associational Office: July through October are available for adoption. Thank you to Rev. Gary Watson of Tabernacle Baptist Church for mowing several weekends now and to Mount Vernon Baptist Church for helping to fill in the ruts left from the trucks during the roofing project. If your church group can "adopt a

Church Bulletin Board

Bethel: will hold Tent Service at the Park on Sunday, July 3rd, at 10:30AM and the "Bethel Blast" at the Park on Monday, July 4th, beginning at 5:30PM. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend!

Rev. Willie Rice, Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Clearwater, FL, and former President of the Florida Baptist Convention will be preaching at the 11AM service on July 10th. Everyone is welcome to attend.

1st Blowing Rock: is looking for a Part-Time Children's Director. This is a salaried 20 hour a week position and the candidate would have charge of the direction and organization of the entire children's ministry, plus oversee two college interns. Anyone interested should contact Rhonda Gales at 828-295-7715.

Cove Creek: Dr. Max Gessner announced his retirement on June 5th. Pastor Max & wife Martha have served the church faithfully for 3 years. Tentative date of departure is July 31st.

Greenway: will host a High Country Gospel Jubilee at 6PM on Saturday, July 2nd. Groups include Crimson Cross, The Butter Pats, The Jones Family and the Homegoing Choir. Snacks and beverages will be available in the Family Life Center.

Laurel Springs: will host a free community meal entitled "Food for the Soul" on Thursdays, July 7th and 21st, August 4th and September 1st. This is an ongoing meal ministry with more dates to be announced later. Contact the church at 262-1330 for more details or information.

Mount Vernon: has called Jason Powers as Minister of Youth. Jason and wife Jessica began serving in June. An Ordination Committee meeting is being formed by the Association to ordain Jason in his calling to serve the Lord.

Stony Fork: cookbooks for sale featuring 100's of new recipes, only \$10 each. Available at the Associational Office during office hours or call Angie Norris at 264-3442. All proceeds go to local missions.

Churches Searching for Pastors

Brushy Fork, (*Toby Oliver Interim Pastor*)
Cove Creek, Mount Vernon
Perkinsville, Poplar Grove
Oak Grove (*Dr. Ken Craig, Supply*),
Stony Fork, *Rev. Billy Norris Interim Pastor*

Christian Outreach Center

The Associational Office still has several TV's and 5-disc DVD players for sale with all proceeds going to the Christian Outreach Center. Come by during our office hours of Monday – Thursday, 8:30AM-2PM to shop!

Bethlehem & Beyond

We still have several nativity sets that need to be picked up. If you loaned us one back in November and December,

Power to Live By Dr. Barry Nealy

Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Banner Elk displays the power of the Living God in a unique way. In front of the building they have constructed a special place for people to share their prayer requests...it's an open rock tomb!

Inside the tomb, a wooden table invites visitors to write their requests. What a reminder of a God whose power over death itself can be trusted to do every good thing for His people. His promises are always matched by His ability and desire to bless. This display of the character of God may inspire you and your church to challenge the world in some unusual way. “Since you are risen with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ sits on the right hand of God.” Col 3:1

Vacation Bible School Schedules



Beaver Dam: “Treasure Quest”, Saturday, July 9th, 9:15AM-4PM (one day only) with commencement cook-out to follow. Classes for ages 3 through high school.

Bethel: “Big Apple”, July 18th -22nd; 5:30PM dinner, VBS 6PM-8PM nightly.

Brushy Fork: “Backstage with the Bible”, July 11th – 15th. Dinner served nightly at 6PM; Classes 6:30PM-8:30PM for ages 2 years old through adult.

Cove Creek: “Big Apple”, July 25th – 29th from 6PM – 8PM nightly. Classes for ages birth through high school.

Emmanuel & Gap Creek: “Rev It Up”, July 11th -15th, 6PM-8:30PM nightly. Classes for ages birth through adult. Pre-registration, July 9th, 3PM-5PM.

Laurel Fork: “Big Apple”, July 25th – 29th from 7PM-9PM nightly. Classes for ages 3 through 12th grade.

Laurel Springs: “Big Apple”, Kick-off Sunday night, June 26th from 5PM-7PM; actual VBS June 27th – July 1st from 6PM-8PM nightly. Classes for ages 3 through 12 grade.

Meat Camp: “Inside Out, Upside Down on Main Street”, June 26th – June 30th, 6PM-8PM nightly. Classes for ages birth through youth.

