

# BAPTISTS ON MISSION



**Read** about an Armenian Pastor who saw his dream realized, page 4.

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The Baptist Missions Conference

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The Marriage You've Always Wanted Conference

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North Carolina Missions Offering

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## Baptists on Mission Staff

Richard Brunson, Mark Abernathy, Tom Beam, Paul Langston, Dollie Noa, Krissy Watson, Tracey Ford, Ashley Lamb, Chelsie Carpenter, Teresa Jones, Lynn Tharrington, K Brown, Tina Holder, Larry & Teresa Osborne, Robbie & Kristie Alexander, Jay & Ashley Baugham, Dewey & Kathie Aiken, Richard & Tammy Weeks, Clay Warf, Susanne Kinlaw, Crystin Irwin, Dee Payn, Gayla Putnam

Baptists on Mission is funded by the North Carolina Missions Offering.

[www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org)

## Mission Statement

To glorify God by meeting human needs in Jesus' Name

## A Message from Our Executive Director



### “You Gotta Start Somewhere”

It is amazing what God has done through disaster relief. It was a humble beginning for sure! Our Baptists on Mission board voted to begin Disaster Relief in 1979. An old rusty moving van was purchased and a 3-year period of fixing it up began. “You gotta start somewhere,” were the words of Bobby Poole who in 1979 almost single-handedly took on the task of transforming that old rusted trailer into our first disaster relief feeding unit.

The first disaster we responded to was the Red Springs tornadoes in 1984. Who would have thought that 40 years later we’d operate 300 pieces of equipment on wheels, including feeding units, shower and laundry facilities, water tankers, forklifts, tractors and trailers, refrigerator units, recovery vehicles, and other support vehicles? Only God could do this!

God has blessed NC Baptists on Mission more than we ever could have imagined and God used the efforts of humble, faithful people like Bobby Poole who had a vision for what disaster relief could become. No doubt about it, this is what God did! He took an old, rusted trailer that many people thought was useless and made it something useful, something that was used to show hurting people that He cares about them. God is still in the business of taking something old and useless and making it something that will glorify him! Do you see how He wants to use you?



*Richard Brunson*

**Richard Brunson**  
Executive Director-Treasurer  
Baptists on Mission



Local, State, National and International Projects	Missions Camps/ Rebuild Centers	Dental/ Health Screening Ministry	Children/ Student Mobilization	Disaster Relief and Recovery
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## From Our President



### “Make Today Worth Remembering”

When I was working for the USDA, farmers would call with problems on their farms. We assisted farmers with planning and installing conservation practices on their farms. A part of the planning process involved considering alternatives that would solve their problem before selecting the best option. We would consider the positives and negatives of each alternative before deciding upon what fits their situation best. As a new employee in the county, you had to gain

the trust of your customers by proving yourself. Upon gaining that respect, you were then shown the problem and asked what you needed to do to fix it. If the solution were a practice with which we had little experience, we would call an experienced conservationist in a neighboring county and offer them an “opportunity” to assist. This “opportunity” was a chance for that friend to do something that would assist you in learning or growing in knowledge and ability.

Galatians 6:10 states, “as we have opportunities, let us do good to everyone.” As you turn the pages of this magazine, you will find opportunities that you could participate in. The magazine also shares stories of those who have taken advantage of opportunities that the Lord has provided. Baptists on Mission has nineteen different ministries from which you could choose. Consider the talents and gifts that you are blessed with and find a ministry that you feel the Lord is calling you into. Opportunities can become blessings by calling the contact person for more information.

Many of you have participated in one of the six Disaster Response trainings held across the state this spring. Training was provided to prepare you to respond as the hands and feet of Jesus. You are now the proud owner of a yellow shirt and hat. Don’t let that yellow shirt and hat sit in your drawer or closet. There are still opportunities for service in western North Carolina. There are six Rebuild Facilities in need of volunteers to assist with the Rebuild and Essential Rapid Repairs (ERR) for homeowners impacted by Hurricane Helene. These volunteers need someone to prepare meals for them. Both rebuilding and feeding can offer excellent opportunities for newly trained volunteers to get involved. Opportunities are also available at Charity, Red Springs, and Shelby Mission Camps. There is also ongoing rebuild work in eastern North Carolina at the Lumberton and New Bern Rebuild Centers.

Zig Ziglar, an American author and renowned motivational speaker, stated, “Make today worth remembering.” Find a ministry (opportunity) in which you can become a volunteer and you will have days worth remembering while seeing and experiencing God’s hand at work. In defining “opportunity” earlier, I did not mention that you will experience blessings that you will never forget. Get involved as a Baptist on Mission volunteer. As the Lord guides you, He will also provide blessings!

*Tim Etheridge*

Tim Etheridge

# Decades in the Making

## Armenian Pastor Sees Dream Realized

It started with a dream that involved a father, a son and displaced people far from their homeland.

In the aftermath of an ISIS genocidal campaign in 2014, many Yezidi Kurds escaped to Armenia in hopes of making a new life.

Amid the persecution, Siabond and his son, Tengis, were already living in Armenia, where they had long envisioned a church for the Yezidis in their town of Avshar. The church would also serve as a local community center, a future grade school and a facility to train pastors, but the dream would have to wait another 10-plus years to come to fruition.

In May, the dream of Siabond and Tengis became a reality when a Yezidi church — one of only five to be known in the entire world for this persecuted people group — was dedicated in Armenia, thanks in part to N.C. Baptists on Mission's Armenian partnership.

"For a long time we've had a desire to have a church building in our village," Siabond said. "It is such a blessing to know that our prayers are being answered through this partnership."

One of the goals of the Armenian partnership is to assist local church planters construct churches in their communities. Since 2003, volunteers with Baptists on Mission have helped build 17 churches in Armenia, in addition to engaging in other missions projects.

Several churches in North Carolina, along with Truett and Eastern Baptist Associations, gave

sacrificially to help complete the Yezidi church. A number of volunteers have also assisted in the construction process, building structures and relationships that have encouraged the Christian families in this small community.

And in God's providence, a father-son duo from Broadway, N.C., helped see the project through to completion. Kenneth and Ashley Cummings made multiple trips to Avshar to make sure Siabond and Tengis' dream was realized. (See related story.)

The new facility is now just a few months old, and the church has already become a lighthouse in the community. And now, Siabond has a new dream "that everyone in our village would come to know Christ. And for that, we just glorify God and humble ourselves before Him."



Scan to watch the dedication video



# A Tradition of Missions

As long as he can remember, Ashley Cummings' father Kenneth has been involved in missions, and for years, his dad's trips to Armenia would always pique his interest.

"I can't express the glow or the feelings he would have about him after returning home every time," Ashley Cummings said. "Also, the love and the bond that he has formed with those beautiful people, which always made me want to see what it was about."

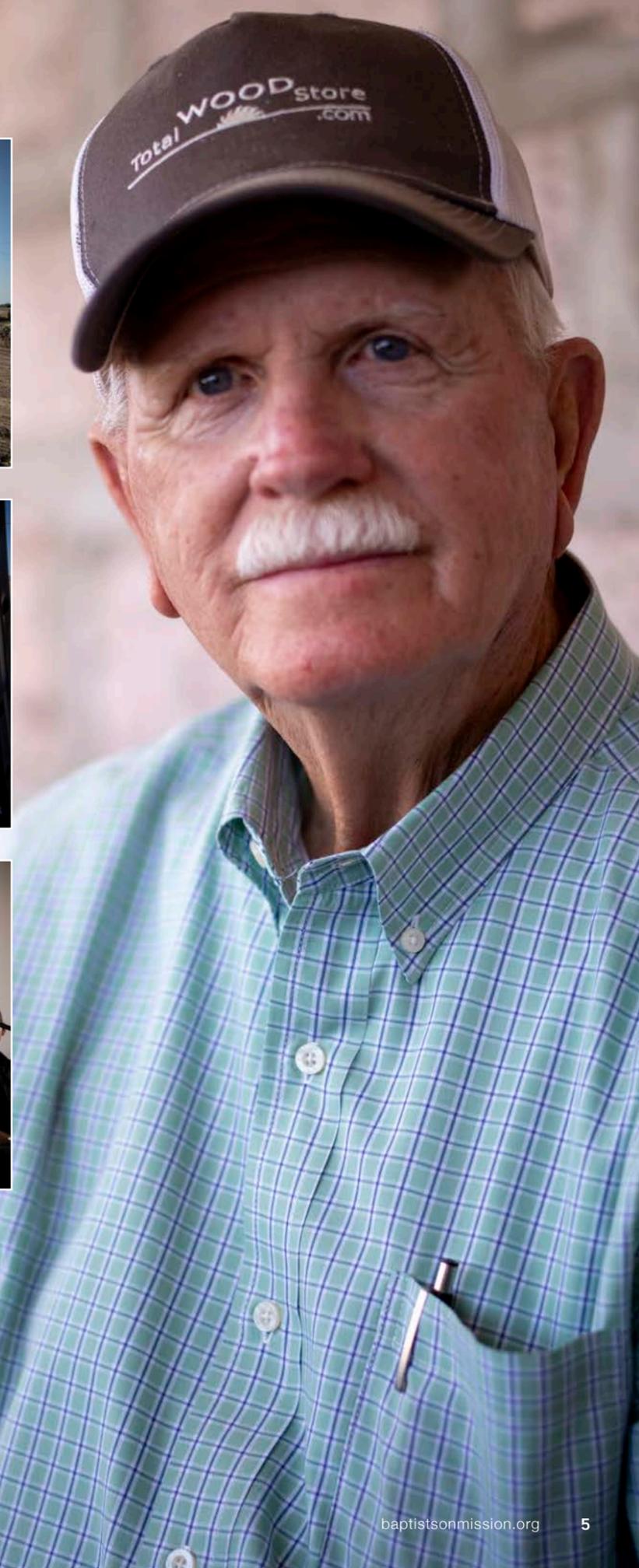
For the past three years, Ashley has joined his father on mission trips to Armenia through a partnership with N.C. Baptists on Mission. Ashley and his father are both in the construction business, and their trips have involved helping construct churches in Armenia.

This past May, the Cummings were part of a team that completed construction on what is the first Christian church for the Yezidi people to be built in Armenia. (See related story.) The trip included a dedication service for the new church facility.

The trip marked the third year in a row that Ashley joined his father and also saw a new member of the Cummings family participate with Ashley's son and Kenneth's grandson joining in. All three generations worked side by side to finish the project.

For Kenneth, who's made 14 trips to Armenia, seeing a grandson follow in his footsteps was the crowning moment of a life dedicated to volunteer missions. And for Ashley, a bivocational pastor, the question isn't if he'll return to Armenia, but when.

"The Armenian people are so thirsty for the Word of God, and I pray that the Lord will continue to use me as his tool to continue the work that my father has done in Armenia."



# Helene Rebuild Centers

## Rebuilding Homes - Rebuilding Lives

Hurricane Helene destroyed thousands of homes and damaged tens of thousands more in western North Carolina where many families remain displaced.

A year later, volunteers with N.C. Baptists on Mission are doing what they do best — helping restore hope after the storm by rebuilding homes in the region. To assist in those efforts, Baptists on Mission has established five rebuild centers across western North Carolina that can serve as bases of operations for volunteers to serve.

Located in Black Mountain, Boone, Burnsville, East Flat Rock and Spruce Pine, each facility can house and feed up to 100 volunteers as they work on projects throughout surrounding counties.

With grants from the state of North Carolina and donations from corporations and individuals covering the cost of materials, volunteers are quickly making a difference throughout communities devastated by the flood waters.

While the degree of damage varies, many homes were literally filled with water requiring everything inside to be gutted — sheetrock, insulation, wiring, plumbing, flooring, cabinets, appliances and more.

Although the type of damage that Helene brought to western North Carolina is unprecedented, rebuild coordinator Richard Weeks knows the kind of destruction and devastation hurricanes can bring. As a native of eastern North Carolina, he's experienced firsthand storms like Floyd, Matthew and Florence and the work involved with putting the pieces back together.

During those storms, Weeks saw many volunteers from western North Carolina work tirelessly to rebuild homes in eastern North Carolina. Now Weeks says it's time to "come and give back to them the way they gave to us."

"We know we're never going to give them back everything they lost during the storm, but hopefully we can give them back a place they can call home," Weeks said. "If you're from eastern North Carolina, I want to challenge you to come out and be a part of what's going on here in western North Carolina as we help these brothers and sisters put back their lives."



**How it started** - In 2006, the city of Gulfport, Mississippi, gave Baptists on Mission an abandoned armory to house volunteers responding to Hurricane Katrina. Over the next few years, thousands of volunteers helped rebuild 751 homes there. That model has since been replicated across North Carolina as we respond to the needs in our own state.

**Why Go** - You have the opportunity to not only help rebuild a home, but also transform a family's life in Jesus' name. Teams that return on a regular basis build relationships with homeowners they are helping, as well as people in the community. Proverbs 3:27 says, "Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person."

**What To Expect** - Each facility is outfitted with bunk beds and an industrial kitchen providing hot breakfasts and suppers. Bag lunches are taken out to the job sites and projects will already be lined up.

**What to Bring** - If you have your own tools, by all means bring them. However, each rebuild center is equipped with all the tools needed for construction projects.

**What You'll Do** - A variety of construction projects. If your team has specific skills, let us know when you sign up.

**How Long Will We Be Here** - Due to the extent of devastation, Baptists on Mission will be there as long as needed with an estimate of at least five years.

**Want to Help?** - If you'd like to contribute to the ongoing rebuild efforts or sign up to work at one of our centers, visit <https://helene rebuild.org>

**Scan to watch a video about the centers**



# What it Means to Serve

With every storm, comes opportunities to share the love of Jesus. For some, that means preparing a hot meal or tearing out water soaked flooring. Others are called to share His love by simply being there.

In the midst of Hurricane Helene, Barbara Douglas had to evacuate when four feet of water swept through her home in Spruce Pine.

Within a few weeks, volunteers had her home mudded out and began the process of removing everything so the rebuild could begin. New walls and flooring. New electrical and plumbing work. Everything was replaced. But one of the things Barbara said she'll remember the most is that "someone took the time to simply sit down with me, to hear my story and then they cried with me."

Everyone has a place in the reconstruction process. This summer, students with Deep Impact served at several of Baptists on Mission's rebuild centers. Each week, all across western North Carolina, hundreds of volunteers continue helping families restore their homes and lives.

Ever since Hurricane Sandy in 2012, teams from Ebenezer Baptist Church in Charlotte have answered the call of serving through disaster response. Recently, a group of first-time volunteers got their first taste of being on mission when they signed up to work at the Spruce Pine Rebuild Center. It turned out to be an experience that will stay with them for a long time. Here's a sampling of what some of the volunteers had to say afterward.



"Once you get started and you see the things you thought you'd never be able to do. With a little guidance, you find out you can do it. And even if you can only do a little bit, your little bit helps the whole project."  
— Mary and Maurice Cottman



"God wants us to help the poor, the weak and unfortunate, and I think that's the least we can do. Everyone should at least do it once because once you start, you'll never want to stop. Once you get your hands and your feet dirty and help others, I guarantee it'll be a life changing experience."  
— Keith Hagins



"We're here to give back hope, to encourage and just to give them a kind word and let them know that they're not by themselves. So if you're 16 to 100, if you can move, if you can smile, if you have breath, you can serve."  
— Deborah Hayes



"This is my first experience with construction, and I've learned how to do different things. It's always good to give back, to know you're making an impact. It makes you feel good to be able to make a difference in someone else's life."  
— Monique Myers



"I've done other church work, but this is my first mission trip. It's been rejuvenating and it's been so rewarding because I like to give back."  
— Regina Echols



"You can spend your time, efforts and the gifts that God has given you to do a lot of things, but there's nothing better than being the hands and feet of Jesus and helping someone else."  
— Maurice Cottman

If you want to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those impacted by Hurricane Helen, there's a place for you. Find out how you can bring hope after the storm by visiting <https://helene rebuild.org>

2026 BAPTIST MISSIONS CONFERENCE

# LIVING SENT

APRIL 10-11 2026 | HICKORY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH CHARLOTTE, NC

“As the Father has sent Me, so send I you.”  
JOHN 20:21

EVERY CHRISTIAN IS A MISSIONARY

Special features include 100 different breakout sessions, Friday missions supper, mission testimonies, mission exhibits and much more.

Cost:  
 :: Friday only - \$20; optional Friday supper - \$10  
 :: Friday and Saturday - \$35; optional Friday supper - \$10  
 :: Saturday only - \$20

## SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Jennifer Rothschild



Tom Richter



Lee Strobel



Tim Tebow



Worship Leader: Laura Story



For registration, hotel information and additional details, visit: [www.baptistsonmissions.org/MissionConference](http://www.baptistsonmissions.org/MissionConference) or call 919-459-5596.

Pre-registration is required. Registration deadline: April 1, 2026

# 2025 MISSIONS RALLIES

## for MEN, WOMEN & YOUTH

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE AUGUST 2025 REGIONAL MISSION RALLIES

Come join us for a night of mission inspiration as we experience what God is doing through NC Baptists around the world. There will be worship, testimonies, videos, and information on mission opportunities.

Mark your calendar now FOR THIS EXCITING EVENT FOR MEN, WOMEN, & YOUTH.

► **REGION 1**  
**Monday, August 18**  
 Winton Baptist  
 203 N Main Street  
 Winton, NC 27986

► **REGION 2**  
**Tuesday, August 19**  
 Good News Baptist  
 714 Hwy 125  
 Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

► **REGION 3**  
**Thursday, August 21**  
 Western Prong Baptist  
 167 Peacock Rd  
 Whiteville, NC 28472

► **REGION 4**  
**Monday, August 18**  
 Faith Baptist  
 249 Holden Rd  
 Youngsville, NC 27596

► **REGION 5**  
**Tuesday, August 19**  
 Rich Fork Baptist  
 3993 Old Hwy 29  
 Thomasville, NC 27367

► **REGION 6**  
**Monday, August 18**  
 Hopewell Baptist  
 420 Hopewell Church Rd  
 Monroe, NC 28110

► **REGION 7**  
**Thursday, August 21**  
 Elkin Valley Baptist  
 118 N Elkin Dr  
 Elkin, NC 28621

► **REGION 8**  
**Tuesday, August 19**  
 Fairview Baptist  
 349 Turnersburg Hwy  
 Statesville, NC 28625

► **REGION 9**  
**Thursday, August 21**  
 Brevard, First Baptist  
 94 Gaston St  
 Brevard, NC 28712

► **REGION 10**  
**Tuesday, August 19**  
 Grace Fellowship Church  
 185 George Walker Dr  
 Andrews, NC 28901

REGISTRATION IS DUE ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE RALLY DATE

Supper 5:50 PM (no charge)  
 Program 6:30 – 8:30 PM

### HOW TO REGISTER:

- [www.baptistsonmission.org/rallies](http://www.baptistsonmission.org/rallies)
- Scan the QR Code
- Tina Holder (919) 459-5596
- [tholder@ncbaptist.org](mailto:tholder@ncbaptist.org)



### Information needed:

name, email, phone number, church

### Visit Us

- [BAPTISTSONMISSION.ORG](http://BAPTISTSONMISSION.ORG)
- [FACEBOOK.COM/NCMISSIONS](https://www.facebook.com/NCMISSIONS)
- [INSTAGRAM.COM/BAPTISTSONMISSION](https://www.instagram.com/baptistsonmission)
- [VIMEO.COM/CHANNELS/BAPTISTSONMISSION](https://www.vimeo.com/channels/baptistsonmission)



# Event Dates

## 2025

### JULY

- 5-13 Deep Impact – Cuba
- 7-10 Deep Impact ½ Wk – Red Springs Mission Camp
- 7-10 Deep Impact KIDS Mini, Charity Mission Camp
- 7-12 Deep Impact – Red Springs Mission Camp
- 14-18 Deep Impact KIDS, Charity Mission Camp
- 14-19 Deep Impact – Wilmington
- 21-25 Deep Impact KIDS – Red Springs Mission Camp
- 21-24 Deep Impact ½ Week – Charity Mission Camp 1
- 21-26 Deep Impact Charity Mission Center
- 28-31 Deep Impact ½ Week – Charity Mission Camp 2
- 28-31 Deep Impact KIDS Mini, Camp Dixie, Fayetteville

### AUGUST

- 15-16 BOM Board of Directors Meeting - Caraway
- 16 BOM Advisory Council & Board Mtg - Caraway
- 18 Region 1 Rally, Winton BC, Winton
- 19 Region 2 Rally, Good News BC, Roanoke Rapids
- 21 Region 3 Rally, Western Prong BC, Whiteville
- 18 Region 4 Rally, Faith BC, Youngsville
- 19 Region 5 Rally, Rich Fork BC, Thomasville
- 18 Region 6 Rally, Hopewell BC, Monroe
- 21 Region 7 Rally, Elkin Valley BC, Elkin
- 19 Region 8 Rally, Fairview BC, Statesville
- 21 Region 9 Rally, Brevard First, Brevard
- 19 Region 10 Rally, Grace Fellowship Ch, Andrews

### SEPTEMBER

- 1-30 NC Missions Offering Month
- 13 Construction Skills Training - Red Springs Mission Camp
- 13 Igniting the Hearts of Men Conference, Site TBD
- 19-21 Deep Impact KIDS Wkend – Camp Mundo Vista
- 27 Construction Skills Training - Shelby Mission Camp

### OCTOBER

- 17-19 Deep Impact – Shelby Mission Camp
- 18 Construction Skills Training - Charity Mission Camp
- 18 Marriage Refresh w/Gary Chapmen, Pleasant Garden BC, Pleasant Garden

### NOVEMBER

- 4 Men's Worship Rally - Region 3
- 7-8 DR Blue Hat Training - Shelby Mission Camp
- 6 Men's Worship Rally - Region 1
- 13 Men's Worship Rally - Region 5

## 2026

### JANUARY

- 23-24 BOM Board Meeting, Caraway Cf Ctr
- 24 BOM Advisory Council Meeting w/Board, Caraway
- 24 BOM Annual Business Meeting, 1:00 pm, Caraway

### FEBRUARY

- 17 Region Rally 1, 4, 6
- 19 Region Rally 2, 5, 8, 10
- 21 DR Training-Rosemary Baptist
- 23 Region Rally 3, 7, 9
- 28 DR Training-Mercy Hill

### MARCH

- 14 DR Training Westwood Baptist
- 28 DR Training-Stewartsville Baptist

### APRIL

- 10-11 Baptists on Missions Conference, Charlotte
- 25 DR Training-Peninsula Baptist

### MAY

- 1-2 Men's Outdoor Weekend
- 2 DR Training lotla Baptist
- 4-6 Staff Retreat-TBD

### JUNE

- 8-13 Deep Impact Hendersonville 1
- 8-13 DI Kids Shelby Mission Camp
- 15-18 DI Kids Blowing Rock
- 15-20 Deep Impact Hendersonville 2
- 20-24 DI Kids Charity Mission Camp
- 21-27 Deep Impact New York
- 22-25 Deep Impact Shelby Mission Camp
- 22-26 DI Kids Hendersonville
- 22-25 DI Kids Red Springs Mission Camp
- 22-27 Deep Impact Shelby Mission Camp
- 27-July 4 Deep Impact Puerto Rico 1
- 29-July 2 Deep Impact Charity Mission Camp
- 29-July 4 Deep Impact Charity Mission Camp

### JULY

- 4-11 Puerto Rico 2
- 6-11 Deep Impact Red Springs Mission Camp
- 11-18 Deep Impact Cuba
- 13-18 Deep Impact Albemarle
- 20-25 Deep Impact Wilmington
- 27-30 Deep Impact Charity
- 27-30 DI Kids Red Springs Mission Camp
- 27-Aug 1 Deep Impact Charity

### AUGUST

- 3-6 Deep Impact Red Springs
- 3-6 DI Kids Camp Dixie
- 14-15 BOM Board Meeting, Caraway Conference Ctr
- 15 BOM Advisory Council Meeting w/Board, Caraway
- 17 Region Rally 1, 4, 6
- 18 Region Rally 2, 5, 8, 10
- 20 Region Rally 3, 7, 9

### NOVEMBER

- 5 Men's Worship Rally - Region 2
- 12 Men's Worship Rally - Region 4
- 17 Men's Worship Rally - Region 6
- 19 Men's Worship Rally - Region 8
- 30 Men's Worship Rally - Region 10



# VOLUNTEER COUPLE OF THE YEAR

By Richard Brunson

Every year when we present the Baptists on Mission "Volunteer of the Year" award, I always think about how the recipient represents so many other people and this year's selection is no different: Don and Marie Grindstaff. They are definitely an example of "Living Sent."

Married for 37 years, Don and Marie have four children and eight grandchildren. Marie spent her entire career in banking and finance. She is a born servant and poured her heart and soul into their home and into their family. Don retired from the US Army after 24 years, then became owner of his own fencing business for over 20 years. They lived on Mill Creek in Old Fort for almost 30 years after retirement.

Hurricane Helene took their home and completely destroyed the property that became like home to everyone who visited there. Within days, as soon as they were able to

get off the hill, they were living in their camper and serving other people who had lost their homes as well. Their pastor said about them, "Three days after finding out Don and Marie lost their home, I was finally able to talk with them on the phone. We cried and talked for a little over an hour. At the end of the conversation Don said, 'I gotta run because we are cooking dinner for our neighbors.' I was stunned. My first thought was 'No! You're not allowed to serve others. You should be served right now.'"

In their RV, they cooked their neighbors a meal because their neighbors had nothing. Tragedy would not break them. Grief would not stop them. They would serve the Lord no matter the circumstance.

Working, Serving, Living Sent.....it's just who they are.

Baptists on Mission is proud to honor Don and Marie Grindstaff as our 2025 Volunteers of the Year!



# Baptist on Mission Heritage Award Recipient

In 1 Corinthians 10:31, it states, "Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." For many years, Robert and Kathryn have been glorifying God through their actions.

Robert is a long-time volunteer and leader with Baptists on Mission (BOM) missions. He has led more than 20 BOM mission trips to Massachusetts, Wyoming, and Guatemala (three to four times), Ukraine, to Red Springs (five or more times), to Charity (two times), to Lumberton, Shelby (three to four times), West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and other locations.

The Simons have served on our BOM Board and advisory team for many years. Robert was elected and served as BOM President from 2017 to 2020. While he was our President, we initiated and expanded ministries, including the purchase of new Disaster units and a mobile dental unit. We also had major Disaster responses and rebuilds following Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence. While he was President, we also purchased and renovated our rebuild centers in Lumberton, Charity, and New Bern.