Mount Vernon: “Gold Rush”, June 27th – 30th from 9AM-12:15PM daily. Classes for ages 4 through 5th grade.

Poplar Grove: “Backstage with the Bible:”, June 26th – 29th. Meal at 6PM; VBS Classes from 6:30PM-8:30PM nightly. Classes are for ages birth – adult.

Union: “Big Apple”, Kick-Off on Sunday, July 17th with a hot dog picnic at 4PM; VBS Classes begin Monday-Thursday at 6:30PM nightly. Commencement and Pizza Dinner, Friday, July 22nd at 6:30PM. Classes for ages 3 through high school.

(Don’t forget to turn in ANY unused VBS materials, decorations and craft projects to the Associational Office. We pass them along to other churches who can use them, or to mission teams to use in Backyard Bible Clubs! Also, (DIRECTORS), don’t forget to send in your VBS report when your VBS is completed for our Annual Book of Reports and for the State Report!)

Three Forks Baptist Association
513 Jefferson Road
Boone, NC 28607

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Other Announcements & Events

Hope Pregnancy Resource Center is seeking women to become mentors to clients who are preparing to become parents. In this program, a client will be paired with a woman who is a mother and desires to come alongside the client as she prepares for the birth of her baby. A mentor would contact her client and meet with her regularly to discuss pregnancy and parenting topics. Interested mentors must complete the volunteer application process and attend a brief training. Please contact April Isaacs at (828)262-3951 for more information or if you are interested in becoming a mentor.

International Student Ministry: Save the dates for Aug 14th, 4:00PM Friend Family Orientation and Sept 9th, 6:30PM Friend Family Dinner at Perkinsville Baptist Church. More details on how to become a host family (involve them in meals, family outings, etc.; NO HOUSING REQUIRED) to the International Students attending Appalachian State University will be coming soon.

Associational Sponsored Blood Drive collected 29 pints on Saturday, May 21st, falling only one pint short of our goal. These 29 pints will actually help save the lives of 87 people! Thank you to Nancy Haas for coordinating this project and to all of you who donated the gift of life!

May 2011 Financial Summary

Budget Needs:	\$ 17,608.16
Recd in May:	11,357.66
Under for Month:	(6,250.50)
Under Y T D:	(18,252.36)
Beg. Bal 5/1/11:	5,061.83
Church Receipts:	11,357.66
Deposits Credits:	686.45
Deposits Misc:	-0-
Exp for Month:	14,360.58
End Bal 5/31/11:	2,745.36

A Look Ahead at Ministry Events & Information

Moldova Camp Project, August 2011: workers (5 from the United States working with 15 from Moldova) are needed to organize a Christian camp(s) for children ages 10 – 16 during one of the first two weeks in August. Number of camps would depend on availability of funds with cost being about \$12 - \$14 per day for facility site, sleeping arrangements, meals, transportation, staff and sports equipment. For more information contact Rev. Kanoot Midkiff at Mount Vernon Baptist Church at 828-266-9700.

International Commission Mission Trip to Santo Andre, Brazil will be taking place September 2nd – 11th. This is an evangelistic and discipleship ministry with the International Mission Board to work together to fulfill Christ's Great Commission. An application packet may be downloaded from the website at www.IC-World.org or contact Art Middleton at 704-488-9076 or by email at ArtM@IC-World.org for more info and details.

High Country Praise Festival, an annual event for Youth & College to share the Love of God through music and speakers, will be held Sunday, September 4th from 3:30PM-8PM at the Holmes Convocation Center of Appalachian State University. Music guests include: Seventh Day Slumber, Jonny Diaz, Josh Wilson with Neal Hatfield and Roman Gabriel scheduled as this year's speakers. For more info, contact David or Dawn Ward of The Son's Light Ministries at 828-264-2007, email at info@sonslightministries.com or visit their website at www.sonslightministries.com

Gardner-Webb Ministerial Education Day for our Association is Sunday, September 11th. If you would like to request a student speaker for your church, contact Teresa Davis at 704-406-4277 or email her at tdavis@gardner-webb.edu

His Glory Quartet out of Cleveland County would love the opportunity to sing, fellowship and share testimony at your church. These four men require no monies or expect a love offering. They simply sing for the Lord with the motto "If God provides, we are going!" Visit www.hisgloryquartet.com for info!