Robert has achieved many notable accomplishments. I have a quote on my desk by Dallas Willard that says, "What matters is not the accomplishments that you achieve; what matters is the person you become."

Some of the one to two-word descriptions about Robert & Kathryn describe him in one or two words- Kind, thoughtful, wise, Servant heart, Great integrity, joyful/great smile, humble, considerate, calming, great listener, big heart, compassionate and willing to serve, always friendly and smiling, contagious laugh, humble, positive, affirming of people, servant, with him everyone is important and treated well.

Baptists on Mission is pleased to honor Robert and Kathryn Simons as our Heritage Award recipients for 2025.





## BAPTISTS ON MISSION STAFF

### FULL-TIME CARY OFFICE STAFF

Mark Abernathy,  
*Partnership (National & Some International) Missions Consultant & Men's Ministry*

Jay Baugham,  
*Missions Mobilization Consultant*

Tom Beam,  
*Disaster Relief & Mobilization (Cuba) Consultant*

K Brown,  
*Videographer/Communications Consultant*

Richard Brunson,  
*Executive Director-Treasurer*

Chelsie Carpenter,  
*Financial & Projects Assistant*

Tracey Ford,  
*Mobilization & Disaster Relief Assistant*

Tina Holder,  
*Events & Partnerships Assistant*

Crystin Irwin,  
*Executive Assistant*

Teresa Jones,  
*Financial Coordinator/International Roma Partnership*

Paul Langston,  
*Missions Mobilization Consultant (State & some International)*

Dollie Noa,  
*Children/Family Missions Mobilization Consultant*

Dee Payne,  
*Medical Ministry Assistant*

Gayla Putnam,  
*Financial Assistant*

Krissy Watson,  
*Healthscreening & Dental Ministry Coordinator*

### PART-TIME & CONTRACT

Susanne Kinlaw,  
*Financial Assistant (Part-Time)*

Lynn Tharrington,  
*Board of Directors & Advisory Council Communications Liaison (Contract)*

Clay Warf,  
*Director of Development (Part-Time)*

### DEPLOYED STAFF

Dewey & Kathie Aiken,  
*Appalachian Coalfields & Pennsylvania Partnerships Coordinators (MSC)*

### MISSION CAMP COORDINATORS:

*Shelby* - Robbie & Christie Alexander  
*Red Springs* - Larry & Teresa Osborne  
*Charity* - Richard & Tammy Weeks



## 2025 BOM Board of Directors

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Agriculture Missions..... Chris Bellamy, *Tabor City*

Aviation ..... Chris Olin, *Charlotte*

Baptist Builders..... Tom Poston, *Fayetteville*

Baptist Educators ..... Kevin Rutledge, *Strasburg, VA*

Children's Mission ..... Brittney Sams, *Boonville*

Church Renewal..... Joey & Genevieve Hamer, *Clayton*

Compassion Ministries ..... Taylor & Susan Field, *Black Mountain*

Disaster Recovery ..... Mark Hinson, *Monroe*

Disaster Relief ..... Terry Hall, *New Bern*

Family Foundations ..... Rex & Emily Stroud, *Dobson*

International Projects ..... Gene Kirby, *Morganton*

Medical Dental Fellowship .... Sheila Prevatte, *Salisbury*

Men's Ministry ..... Scott Ward, *Charlotte*

National Projects ..... Steve Carter, *Lincolnton*

NC State Projects ..... Chip McGuirt, *Raleigh*

Prayer Support ..... Tracy Leonard, *Castalia*

Sports and Recreation Ministries..... John Griggs, *Raleigh*

Student Mobilization & College Missions ..... Travis Suttles, *Jacksonville*

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Vice President, Piedmont ..... Pete Teague, *Salisbury*

Vice President, West ..... Linda Pitman, *Spruce Pine*

Recording Secretary ..... Lynn Tharrington, *Louisburg*

Past President ..... Steve Couch, *Durham*

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#2 ..... Brenda Boberg, *Farmville*

#3 ..... Dudley Neal, *Roseboro*

#4 ..... Jimmy Walker, *Butner*

#5 ..... Paul Hooker, *Madison*

#6 ..... Dennis Holloway, *Rockingham*

#7 ..... Beverly Eckard, *Boonville*

#8 ..... Bob Joyner, *Mooreville*

#9 ..... Perry Brindley, *Asheville*

#10 ..... Carol Millsaps, *Robbinsville*

### AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Wanda Temple, *Creedmoor* – 2027

Beth Rogers, *Spruce Pine* – 2026

Steve Reavis, *Elon* – 2025

### IN LOVING MEMORY – J.E. SKINNER

J. E. Skinner, who passed from this life to his eternal home on Saturday, June 14. Especially remember Betsy, his faithful wife, who was constantly by his side as they served together as Jesus' hands and feet.



Tom Beam writes, "My great friend, J. E. Skinner, was almost 94, and just until a few weeks ago, he was still building wheelchair ramps. He was a long-time Disaster Response volunteer, and I saw him serving in Spruce Pine about six weeks ago after Hurricane Helene. I cannot count the number of trips to Cuba and Honduras that he and Betsy made with me for Deep Impact. They also spent about six weeks every summer at Deep Impact camps

doing whatever they were asked. Well done, good and faithful servant!

J. E. described his commitment to his Lord in this way: "In 1995, I made a promise of full-time service to the Lord. I also promised Him that if He would provide my needs, I would give up my wants. I had known for years that God was just waiting for me to make these decisions that would give me more opportunities to answer His call to serve." JE fulfilled this promise through his work with local churches, as well as in numerous positions with NC Baptists on Mission, Deep Impact, and other avenues. He served in many countries around the world, but his greatest joy was working with youth. J.E. was recognized as the 2008 BOM "Volunteer of the Year." You may view his full obituary: [www.biggsfuneral.com/obituary/julius-skinner](http://www.biggsfuneral.com/obituary/julius-skinner).

Baptists on Mission has been so blessed, and many lives have been changed because of J.E.'s obedience to his calling to glorify God in meeting human needs in Jesus' Name!

# Agricultural Training - Agriculture Missions



In a previous article, we looked at several scriptures, including Genesis 2:8; "The Lord God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed."

God Himself provided the garden, and as an act of worship and

obedience, He has called us to serve Him and to preserve what he has given us. Part of this service is to fulfill the purpose of the Agricultural Ministry of helping "Christians share the love of Jesus by becoming involved in missions that address poverty and hunger wherever they exist".

One of these missional needs is in Shelby, NC. In April 2025, the Ag Missions team partnered with Robbie Alexander at the Shelby Mission Camp to host a garden day. With the intention of having a formal training day, the small attendance prompted us to get out in the garden and have a practical, hands-on field day with those who came. It was very educational for us all and helpful for the camp, which uses the garden to address community needs and as a tool to share the gospel.

The Shelby Mission Camp is always seeking volunteers for its agriculture ministry, and it also plans to host additional training sessions for those interested. Our next full-day training is scheduled for September 13, 2025. Please reach

out to Robbie at the Shelby Mission Camp if you would like to join us for the training, or find other dates on which you can volunteer with agricultural missions at the camp.

In the Agriculture Missions ministry, we hope to fulfill this call to worship and obey Him in all of our agricultural activities.

Currently, members of our team are planning opportunities to serve in Togo, Africa and Santiago, Cuba. We also have potential opportunities to serve at the Veterans Farm of NC in Cameron, NC.

Do you have an interest in the above activities or ideas for other agricultural outreach opportunities? Perhaps you're interested in being involved with the Agricultural Missions team? Does your church have an interest in starting a local Agricultural ministry? Or, do you have questions related to agricultural issues? Whatever your need is, please reach out and we will serve you in the best way we can. We also encourage you to visit the Agriculture Missions page of NC Baptists on Mission for upcoming opportunities, as well as helpful web links to agricultural resources.

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# Love is in the Air

Bob Oglesby

Angel Flight Pilot since 1999

Three recent flights vividly show the variety of missions that pilots of NC Baptist on Mission: Aviation Ministry often fly. Though different, these flights have one common thread: pilots taking to the air with their resources, skills, and love of God to meet the needs of others.

Candice's recent flight was an example of reoccurring trips for someone needing checkups. I have flown Candice off and on for over fifteen years. A lung transplant patient, her semi-annual flights from Shelby to Raleigh (UNC Medical Center) are necessary to keep her immune system from rejecting her transplant. My latest trip, bringing Candice home from Raleigh was truly a blessing for me, watching her vibrant and uplifting spirit as we flew over Piedmont North Carolina.

When I asked Candice about the knitting she was doing, she said, "It was for her newborn granddaughter." God's Grace, Angel Flights, and NC Baptist on Mission Aviation Ministry has made it possible for Candice to live these many extra years to praise and thank God for healing. The transplant and continued successful treatment have allowed her to enjoy friends, family, her farm animals, and a new granddaughter!

A second flight with Ysaita involved an entirely different situation. Ysaita was going from Raleigh to Miami for cancer treatment. She can only get affordable treatment (experimental or insurance issues) in Miami. Ysaita's trip involved three different planes and pilots, and I was the first leg pilot. Complicating our flight, Ysaita spoke no English, and neither my copilot nor I spoke Spanish. She was able

to use Google Translate to communicate via text as we set up the trip. When we met Ysaita at Atlantic Aero we were able to greet each other but that was about it. However, a universal understanding that I wanted to pray for her and the safety of this and her following flights, brought a warm smile and a thank you from Ysaita. As we shared thoughts and words in a brief prayer, all of us knew God listens in all languages even though we may not understand what is being said! Just because we couldn't converse in her native tongue on our flight to Hilton Head, SC, we saw Ysaita's gratitude as she thanked us when we handed her off to the next pilots. Ours and the following two flights went well and Ysaita arrived in Miami safely.

Last year NC Baptist on Mission pilots introduced multiple youth to the joys of flight through participation in Young Eagle/Prayer flights. We flew many loads of young people out of Morganton/Lenoir airport with emphasis on experiencing a different view of God's vast creation, giving thanks for the bounty He has provided. The excitement and sometimes anxiety of leaving Mother Earth for the first time is a true joy and privilege to share.

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# Hope in Darkness: Engaging Local Schools with the Gospel of Christ

We want to encourage our Christian teachers to share their perspectives from the classroom. Andrea Mathews teaches ESL & Spanish at North Henderson High School in Hendersonville:

"I admit that I am distracted. As I write, a beloved student is fighting for his life after a drowning incident over the weekend. Anthony is an ESL student from Nicaragua who I have taught in four different classes. I keep replaying fond memories I have of him like when he came to school wearing his "hecho nuevo" t-shirt after he was baptized. He was so excited to tell me about it. Or when another student told me that Anthony invited him to church and led him to Christ. Recently he played the thief on the cross at his church's Easter play. He showed me pictures and we had a good laugh about how there weren't enough costumes so he hung from the cross wearing his Dale Earnhardt t-shirt.

Our school is grieving. But because God saved Anthony, I can tell his friends (and myself) that when the doctors say he likely won't open his eyes again, we don't have to believe them. Anthony will either open his eyes soon in the ICU or later with his resurrected body. Because of the hope we have in Christ, we aren't waiting on *if* he will open his eyes, but *when*.

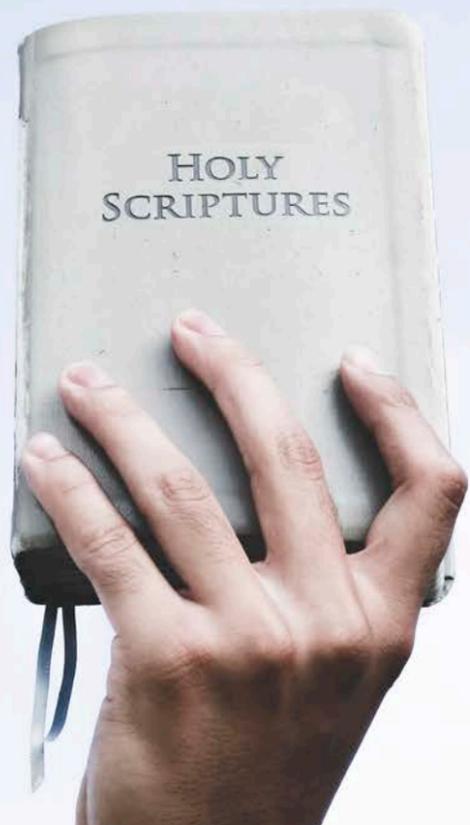
Public schools get a bad rap in some Christian communities. Sometimes it's for good reasons. But I want to push back against the instinct to retreat and instead encourage believers to engage with local schools, taking note of the many opportunities that exist to shine the light of Christ to those who are hurting and walking in darkness.

I wish churches could see what I've seen and hear what I've heard this week: Students, teachers, and Anthony's family huddled together in prayer, crying out to the Lord for help. Unbelieving teachers flipping through pages of the Bible to look for encouragement, finally open to talking about faith with their Christian coworkers. Heartbroken teenagers expressing faith that God is in control in the midst of this tragedy as they hand out Gideon Bibles to their friends who are hurting. Believing teachers counseling students who can barely look at Anthony's empty desk without tears streaming down their face. I cannot imagine our school going through this tragedy without the hope of the gospel that believers have brought to those who are grieving.

But we need more laborers for the harvest. Likely, the schools near your church are filled with people carrying their own unique burdens. They may or may not know Christ. How might you meet their needs and bring hope to their darkness? If you need guidance, reach out to

principals and teachers this week. And pray that the Lord would use your congregation to fulfill the great commission in the hallways and classrooms near you." *{Since this story was written, Anthony has passed away.}*

**Many of you have contacted us to see about getting a plan together to reach out and establish connections with local public schools. We have a team of teachers who will pray for you and encourage your church. Please contact us if your church would like to get a plan together to reach out to your local public schools.**



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# Is God calling you? Perhaps Church Renewal Journey is where He is calling you to.



The lyrics of Dan Shutte's familiar song include this chorus:

*"Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart."*

Church Renewal Journey (CRJ) would remind you of this chorus – Lay people who have felt God calling them to hold His people in their hearts and to do

something about it. Each time a church reaches out to CRJ and decides to have one of the available weekend's, a new team of laity is assembled from all over to come together – to love God's people and further His Kingdom.

Recently, CRJ was hosted at Red Bud Baptist Church in Castalia, NC for an Awakening Weekend. It was obvious upon arrival that the church body was anticipating something big! Excitement was in the air and the Prayer

Committee of the church reported that they had been praying every Thursday night for one month before the event. Prayer really is essential to everything Christians do. Without God we cannot do anything, but with Him – the possibilities are unlimited!

Although the expectations were very high, Church General Chari, Lynn Tharrington, stated that "expectations were not only met but highly exceeded". Lynn along with Pastor Mark Howard commented on how so many of the church members opened up in small groups about things that no one ever heard before and how refreshing the weekend was for all.

CRJ is for everyone -not just adults. The preschoolers, children and student ministry were included in preplanned activities. The preschool and children led worship with music. While the student ministry offered a rendition of a skit which reiterated the importance of telling everyone we know about Jesus because we do not know how much time we have here on earth.



This is just a small glimpse on one of the weekends that CRJ offers to any church that feels it may want to have a team come to your church. Our other weekends include: Equipping; Commissioning; Prayer Empowering; Sending; Spiritual Warfare and Turning Point. If you are interested in more information on how to bring a CRJ weekend to your

church, you may visit [www.crjmessageboard.com/](http://www.crjmessageboard.com/) or email [crjnc01@gmail.com](mailto:crjnc01@gmail.com) for more information.

Do you hear a voice calling to you? Are you responding: *Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?* Church Renewal Journey is always looking for new team members. We especially need volunteers that have a heart for preschool, children and students (middle – high school). No training necessary, God will give you what you need and so will we. If you like meeting new people and going to new places, please consider becoming a team member. You may visit [www.crjmessageboard.com/](http://www.crjmessageboard.com/) or email [crjnc01@gmail.com](mailto:crjnc01@gmail.com) for more information.

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# Listening Ears and Hearts of New Friends

by Kathie Aiken

Recently as Dewey and I worked two weeks as relief coordinators at the Hendersonville Rebuild Center, we witnessed numerous acts of compassion. We hosted over 100 Amish young adults from Pennsylvania and Indiana who tirelessly worked to rebuild homes in our area. These two teams of young people skillfully used their unbelievable talents and energy to complete several homes damaged by Hurricane Helene. Each night they shared how their work was the hands and feet of Jesus that day. Their kindness, respect and smiles were contagious to us and the homeowners.

Each of the two weeks, the house parents told us they would like to prepare a meal and invite the homeowners with whom their team was working. Both Thursdays, we had several families join us for dinner. Not only were they welcomed warmly by our Amish youth but were served a delicious Pennsylvania Dutch family style meal. Also, the teams sang beautiful hymns in accapella, four- part harmony. It was a delightful experience. Then the families were asked if they wanted to share their experience through the horrific storm. One by one, they spoke of their devastating loss and how God provided for them

then and now. There were tears... tears of remembrance and tears of gratitude. They were allowed to share their stories with the listening ears and hearts of new friends. These young people from another region of the US and a different culture genuinely leaned in to hear from these families. They will not forget and they will continue to pray.

What was done in East Flat Rock recently can be repeated and expanded all through our NC towns and communities. In each of our WNC counties, there are people whose lives have been changed forever because of the storm. They continue to hurt. Our churches who are neighbors to these families can minister to them consistently by being alert to where they are and how they can help. There may be furniture or household items that are needed as the family moves back in. They may need some trucks to assist with a move. Their

lawn may need to be landscaped. They may need some meals during the transition or special help with holidays. The list is limitless but it takes open eyes and open hearts. Our NC churches can choose to show compassion to these hurting people.

I am reminded often of the verses in Luke 14 that say, "When you host a banquet, invite those who are poor, maimed, lame or blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you." Our Amish friends exemplified it well in Hendersonville. No other reason except genuine compassion... just as Jesus showed.



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# Disaster Relief Training

Disaster Response Training is an important step in participating in any disaster we have been asked to respond to. In 2025 we trained over 3,000 people. Let's do that again this year. Training prepares you to know what to expect and how to prepare to respond. Training helps you get to know your leaders. And training gets you on the first call out for disasters we respond to. Of course, the best training is at a response site in the midst of helping people who are hurting. Spring 2026 trainings will open this fall:

- February 21- Rosemary Baptist Church, Roanoke Rapids, NC
- February 27 - Mercy Hill Church, Greensboro, NC
- March 14 - Westwood Baptist Church, Roxboro, NC
- March 28 - Stewartville Baptist Church, Laurinburg, NC
- April 25 - Peninsula Baptist Church, Mooresville, NC
- May 2 - Iotla Baptist Church, Franklin, NC

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[tbeam@ncbaptist.org](mailto:tbeam@ncbaptist.org)

For those volunteers who need to update their badges by the end of 2025 you can choose to participate in a zoom training this fall. Listed below are the ministries and dates. Registration is open.

### Childcare/Family Care

Tuesday, August 12; 6:00 - 9:00 pm

### Shower/Laundry

Thursday, August 21; 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
 Thursday, September 18; 6:30 - 8:00 pm

### Recovery

Saturday, September 6; 9:00 - 11:00 am  
 Saturday, October 4; 9:00 - 11:00 am

### Logistics

Thursday, September 25; 6:00 - 9:00 pm  
 Saturday, September 27; 1:00 - 3:00 pm

### Chaplaincy

Thursday, October 30; 7:00 - 9:00 pm

### Maintenance

Monday, July 21; 7:00 - 9:00pm  
 Monday, July 28; 7:00 - 9:00 pm

### Feeding

Thursday, October 16; 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
 Saturday, October 18; 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

### Medical

Tuesday, September 23; 6:00 - 8:00 pm  
 Monday, September 29; 6:00 - 8:00 pm



# Disaster Relief Fall 2025 Zoom Recertification

Disaster Relief continues to be active and blessed by serving God. Since Hurricane Helene in the Fall of 2024, many opportunities have been provided for volunteers to answer God's call to serve. And many volunteers have responded to this call, for which Disaster Relief is very grateful. Due to the ongoing need in WNC, seven trainings (instead of five) took place this spring, with over 3,000 volunteers being trained. Thanks to God for this abundance of believers stepping out in the Disaster Response world. With four major rebuild sites established in WNC, opportunities for every ministry in Disaster Response exist daily. Please go to WNC to assist.

Disaster Response plans to offer online recertification this fall for some ministries. If a trained volunteer was unable to update their badge this spring, and their badge expires at the end of 2025, then they can sign up for the Zoom update training by clicking on the QR code on this page or going to this link:

[baptistsonmission.org/training/disaster-relief-training](https://baptistsonmission.org/training/disaster-relief-training)

Listed below are the Zoom badge update trainings being offered.

Maintenance – July 21 or 28

Family Care – August 12

Shower/Laundry – August 21 or September 18

Recovery – September 6 or October 4

Medical – September 23 or 29

Logistics – September 25 or 27

Feeding – October 16 or 18

Chaplaincy – October 30

CONTACT	
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## The Will of The Spirit

I gave my life to Jesus when I was seven years old. However, as it would later unfold in my high school years, despite claiming to be a Christian, there was little evidence of that to my peers. No Christian is perfect on their best day. We are forgiven sinners trying to live for Jesus. I encountered the Holy Spirit on a mission trip in Grifton, NC in 2000, and that was when I knew the Lord had truly saved and forgiven me and had a plan for me to serve with NCBOM. Several years after we graduated from high school, my best friend was drawn by the Holy Spirit and was saved and I could tell it was real. I realized back then that I had not been the example and witness in front of him that would have pointed him to Jesus. I had nothing to do with his salvation, other than that he knew I attended church. That made me more aware that we all influence people in a way that can point them to Jesus or to hell. Although I know it is the work of the Holy Spirit that saved him and not me. Since then, he was called to preach the Word. We often discuss the Holy Spirit and how it seems that many people do not follow the Spirit as they should, as I didn't when I should have. But the Spirit is Jesus himself. So we must be aware of His guidance every day.

Not too long ago I studied how the Holy Spirit works and moves as it will, like Jesus told Nicodemus (John 3:8). I was unloading corn at a feed mill last Fall, and while standing there beside the truck, the wind blew through and the Holy

Spirit reminded me, as the wind comes and goes where it will, the Spirit goes where it will, to whom it will, saving whom it will.

We must be about the work of the Lord while we can. If not, we are letting people go to hell without telling them that Jesus loves them and wants to save them. The Spirit also uses us to be a witness of Himself to others. I need to do a better job myself. Disaster Response is still one of the greatest ways to show Jesus to people. But we must be Spirit-filled and Spirit-led to lead them to the truth of salvation. We need to respond when the opportunity arises.

I took a picture of a rainbow over the Leland, NC site in 2024, at the exact location where we responded to flooding from the unnamed storm before Hurricane Helene. That was a God given gift to remind us He is still God and always will be. Let the Spirit fill your soul and be a Baptist on Mission.

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# Strengthening Marriages, Building Families, Impacting the Kingdom

The Family Foundation's mission is to assist and encourage churches, pastors, and church leaders in their privilege of developing strong Christian families; and to help families grow in their relationship with Christ through hands-on missions and by providing needed resources for all aspects of the family.

We firmly believe that the home, marriage, and children represent our first mission field—the foundation from which all other ministry flows.

This spring, the Family Foundation teams had the privilege of encouraging and supporting couples at the Missions Conference through a special breakout session. It was an uplifting time of meeting new families and offering practical and spiritual encouragement.

In addition to the conference, our team hosted a marriage retreat at the Caraway Conference Center, where fourteen couples gathered to focus on strengthening their marriages. The theme for the retreat was *Perfectly Imperfect*. Every couple, no matter how strong, is imperfect. Yet through God's love, provision, and Christ as the ultimate foundation, He creates a perfect bond, even in our imperfections. This theme was woven throughout the retreat, as we explored the lives of couples in the Bible—real people, with struggles, triumphs, and growth—that we can relate to and learn from.

Interactive games and discussions added an engaging element to the retreat, helping couples deepen their connection with one another. One particular activity involved a large table puzzle, where couples were randomly assigned pieces and asked to decide which one to move. Marriage, much like this puzzle, is filled with surprises. You never know what the next turn will bring or when your next opportunity will arise, but together, with prayer and God's guidance, you move forward. Even when we have no control over the outcome, our decisions are anchored in Christ.

One biblical couple that exemplifies this principle is Aquila and

Priscilla. Throughout Scripture, this husband-and-wife team stands out as an example of faith, resilience, and partnership in ministry. They were exiled from Rome for their beliefs, yet remained unwavering in their commitment to Christ. Together, they traveled with the Apostle Paul, disciplined others, and served as tentmakers, all while creating a home where God was glorified. Their unity in purpose and service is a powerful testament to the strength of a marriage rooted in Christ.

Aquila and Priscilla's example invites us to consider: How strong is the foundation of our marriages? With life's unpredictability—balancing work, raising children, caring for aging parents, and facing our own challenges—it's essential that we build our marriages on Christ. When marriages are strong, churches are strong, and the broader mission field is strengthened.

As part of our ongoing commitment to strengthening marriages, the Family Foundation is available to serve your church through marriage retreats and other resources. If you're interested in hosting a retreat or event, please don't hesitate to reach out. We also invite you to join us for a special statewide event on October 18th: *The Marriage You've Always Wanted Conference* with Dr. Gary Chapman. This one-day event will be held at Pleasant Garden Baptist Church in Pleasant Garden, NC, and the cost is \$40 per couple. The fee covers handouts, a workbook, program materials, and a boxed lunch. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m.

We look forward to partnering with you to strengthen marriages and families, and together, advance God's kingdom.

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# The Marriage

YOU ALWAYS WANTED

FEATURING DR. GARY CHAPMAN

RALEIGH, N.C.

SATURDAY, OCT. 5, 2019

Join the Family Foundations Ministry of N.C. Baptists on Mission for this one-day marriage conference.

## Trinity Baptist Church

4815 Six Forks Rd. | Raleigh, NC  
Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019 | 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

FEATURING DR. GARY CHAPMAN



Sponsored by Family Foundations Ministry of N.C. Baptists on Mission.

## Cost

\$30 per couple includes conference materials and lunch

## Schedule

- 8 a.m. Doors open, registration, coffee at Disaster Relief Unit
- 8:55 a.m. Overview of the day and introduction of Dr. Chapman
- 9 a.m. Communications 101
- 10:10 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. Understanding and Expressing Love
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. Initiating Positive Change
- 1:30 p.m. Break
- 1:45 p.m. Making Sex a Mutual Joy
- 2:45 p.m. How to Share the Things that Bug You
- 3:30 p.m. Closing, announcements, dismiss

REGISTER ONLINE [WWW.BAPTISTSONMISSION.ORG/FAMILYFOUNDATIONS](http://WWW.BAPTISTSONMISSION.ORG/FAMILYFOUNDATIONS)

MORE INFORMATION TRACEY FORD | [TFORD@NCBAPTIST.ORG](mailto:TFORD@NCBAPTIST.ORG) 919.459.5596

# Armenia The Land of Noah

## ENCOURAGING, STRENGTHENING, AND PLANTING CHURCHES

Baptists on Mission has had the privilege of walking alongside the Armenian Baptist Union for over 20 years, planting and strengthening churches, training pastors, and building church buildings. A new generation of leaders is rising up to reach their country and region with the gospel. Each step of the way, we are walking with them.

After years of devastating war with neighboring Azerbaijan, a wave of revival is sweeping the country. Churches are filled, hundreds of children participate in VBS, and many new believers are committing their lives to Christ.

A Yezidi Kurdish community of believers has been meeting in the pastor's home for years, praying for a church building. With only five (5) Yezidi Christian churches in the world having a building was a huge dream. Pastors Siaband and Tengiz, the father and son who lead the church, developed a network with the other Yezidi churches around the world. In May 2022, the church acquired a piece of property in a small village and construction began soon afterwards. Exactly three years later, in May 2025, thanks to the efforts of many volunteers and sacrificial donors, the new church building was dedicated to the glory of God. This is the only church building in the town of Avshar! At another church, a porch was converted into a kitchen to accommodate refugees from the war with Azerbaijan who had been living in the church for two years.

Teams can lead Pastor's or Women's Conferences, conduct sports camps or VBS, help with the construction of a new church, or assist pastors and church planters. In 2026, we plan to build another church in central



Armenia, in a town without a church. You can fan the flames of revival by volunteering or donating to the Armenia Partnership.

Contact Paul Langston to learn more about serving in this country at the crossroads between Europe, Asia, and the Middle East..

### Will You...

**Pray:** That church planters will answer God's call, and many hearts will be open to the gospel.

**Give:** Sponsor a church planter for \$200 per month or help with church construction costs.

**Go:** Send a team to serve alongside Armenian believers and strengthen church planters.



Register your Team: [baptistsonmission.org/Mission-Projects/Outside-US/Armenia](https://baptistsonmission.org/Mission-Projects/Outside-US/Armenia)

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# CUBA God is Always Working

Cuba has long been an under-resourced country, and in the years leading up to and following COVID, the circumstances have deteriorated rapidly. Many people have left the country due to dire conditions, with estimates indicating that approximately 20% of the population has left since 2021. Even so, church leaders have indicated that people are coming to faith in Jesus Christ in greater numbers than they have seen in many years. We should not be surprised that God is always working, and ever present in the midst of suffering to gather His children unto Himself. All He asks is that we join with Him.

This is where we come in as a people called into mission with God, in Cuba – and around the world. The great challenge in Cuba is how to resource the work of the church in a country with so few resources and a daily struggle to survive. For Baptists on Mission, we have provided resources through mission teams that travel and work on projects such as the Eastern Baptist Association Convention offices, the Baptist Seminary(s), and the Retirement Center. Building a project is one mission; operating and maintaining it over time is another. Many of you reading this article have participated in these projects. What is needed is a sustainable structure for financial resources, along with effective leadership, that enables Cuban leaders on the ground to plan and carry out short-term needs and long-term strategies for spreading the Gospel with greater confidence each day.

After much prayer and planning, a new non-profit has been formed, Sharing Hope Global, Inc., to establish an endowment type fund for Cuba missions whereby the income from professionally managed funds will go to fund

the operations of the Seminaries, and the Retirement Home as well as contribute to planting churches and sending missionaries throughout Cuba. The goal is to raise \$1,000,000 for these efforts. At 5%, or \$50,000 in earnings, that is enough money to fund the operations of the projects mentioned and the entire budget of all the churches in the Eastern Baptist Convention. Some years will be more, some less, but this resource will go a long way toward providing sustainable resources for the Kingdom's efforts in a place where resources are among the most difficult to access in the world. For more information, email [info@sharinghopeglobal.org](mailto:info@sharinghopeglobal.org).

Construction teams continue to serve in Santa Clara and Santiago. We are now scheduling teams for 2026. Dates have been updated and are now available on the website. As long as at least one person on your team has some construction skills, you will be able to serve in Cuba. In the last few years, we have had 16 teams travel to Cuba. Our goal for 2026 is 18-20 teams. Deep Impact is also scheduled to return to Cuba in 2026. The QR code on this page will direct you to the Cuba webpage, where you can find more information. For more information, contact Tom Beam, [tbeam@ncbaptist.org](mailto:tbeam@ncbaptist.org) or Dollie Noa, [dnoa@ncbaptist.org](mailto:dnoa@ncbaptist.org).

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For more information on how to sign up for a team to travel to Cuba, please visit our webpage: <https://baptistsonmission.org/Mission-Projects/Outside-US/Cuba>

# GUATEMALA

## A Trip That Stays With You

Is your church seeking a mission trip that goes beyond service—one that builds lasting relationships and transforms lives? Prayerfully consider partnering with our friends Roger and Vicki Grossman with Good Shepherd Ministries. For our church, this opportunity is more than just a week of volunteering. It has become the beginning of a powerful journey of faith, relationship, and love. From the moment we first arrived, we were welcomed by a Christ-centered community where love, hope, and healing are at the heart of everything. We quickly fell in love with the children, the staff, and the facility's beauty. God's work is being powerfully lived out here. Children's lives are being transformed, and our teams have played a part in that story. As we serve, we become the hands and feet of Christ—offering help, encouragement, and joy. Yet without fail, our own hearts are filled and changed by the blessings we receive.

Through Baptists on Mission, our teams have partnered with Roger and Vicki Grossmann and Good Shepherd Ministries four times. Each visit deepened our love for the Grossmans and their incredible ministry. Over the past four years, we've been involved in a variety of projects, including: 1) eyeglass

clinics in nearby communities, 2) worship and prayer with local churches and families; 3) home construction and adobe brick making, 4) gardening, blackberry picking, and maintenance work, 5) teaching sewing classes, 6) helping with school activities and supporting staff, 7) providing supplies for the Good Shepherd Medical Clinic and children's home, and 8) hosting Family Night meals and worship with the children who live on-site. There is always meaningful work to be done, and every act of service makes a difference.

One week was just the beginning for us and our church. Many of our team members return home longing to go back—to continue the relationships and to bring others along with them. We come to serve, but leave having received a precious gift - a deeper love for God and His people. If your church is seeking a mission opportunity filled with compassion, purpose, and the joy of serving, come and see what God is doing through Good Shepherd Ministries in Guatemala. It's a journey that will change you forever.

- Grant Stanley, Trinity Baptist Church, Mooresville, NC

Baptists on Mission has partnered with Roger and Vicki Grossmann and Good Shepherd Ministries since 2011. Each year, BOM sends 20-25 teams to Guatemala. Teams serve in various construction and maintenance projects, all of which are necessary to keep the Good Shepherd Center vibrant and functioning. There is always plenty of work for all to do - men, women, and older youth. Teams enjoy interacting with the 25-30 children who receive care and love through the Good Shepherd Children's Home, another ministry of Good Shepherd. Two to three medical teams also serve each year, providing medical care in both remote, and nearby villages. Pray about your church taking a team in 2026!

A Guatemala date list for 2026 is on our website. Follow the QR code. Then, click on the link to view and download a .pdf date request list.



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# Experience God at Work in KENYA

Teams that serve with Baptists on Mission (BOM) through the Houses of Hope ministry in Kenya return knowing that they have truly "experienced God at work in Africa." Just getting to the ministry site is a bit of an adventure. A lengthy plane ride lands our teams in Nairobi, the capital. After a night's rest, a day's van ride brings them to the small town of Ahero, near Lake Victoria.

Upon arriving in Ahero and settling into the comfortable guesthouse, team members quickly become accustomed to the new sights, sounds, and smells. Each day, the team travels to a different village to build a house for a widow or family in need. The road to the house site might begin on a paved road, but usually ends up on a dirt road, which may eventually turn into a cattle trail. The house-building itself is a task that all volunteers can participate in, with the help of a small group of Kenyan "fundis" (experts) who are there to assist. While on the site for the day, the team helps build the house and can engage in ministry with the many children who come by to see what's going on.

Team members also have the opportunity to go house to house through the village, along with a translator, to give their testimony and share the gospel message. They find it a privilege to be invited into the simple homes of these

humble people. It does not take long to understand that most Kenyans are content with what they have and are gracious hosts. They are glad to hear what a volunteer has to share.

The day at the work site ends in celebration. The whole village is invited to come together for a house dedication that includes singing, prayer, an evangelistic message, and a house blessing. It's a joyous time and a great way to end the day. Team members leave knowing that the local pastor, who served as translator for the team and fellow laborer throughout the day, will return to the house for several weeks to lead a Bible Study that will deepen the villagers' understanding of who Jesus is and what He has done for them.

A trip to Kenya and participation in the Houses of Hope ministry can be arranged almost any time during the year. Teams can be as small as 5-6 volunteers or as large as 14-16. Simply call the Baptists on Mission office with an 11-day travel timeframe. Trips begin on a Tuesday and conclude on the following Friday. The cost of the trip includes approximately \$ 1,000 for ground expenses (which includes a one-night stay in one of Kenya's world-famous game parks), plus the cost of airfare, which ranges from \$ 1,200 to \$1,800, depending on the time of year. Come have a truly African experience while assisting a family in need and providing Bible study, as well as potentially starting a new church in Kenya!

A mission trip to Kenya can be planned for almost any time of the year. Visit our website at [www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org) or click the QR code to find out more about both this life-changing opportunity.

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# MOLDOVA PARTNERSHIP

## Mission Conference Offers Encouragement

Over two hundred pastors, church planters, and their wives gathered at the ministry center at Baltalta, just outside the Moldovan capital of Chisinau. March 27-29 for a nationwide missions conference. The theme was "Living Sent". Four general sessions and three breakouts centered on our shared call to spread the gospel message. Brother Ion Miron, General Secretary of the Moldovan Baptist Union, was delighted with the turnout, and spirit of the conference. This was the first time in many years that pastors from across the country were able to gather for worship and encouragement.

Baptists on Mission sponsored the conference, and worked with Miron to craft a time that would be both inspirational and informational. Key to the event was simply time for pastors, who rarely have opportunity, to come together, and share what God is doing in their lives and ministries. Brother Serghei shared, "This has been a great blessing to me and my wife. We enjoyed the fellowship with many brother ministers." General sessions included robust congregational singing, a missions

"theme interpretation", and a missions sermon. Richard Weeks, director of Charity Mission Camp, and BOM staff member Paul Langston each brought two mission sermons. Mark Abernathy, BOM staff member, did the theme interpretations. Sessions were also highlighted by a missions testimony by a Moldovan pastor or church planter, each sharing the unique ways that God is at work in their setting.

Breakout sessions offered practical information on involving church members in local missions, ministering in time of disaster, involving children in missions, and conducting a nationwide ServeMoldova initiative. A great highlight of the breakout sessions was the sharing of so many ways churches are already engaging their people in missions outreach. Brother Virgil shared, "I have been motivated to focus more on involving the church in practical ministry. I go home motivated, more encouraged and with a changed heart." Perhaps the greatest blessing of the weekend was the opportunity for the pastor's wives to fellowship, something that very rarely happens. Tammy

Weeks, Ministry Director for the Eastern Baptist Association, led three heart-felt sessions with these ladies. Smiles, laughs, tears, and hugs were plentiful!

Brother Ion sums up the tone of the conference perfectly, "Our desire and prayer is that Moldova will know God. Pastors are the ones who will lead the churches in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us raise up ministers who will be a model for the coming generations. We thank our partners who came alongside us to work toward this goal."

The focus of Baptists on Mission's partnership with the Moldovan Baptist Union is that of supporting church planting through strong Moldovan "mother churches", that are led by visionary pastors, gospel-focused, and mission-hearted. Several have been partnered, and God is doing great things, but more partners are needed.

**Check out the details about this exciting new partnership by utilizing the QR code. Pray about how you and your church can participate!**



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# ROMA PARTNERSHIP

## Students Reaching Students

### Through English Bible Camps

Jeff Rayle is a member of Lebanon Baptist Church in Greensboro, and his church is returning this year for a third trip through the partnership.

Teenagers in Hungary are like their counterparts in the U.S. They use cell phones, utilize social media, play video games, and face challenges such as finding their identity, struggling with self-esteem, and feeling overwhelmed by academic pressure or family issues. They also struggle to understand how someone can claim to believe in God yet live as if He does not exist. My wife Amy and I have served in student ministry as volunteers at Lebanon Baptist Church in Greensboro for nearly twenty years. We have a deep burden for students, which is why the opportunity to serve in Pécs, Hungary, holds such meaning for me. Our team's goal was to share Jesus and connect Hungarian students with the local church in Pécs. What we have seen God accomplish through two trips there has been amazing.

Our first trip in 2023 started with challenges. Students, as well as our translators—teachers at the Széchenyi school—were skeptical. Why were we there, and why were we so open about Jesus? We were told that religion is seen as a private matter. But as our students shared that Christianity is about a relationship, not religion, we saw walls begin to break down. By the end of the week, many students—and even some translators—were spending time with us after camp at the local church, Szeretetvár, where Pastor János and his team continued to build relationships. The connections did not end with the trip. Many of our team members remain in touch with their Hungarian friends. Two students from our first

visit began attending the youth group at Szeretetvár and returned as student translators for our team in 2024.

There is something powerful about watching students reach other students for Christ, whether at home or 4,800 miles away. Hungarian students responded to the authenticity of our students' faith. God has used the relationships that have been built to open the door for the Gospel. One personal moment confirmed for me that I was right where God wanted me: I shared daily lunches with a group of guys who did not know Jesus, and on our second trip, they saved me a seat each day. Last year, when asked their favorite part of camp, they replied, "hanging out with Jeff." After returning home to the States, one of them messaged me with deep, thoughtful questions about the Bible. God is working in his heart and the hearts of many there.

God has given all believers a clear mission – to tell and to teach (Matthew 28:19-20). He is using LBC and the local church in Pécs to carry out His mission through the English camp—and we are grateful to be part of it. Pray for our team as we prepare for another trip this summer. Pray for God to prepare the hearts of those we will meet to hear and receive the Gospel. Finally, pray for Pastor János and his team as they labor to spread the message of Jesus to the city of Pécs, Hungary.

For more information about the Roma Partnership/English Bible Camps, contact Teresa Jones.

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## South Africa – Door of Hope Village

# OFFERING HOPE TO THE HOPELESS

Making the concrete blocks from piles of sand and gravel may not be on your “bucket list,” but when those blocks are used to build a safe, loving home for a child who is desperate for a forever family, that mundane task takes on a new significance. Imagine working to transform a farm into a village that will be home to as many as 200 children who were born abandoned. Helping children understand that they are loved so that they can laugh without a care in the world is the backdrop for serving at Door of Hope Village.

Not only does the Door of Hope save infants from abandonment, but it also shows the love of God and provides children with a place to grow up rooted in faith, hope, and love. Building homes is just the beginning. The vision for Door of Hope Village is to rescue abandoned babies and offer those not chosen for adoption a place to grow to adulthood. This will involve building a school, a child development center, and additional facilities in the years to come.

You can offer hope to the hopeless through Baptists on Missions’ partnership with Door of Hope Children’s Mission. **There is space for your team in 2025!**



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Learn more or register your team at:

[https://baptistsonmission.org/Missions/Outside-US/South-Africa.](https://baptistsonmission.org/Missions/Outside-US/South-Africa)



# UKRAINE PARTNERSHIP- THE MINISTRY OF PRESENCE

Teresa Jones is on staff with Baptists on Mission and joined a trip to Western Ukraine in February 2025.

The third anniversary of the Ukraine war was fast approaching and I was scheduled to join a team in Western Ukraine to host a conference on dealing with trauma. I had felt compelled to join this team even though I was not going to lead, but simply observe the conference. However, as the day of departure got closer and closer, the anxiety began to build within me. The trip was coming at an inconvenient time and the political environment was unstable. But I moved forward in faith.

As I traveled to Ukraine, challenges mounted along the way, including rerouted flights due to storms, delayed luggage, and incorrect paperwork at the Ukrainian border. However, we pressed on, looking forward to what God would do. Little did I know that the war-weary, discouraged Ukrainians that we were meeting with were just waiting for people to show that they cared. As the conference began, the Lord’s presence filled the room as praises were being sung in Ukrainian, Hungarian and English. Following the plenary sessions, the women and the men divided into small groups and it was in this setting that we began to hear their stories. It wasn’t that we really understood all that they had endured or



experienced, but we were there. The ministry of presence was huge as we talked together, prayed together and tried our best to encourage them.

It was during one of these small group sessions that I met one of the pastors’ wives and heard a story about her daughter. Their faith shone through as I learned of how her daughter had faced significant health challenges, overcame them and was now attending a university in North Carolina, of all places. Little did I know that God would bring me together with her daughter, Evnika. Shortly upon my return, I reached out to her. Within a month, we had plans to meet up in Durham following her appointment at Duke. I learned that she was already connected with Baptists on Mission from volunteering with us following Hurricane Helene and she is a member of Lakewood Church in Black Mountain.

It soon became evident to me that the Lord had placed me on that trip to Ukraine so that I could be a support for Evnika in the coming days. Please pray for her as she makes important decisions regarding her healthcare. Also, pray for peace in Ukraine and the stamina of the Ukrainian people. Pray that as the gospel is shared in Ukraine, many will come to Jesus under their challenging circumstances.



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# Hope on Hatteras: Meeting Medical and Dental Needs in Isolated Avon, NC



Tucked between the wild Atlantic waves and the peaceful Pamlico Sound, the small village of Avon, North Carolina, lies quietly on Hatteras Island. With a population of just around

800 year-round residents, Avon is part of the remote Outer Banks—a string of barrier islands that rely heavily on tourism and coastal living.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, this sleepy village transforms into a buzzing summer haven, welcoming thousands of visitors who come to fish, sunbathe, surf, and enjoy the area's natural beauty. But when the tourists leave and the beaches are empty, Avon returns to a much quieter life. In the off-season, much of the town shuts down, leaving only essential businesses open: a grocery store, a gas station, a hardware store, and a few local eateries.

For those who call Avon home year-round, the slower pace is welcome, but it comes with challenges—chief among them, access to medical and dental care.

## A Health Crisis in a Remote Place

With limited employment opportunities outside the tourist season, many Avon residents struggle to maintain year-round income and insurance. The nearest comprehensive healthcare facilities are hours away on the mainland, and the trip isn't always guaranteed. During storms or high tides, the single lifeline to the mainland—Highway 12—is often impassable due to overwash or bridge closures.

"In a place like Avon, people can feel forgotten," says Pastor KJ Ellington of One Church Avon. "There just aren't enough resources, and the ones we do have are difficult to access or afford."

## A Church on a Mission

One Church Avon, a NC Baptist Church plant led by Pastor Ellington, is working to change that narrative. Over the past two years, Ellington and his family have partnered with

Baptist on Missions Dental Ministry to provide services to the neighboring island of Ocracoke. This January, they took things a step further, organizing an unprecedented two-day clinic in Avon itself.

From January 17 to 18, the Avon Fire Department served as a temporary medical hub, hosting 29 volunteers from across the state—including dentists, dental hygienists, nurses, a nutritionist, an ophthalmologist, dental students, and support staff—who came together to offer essential health services free of charge.

"This was like an overseas mission trip, but we were just over the sound," one volunteer said, emphasizing the sense of purpose and unity felt by all involved.

The Dental and Health Screening buses parked out front offered services ranging from dental cleanings and fillings to screenings for hypertension, A1C, cholesterol, depression, and vision. In just two days, the team saw 75 patients—residents who otherwise might have gone months, even years, without care.

One patient who suffered an eye injury shortly before the clinic was personally driven to a hospital over an hour away by a retired eye doctor who had volunteered his time. For many, this kind of compassion was just as healing as the medical care itself.

## More than Medicine

The Avon Fire Department, under the leadership of Chief Frankie Hopkins, generously opened its doors to the effort. Volunteers slept in the upstairs apartments, used the station's kitchen for meals, and converted every available space into areas for treatment, registration, kids' activities, and quiet moments of connection.



Registered dental hygienist and author Becky Moore reflected on the experience:

"Serving in Avon, NC with Baptists on Mission

Dental Ministry was more than providing dentistry—it was sharing God's love. The hope, smiles, new friendships, and presence of God reminded me that true service comes from the heart."

The community felt that love deeply. One local man, touched by the care and attention he received, gave his life to Christ just weeks after the event.

## A Return with Greater Purpose

The Dental and Health Screening buses are already planning a return trip to Avon this November. While the amount of physical needs was eye-opening, volunteers were even more moved by the depth of spiritual need within the community. One NC native who came to the clinic revealed he had never owned a Bible and had only been to church a handful of times in his life.

"This is why we do what we do, Carol Carter, Dental bus driver shared. "We meet the physical needs first, as we tell the Good News—with the hope that all will come to know and worship the name of Jesus."

For Avon, a town nestled between storm and sea, this outreach was more than a clinic—it was a beacon of hope and a promise that they are not alone. One Church Avon continues to love and serve their neighbors with the same passion and purpose, holding Sunday evening services at 5:30 p.m. in the Avon Fire Station.

"As a church in a small, isolated community, this ministry has reminded us that we matter," says Ellington. "We're grateful

for the support of Baptists on Mission and all who made this outreach possible."

You can also host the Dental and Health screening buses at your church or in your community, to provide relief for today and hope for tomorrow.

To support future missions in Avon and similar communities, visit [baptistsonmission.org](http://baptistsonmission.org) or give through NCMO

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Mobile Dental  
Ministry



Health Screening  
Ministry



# Happy to Work for the Lord in... APPALACHIAN COALFIELDS

When Johnson Oatman, Jr. penned the words to “Higher Ground” in the late 1800s, he had no idea what an impact it would have on so many Christians. The words of the great hymn have inspired many to “press toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14 KJV). Perhaps this is what motivated a group of believers in Coastal North Carolina to head to the hills, both spiritually and physically.

In 2023, the Mission Council at our church discussed plans to be more intentional in outreach activities. The church chose to serve through BOM’s Appalachian Partnership at Appalachian Ministries of the Smokies (AMOS), in Jefferson City, TN. Yes, we were headed to “Higher Ground,” and little did we know how this choice would bless us and others.

Upon arriving at AMOS, a host of dedicated and capable workers greeted our team. The office staff assisted in completing all the necessary paperwork. Warehouse and food pantry workers cheerfully instructed the volunteers. The home repairs leader quickly put that group to work.

Although hardships were encountered, including late summer heat, heavy lifting, long hours on concrete floors, poison ivy, and even itch-inducing redbugs, our volunteers persevered. Warehouse and pantry workers had the privilege of getting to know the ministry staff and were able to pray with them and encourage them in their work. The mission team interacted with the food pantry shoppers by bagging their groceries, helping load their vehicles, and praying with each person. As for the construction team, their arduous hours of working in the heat paid off in more ways than one. In addition to building a sturdy deck for a sweet older couple, the crew visited with them, shared a meal, and prayed for the failing health of both of them. It was discovered that the couple did not have access to drinkable water, and through God’s grace and others’ generosity, arrangements were made to pay the fee for a county water hookup. In just four days, many needy folks were shown God’s love, and the mission team felt truly blessed to serve them.

If your church family is looking for a place to serve, Appalachia may be it. There is a job for every skill level, and no

handicap will prevent you from finding a way to bless those in need. If you choose to go this route, you too will experience the blessings of “Higher Ground”!

- Linda Johnston, First Baptist Church, Morehead City, NC



Appalachian Christmas Outreach 2025 is underway now! Please join us in our goal of preparing and providing 24,000 backpacks for children throughout Appalachia and other places of need! Use the QR code to find out more!

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Baptists on Mission has developed the Appalachian Coalfields Ministry in order to minister both physically and spiritually to people in some of the poorest areas of our nation. Teams serve in the states of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and North Carolina. Projects include weekend to week-long service in children’s ministry, sports clinics, and construction, among others. There are dozens of requests for mission teams to help each year. See how your church can play a part!



# PENNSYLVANIA Opportunity Awaits!

In 2016, we were preparing for a mission trip to New York. Plans were in motion, details were arranged—until suddenly, they weren’t. Suddenly, we were left scrambling to organize an alternative for twenty youth. As we sifted through camp options and mission trip packages, we paused to ask God to lead us. That’s when an unexpected email changed everything. John Barkley, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Butler, Pennsylvania, responded to an inquiry I’d sent out in search of a new direction. One closed door led to another wide open—and since then, Little River Baptist has partnered with Hillcrest Baptist every summer for mission work.

Each trip has brought its own set of adventures. We’ve tackled church renovations, parking lot repairs, and local outreach. Our team has helped with home repairs, food ministries, and homeless shelters. In 2024, we replaced the church roof at Hillcrest. We have ministered in apartment complexes and at the local YWCA, teaching, preaching, and sharing the hope of the Gospel.

Yet, it is the relationships that have had the most lasting impact. Over the years, bonds have formed that feel more like family than partnership. Many of our adult volunteers affectionately refer to Butler as a “second home.” The camaraderie we share continues to grow deeper each year. We’ve seen God move powerfully—both in our lives and in the lives of those we’ve served. We’ve prayed bold prayers and seen them answered, like the gift of a downtown church building that expanded outreach to the underserved. We’ve watched God hold back storms long enough to finish the

day’s ministry. We’ve received overwhelming kindness from those we came to serve, reminding us again and again of God’s faithfulness. Our teens have learned that God uses the willing. They’ve experienced unity that only the Gospel can bring—one that transcends age, geography, and background.

After Hurricane Helene devastated my sister’s home, Pastor John and his crew from Hillcrest didn’t hesitate. They drove down to help, removing debris, tearing out walls, hauling mud, and praying with every person they encountered. This summer, we’ll see them again as the rebuilding continues. “For such a time as this.” God orchestrated this partnership so that two churches—separated by more than 500 miles—could experience the power of unified Gospel work and Christlike love. What began as a disrupted plan has become a treasured ministry.

- Pastor Marc Reynolds, Little River Baptist Church

Pennsylvania Partnership Requests for 2026 will be ready for your response by late September. Follow the QR code. Then, click on the link to view and download a .pdf projects request list.

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Baptist on Mission’s partnership with Pennsylvania Baptists began in 2007. Each fall, requests are posted for teams to view and respond. Outreach events, children’s ministry, and construction needs can all be found on the projects list, which is available as a PDF at the top of the Pennsylvania webpage. Pray about how God might use your congregation to serve others. It could be a one-time mission opportunity – or one your church invests in for several years. In either case, you and your congregation will be richly blessed!



# God Called Us To NEW ENGLAND

“Why drive 1100 miles for a mission trip to New England?” That is a question many of the members of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Taylorsville have been asked about their repeated mission trips to serve at White Mountain Camp (WMC) in Rumney, New Hampshire. Their answer is simple: “God called us to go there!”

Established in 1900, White Mountain Camps is a non-denominational center for evangelism and the teaching of Scripture. Over 100 years of reaching people with the message of salvation in challenging New England have taken a toll on the camp’s facilities. Cabins that have endured the severe weather of a New England winter each spring require a thorough cleaning and some repairs before being filled with children and youth for the summer. Cottages, dining halls, tabernacles, and bathhouses must be cleaned and prepared in anticipation of guests arriving for retreats, concerts, family reunions, and other meetings. The spaces at the Rumney Pines campground also need to be readied as seasonal and short-term guests will soon be arriving with trailers and tents. Along with other churches from North Carolina and other states, Bethlehem has sent teams to work at White Mountain’s Servants Camp, which is held for one week each June, for several years.

While at Servant’s Camp, we have seen God’s hand at work on so many occasions. Time spent together at night, worshipping and thanking God for His work through each member, has strengthened the bond within our team. The 6:00 AM coffee and prayer time in the front yard of the welcome center has been a highlight for the men. It is a time where men can openly share with each other, building trust and brotherhood. Likewise, women’s prayer time offers an opportunity to draw closer to their sisters in Christ.

The greatest highlight occurs on Thursdays when everyone travels up to White Mountain Ranch, the second camp located on Stenson Lake. On more than one occasion, the team has been able to share the good news as new believers are baptized. As with every mission trip, we go to work and serve. And there is plenty of work to be done! We expect that our team will be a blessing to the camp. And in small ways, we are. But as with most mission trips, we receive a tremendous blessing in return! Pray about coming to participate in Servant’s Camp next June!

- Barry Pierce, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Taylorsville, NC

**This is just one way mission teams are making a difference throughout New England. Visit BOM’s New England webpage and pray about how your church can make a Kingdom difference in New England in 2026!**

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New England projects for 2026 are posted on our webpage. Follow the QR code. Then, click on the link to view and download a .pdf projects request list.



# Repeat Trips Produce Fruit ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Who would have thought that a group of friends traveling to Montana in March of 2022 would lead to a mission opportunity? During our trip, we needed to store a van seat from our rental vehicle. Our pastor called a pastor of a church near the Bozeman airport, and he was fortunately able to help. Our relationship began that day. Several phone calls later, we had a small group go serve at the Bridge Gallatin Gateway Church. Our first task was to repurpose an area for hosting mission teams and interns.

Our team returned in the summer of 2023 and joined the Bridge Church for outreach during their local annual car show. We had a bouncy house and a rock climbing wall. We distributed backpacks filled with school supplies to children. Our team provided street cleaning for the city of Belgrade during the show. We took this opportunity to speak with locals and visitors to the show. Our southern dialect made it easy to have conversations. We invited attendees to check out the Bridge Church and many did. We also painted, did light construction, and installed a drop ceiling at the local school. These improvements got the attention of school leadership and parents when school began. We were known as “those Christians who did the work.”

In the summer of 2024, our youth group visited the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation to assist a youth camp for Reservation kids. The gospel message is shared with them, along with plenty of fun. Our group worked to get the camp ready for summer activities. We also helped with Vacation Bible School at Bridge Gateway Gallatin Church, which was held for the first time in years. Our team members were shocked when some of the students didn’t know what a Bible was. After hearing stories from the Bible, the students wanted to carry their Bibles home and share them with their parents.

Repeated trips to the school and car show have fostered lasting relationships both within and outside the church. We learned early on that it takes around three years before individuals begin to know and trust you. Conversations may start with “Why are you traveling across the country to do what you do?” By the way, we also get those same questions from home. Once team members go, they want to help and contribute in whatever way they can. Two of our men purchased and installed a new HVAC system for the Bridge Gateway Gallatin Church. Others have sent cards, letters and financial support. In short, listen to God, join Him where he is at work, and be obedient. The blessing will be yours!

-Greg Parker, Western Prong Baptist, Whiteville, NC



Cook and maintenance teams of 8-12 volunteers are needed each summer to serve at our partner Baptist Camps in Wyoming and New Mexico. Other requests come from all across the region. Check out the list and contact us if you have a team that can help!

Rocky Mountain Partnership Requests for 2026 will be ready for your response by late September. Follow the QR code. Then, click on the link to view and download a .pdf projects request list.

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# Like a Never-Ending Postcard!

# ALASKA

By Melissa Ezzell, Sount Vernon Baptist Church, Clinton, NC



In July 2024, a team from our church traveled to Whittier, Alaska. Whittier is one of the world's most unique and isolated cities, both physically and spiritually. We went expecting to serve, help, and encourage, but as always, God had more in store for us than we could have imagined.

While in Whittier, we served alongside Pastor Clay and the Whittier Community Church. It didn't take us long to figure out that the spiritual climate in Whittier is heavy and the isolation had taken a toll on Pastor Clay. Our first goal was to be a source of encouragement and refreshment for him. Truthfully? He was more of an encouragement to us. His passion for

the gospel and his love for the people of Alaska reminded us what steady faithfulness looks like, even when it is hard to see God's hand working.

Each morning, we held Vacation Bible School at the Whittier Community School. Day by day, more children showed up. Their energy and growing comfort with us were exciting! In the evenings, we hosted family game nights - nothing fancy, just games, snacks, and conversation. God used those simple gatherings to open the door for gospel centered conversations with the moms of the VBS kids. God opened hearts just by us being willing to listen and love them.

Our group also made a point to visit the local shop owners down by the Port each day. We wanted to be intentional about the opportunity for encouragement and conversation, trusting that God allowed us to plant and water seeds that He would grow. At the beginning of the week, it was hard to get them to talk to us, but by the end of the week, HIS light was breaking through, and most even

allowed us to pray with them.

And the landscape! Alaska is breathtaking. Towering mountains, glassy waters, and crisp air were all screaming God's praises. It was like a never-ending postcard! God spoke these things into existence, and He used the beauty of Alaska to remind us, over and over, on this trip, of His majestic handiwork. Our team is thankful for this opportunity through Baptists on Mission to partner nationally with Alaska and to be part of His Kingdom work there. If you are considering serving in Alaska, just go! God will provide, and you will fall even more in love with Him. When you know Him, you want to make Him known and when you go on mission to make Him known, you will know Him even more.

**Church teams have the opportunity to serve in many areas of Alaska each year. To check it out, visit Baptists on Mission's Alaska webpage. Review the list of offerings and contact our office for more information. God may be calling you and your team to serve in the "Last Frontier"!**

### CONTACT

Mark Abernathy  
(919) 459-5607  
mabernathy@ncbaptist.org



Alaska project for 2026 will be available by late September. Follow the QR code. Then click on the link to view and download a .pdf projects request list.



# HAWAII

## A Good Witness of God's Presence

The Pu'u Kahea Conference Center is located in Waianae, on the leeward side of the Hawaiian island of Oahu. Waianae is a community of native Hawaiians and has not experienced the commercialization and tourism as in other parts of Oahu. The Pu'u Kahea Center sits on 11 acres and has 11 buildings, including the Plantation Hale, the caretaker's house and the equipment garage. The Facility Director and his wife, the Camp Administrator, are the only full-time staff. They depend heavily on the help of volunteers. They reopened the center in 2022, which had been closed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

After contacting Baptists on Mission and being put in touch with the camp director, Wade and Carol Kirby served at Pu'u Kahea in February and March of 2025. They were the first couple to volunteer at Pu'u Kahea since its reopening. Since the facility had been closed and inoperable for over three years, much work was needed, including cleaning the buildings, washing and sanitizing bed linen and towels, general landscaping, and replacing toilets.

The Kirbys were tasked with preparing the Plantation Hale and the quadplex for an upcoming weekend conference. Duties included dusting, sweeping, and mopping the main floor of Hale Plantation and three of the five bunkrooms. Also, the quadplex apartments were prepared for the conference guests. The second week, the Kirbys helped prepare for an open house event held on Saturday. The objective of the open house was to generate interest and

inform attendees that Pu'u Kahea was now open for use. The various Hawaii Baptist Church representatives well-attended the event. During the third and fourth weeks, the Kirbys completed landscaping chores, such as raking, weeding, and mowing. Carol was tasked with cleaning bed linens and towels from the other living quarters. The two large linen closets at Hale Plantation were thoroughly cleaned, sanitized, and restocked with fresh, clean sheets, bedspreads, and towels. The two large outdoor utility closets were also reorganized.

The local community is aware of the Pu'u Kahea Conference Center. The Kirbys always wore their bright orange Hawaii Partnership t-shirts when going to local grocery stores and restaurants. Several locals expressed their appreciation for the Kirbys' presence in the community. Bookings for the Center are increasing, with hopes that local churches will utilize the Center. Pu'u Kahea is a good witness of God's presence in the Community.

Baptists on Mission's Hawaii Partnership offers couples the opportunity to make a real difference in the spiritual lives of Hawaii Baptists through service at Pu'u Kahea. The work is not easy. Couples should be in good physical condition, self-starters, and willing to work hard. They should also be willing to commit one month of service at the camp. The work is also very rewarding, and most of all deeply enjoy the opportunity to contribute. If you are interested in serving, start by contacting Mark Abernathy at the BOM office.

Hawaii projects for 2026 are posted on our webpage. Follow the QR code. Then, click on the link to view and download a .pdf projects request list.

### CONTACT

Mark Abernathy  
(919) 459-5607  
mabernathy@ncbaptist.org



# CONSTRUCTION SKILLS TRAINING

People in every community need help. Is your church prepared to answer the call? You may see needs in your community for building wheelchair ramps, installing grab bars, doing small home repairs or assisting with other construction needs. Hands-on training for those with limited construction experience can help us move out of our seats and into the streets to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Hanging and finishing drywall, laying laminate flooring, framing a wall, or building a wheelchair ramp may seem like foreign languages. Still, they can be the avenue for you to make Christ known and seen in your community. You can be "Jesus with skin on" to your neighbors or around the world.

Construction skills training can open the door for you to serve at the Baptists on Mission Red Springs, Shelby, or Charity Mission Camps; volunteer at our disaster rebuild centers in Eastern NC or in WNC; or go on a construction mission trip. There are projects in the Appalachian Coal Fields, New England, the Rocky Mountains, and throughout North Carolina where you can apply your new skills. You will also learn more about our rebuild opportunities at the six rebuild centers we

are operating in Western NC after Hurricane Helene.

Imagine helping hurricane survivors return home, assisting a church plant or replant, renovating a facility, or changing lives in your own community! Plan now to bring a group from your church to learn new skills, develop stronger relationships, and prepare to move out and serve your community.

**September 13, 2025 - Red Springs Mission Camp**

**September 27, 2025 - Shelby Mission Camp**

**October 18, 2025 - Charity Mission Center**

**\$10 for Saturday training only**

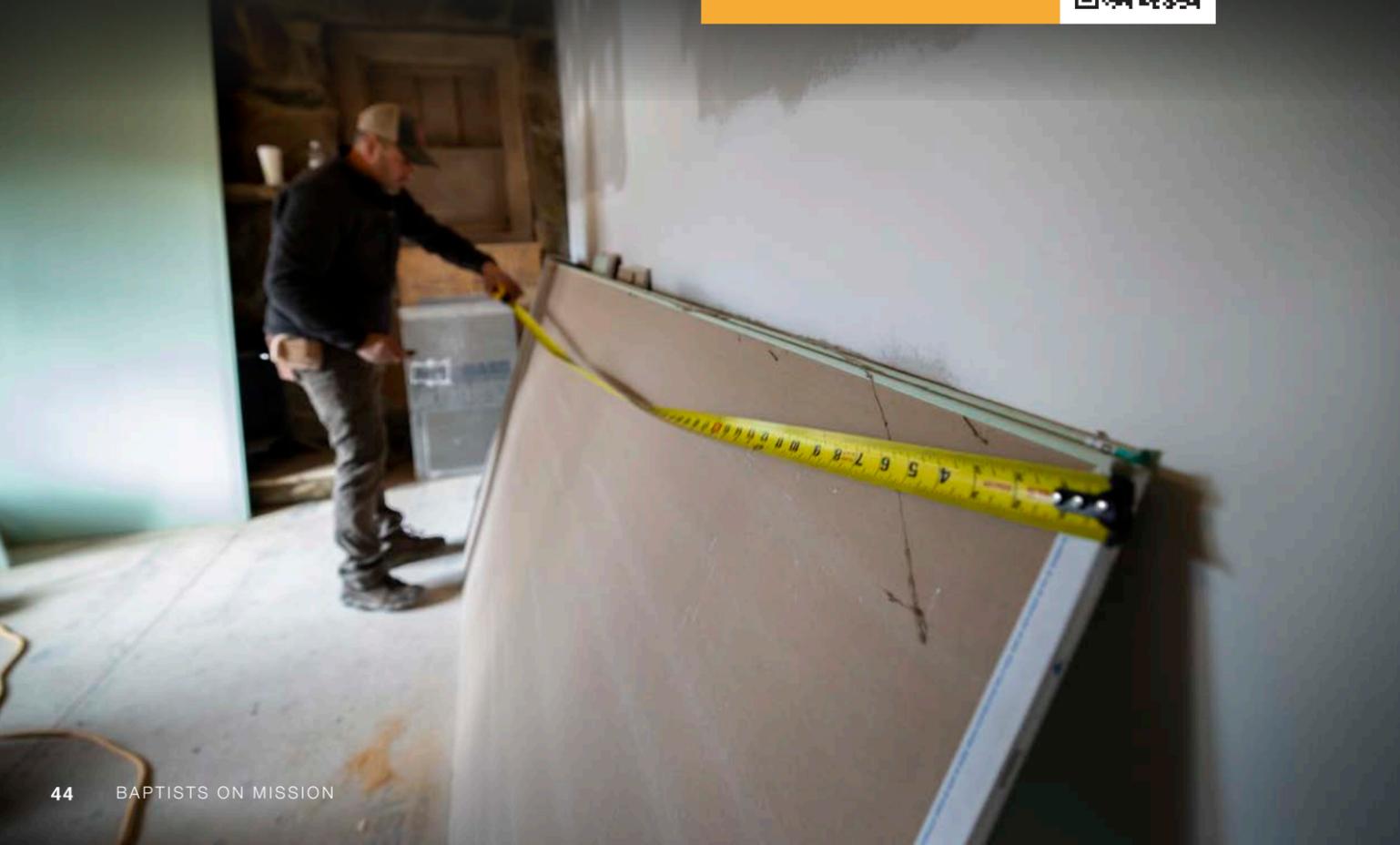
**\$20 for Friday overnight and Saturday training**

**Register:**

**[baptistsonmission.org/training/construction-training](http://baptistsonmission.org/training/construction-training)**

**CONTACT**

**Paul Langston (919) 459-5611**  
**[plangston@ncbaptist.org](mailto:plangston@ncbaptist.org)**



# Missions Camps CHARITY MISSION CAMP

**Purpose**— The purpose of the Charity Mission Camp is to assist churches, individuals, and organizations to get involved in missions by using their God-given Deeds. We accomplish this by offering affordable short-term missions opportunities to men, women, students and families.

**Facilities**— Our facility can house 200 volunteers in our 62,000 SQ FT facility. We have 16 private shower stalls, with handicap availability and a self-serve laundry room. Our site has a game room, a lounge, a gym, and sports fields. We have an exercise room for physical health and a prayer chapel for spiritual health. We also have a tool room with all the necessary tools and supplies. Teams can use classroom and conference rooms to have Bible studies and team building time. There is an on-site thrift store and food pantry.

**Opportunities to serve**— Construction, Handyman ministry, Wheelchair ramp construction, youth camps, Men retreats, Women retreats, Couples Retreats, Prayer Retreats, Packing and distributing senior adult food boxes, working in the thrift store or food pantry, Sports camps, VBS, Backyard Bible clubs. We are also willing to work with your team on creating your own mission experience that fits your church.

**PLAN A TRIP**

- The cost is \$21 per person per night. This includes lodging, meals while you are here, and supplemental insurance.
- Volunteers must be 13 years old and up. Youth groups must have 1 adult per 4 youth.
- Workdays are Monday-Saturday. No Saturday evening meals, and the camp is closed on Sunday.
- RV sites are available on request.
- Registration is online at [www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org).
- We will contact you one week before your arrival date.

**LOCATION**

1333 W. Charity Rd.  
 Rose Hill, NC 28458  
 Exit 380 off of I-40



For more information, you can contact Mission Center Coordinators Richard and Tammy Weeks by emailing [richard.weeks@ncmissions.org](mailto:richard.weeks@ncmissions.org) or calling (Richard) 910-590-1720 or (Tammy) 910-385-1567



# Missions Camps

## RED SPRINGS MISSION CAMP

**Purpose**—The purpose of Red Springs Mission Camp is to get churches involved in missions. By providing affordable short term options, your church or youth group can experience missions without the cost and time involved in an out-of-state mission trip. You will be helping people who are in need in their own state.

**Facilities**—Our facility can house up to 200 volunteers per day and the ministry opportunities are endless. Our tool room and warehouse are fully equipped with all the supplies you will need for a construction or non-construction project.

Ministries offered through Red Spring Mission Camp are: Construction, Handyman Projects, Children's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Sports Camps, VBS, Yard work for the Elderly, Painting, Disaster Relief Work (Following a Disaster), Community Distribution (August), Community Thanksgiving Dinner (November), Community Toy Distribution (December)

### PLAN A TRIP

Here are some things to know before you go!

- Cost is \$21 per person per night. This includes lodging, meals while you are here, and supplemental insurance.
- Volunteers must be 13 years old and up. Youth groups must have 1 adult per 4 youth.
- Work days are Monday–Saturday. No Saturday evening meal and the camp is closed on Sunday.
- RV sites are available on request.
- Registration Forms for your group can be found on [www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org).
- We will contact you one week before your trip to verify date, number in team, arrival time, and any special skills of team.

### HOW CAN I HELP?

**Labor needs:** volunteers with a servant's heart; roofers; carpenters; electricians; painters; cooking teams; children's workers; cleaning teams; couples to work in warehouse.

**Material needs:** building supplies; cleaning supplies; non-perishable food; furniture; appliances; toiletry items

**Location**—The camp is located at 114 Industrial Road, Red Springs, NC on the corner of Hwy 211 and Industrial Rd.

For more information contact Mission Camp Coordinators Larry and Teresa Osborne, [losborne@ncbaptist.org](mailto:losborne@ncbaptist.org), (910) 843-7700 office, (919) 264-4397 cell  
 CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/RedSprings](http://www.facebook.com/RedSprings) or [www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org).



# Missions Camps

## SHELBY MISSION CAMP

**Purpose**—The goal of Shelby Mission Camp is to involve churches in missions. We work with youth, seniors, all ladies, all men or mixed groups. We would consider it a privilege to host you and your church group at the Shelby Mission Camp.

**Facilities**—Shelby Mission Camp currently has two metal buildings on 12 acres of land with another 30 acres for future development. The administration building house, feed, and sleep 200 mission volunteers per day. The warehouse is used to store building materials and tools.

### PLAN A TRIP

- Daily \$21 per person fee covers lodging, 3 meals, and supplemental volunteer insurance.
- Work days are Monday–Saturday.
- No supper is provided on Saturday night and the camp is closed on Sundays.
- Teams need to bring their own tools (some tools can be provided), towels, wash cloths, toiletries and bedding (don't forget your pillow).
- RV sites are available by reservation only.
- Participants must be 13 years or older.
- Youth groups must have a 1:4 ratio of adult to youth and at least 2 skilled construction workers for every 10 youth.
- Call or e-mail one week before your mission trip to verify date, number in team & team skills, and arrival time.

### HOW CAN I HELP?

**Current needs:** Current Needs: Construction is a big part of what we do as we help hurting people. We need skilled help with roofing, plumbing, HVAC and electrical. Help is also needed for building wheelchair ramps, floor replacement, painting or yardwork. Whatever your skill level we have a place for you.

For those that prefer other ministry opportunities, bible schools, sports camps, senior adult ministry of various kinds, the potato project, Books on Mission, and working with other helping ministries in our communities are also needs.

**Location**—GPS will not find our location at 302 Sharpton Drive in Shelby, NC; however, you can use 1327 S Lafayette Street, Shelby, NC 28152, which is located directly across the street. We do have a street sign for Sharpton Drive, which is off Hwy 18 (Lafayette Street). Our sign, Baptists on Mission, is at the entrance of Sharpton Drive and we are at the end of the street.

For more information, contact Robbie at (704) 467-3706 or [ralexander@ncbaptist.org](mailto:ralexander@ncbaptist.org).

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/shelbymissioncamp](http://www.facebook.com/shelbymissioncamp) or [www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org).





# UPSIDE DOWN TRAINING CONFERENCE

Register for some trainings on how to “do” compassion ministry in the best way!

## It’s often UPSIDE DOWN

Three Upside Down Trainings will be held in the coming weeks! This is the same training that will be offered three times. On Thursday, July 10 and Saturday, September 27, there will be trainings at the Charity Missions Center in Rose Hill, NC. On Monday, October 13, there will be an Upside Down training at the Buncombe Baptist Associational office in Asheville. The trainings will cover “Basic Principles for Every Church to Strengthen Ministry in Their Community”.

This training will be taught by trainers who cumulatively have over 100 years experience with under-resourced communities (and every community is under-resourced in some way). The training will be led by Taylor Field, Susan Field and Paul Langston.

### Schedule:

9:00 - 9:45am	Intro and Meet the Need First
10:00 - 10:45am	Serve the Unserved
11:00 - 11:45am	See the Unseen
11:45am - 12:30pm	Lunch
12:30 to 1:10pm	Small Is Big
1:20 to 2:00pm	Admin, Admin, Admin and giving of certificate

Cost is \$15 per person (includes lunch)



Register for Charity Mission Center:  
[baptistsonmission.org/bom/compassion-ministries/upside-down-training/7296](http://baptistsonmission.org/bom/compassion-ministries/upside-down-training/7296)



Register for Buncombe Baptist Association:  
[baptistsonmission.org/bom/compassion-ministries/upside-down-training/7250](http://baptistsonmission.org/bom/compassion-ministries/upside-down-training/7250)

### CONTACT

Paul Langston  
 (919) 459-5611  
[plangston@ncbaptist.org](mailto:plangston@ncbaptist.org)

# Will You Answer the Call?



In Matthew 6:6, Jesus gives specific instructions on how to pray. He said, “When you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray.” Jesus said we are to have a designated, quiet place to go and spend time alone with the Father. Jesus knew that each day has enough trouble of its own to deplete us if we are not seeking first His kingdom and His righteousness.

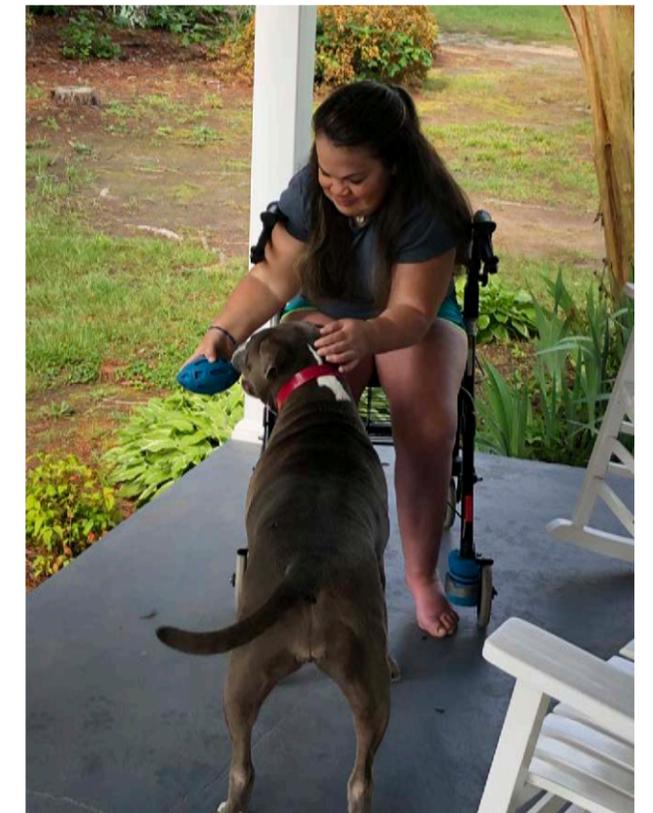
Recently, my daughter, who has both mental and physical disabilities, started having trouble sleeping. A few days later, she began talking fast and saying things she believed to be true but made absolutely no sense. She became quickly agitated. My daughter was suffering from mental confusion because of high anxiety and stress levels that were exaggerated by her mental disability. She had to be hospitalized and have constant supervision. I stayed close by her side and was quickly drained, both physically and spiritually. However, I was not defeated. Through my family’s support and the prayers of faithful prayer warriors, I was sustained! In the midst of the darkest hours of the nights, God enabled me to sing of His faithfulness and remember His precious promises.

My heart was clinging to Hebrews 11:6: “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.” God enabled me to accept by faith that He was working all these things for good. He had a sovereign purpose, and He would accomplish all that He had predestined to do. What comfort and joy come when meditating on His great faithfulness, mercy, and compassion! In the days following her release from the hospital, I heard my daughter humming the tune, ‘Amazing Grace.’ Oh, how sweet was the sound!

The experience of not having a quiet place opened my eyes to the reality of the depletion that might be taking place in the hearts and lives of those who serve with BOM on the mission field. They, too, don’t have the luxury of entering into their own inner rooms, closing a door to eliminate distractions, and then spending quality time praying to their Father who is in secret. How are they to stand firm and faithfully continue to abide in Christ so that they bear much fruit?

They need prayer support! Will you become a prayer support partner? Please pray that the Father will produce a generation of faithful prayer warriors who will persevere and faithfully intercede for all the brethren so that all may stand firm, lacking in nothing. May we never cease to pray for the brethren so that they will be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding and walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.

Email Tracy Leonard, [bomprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:bomprayerline@gmail.com), and request the weekly prayer guide.



### CONTACT

Tracy Leonard, Coordinator  
 (919) 727-1007 [bomprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:bomprayerline@gmail.com)

Paul Langston  
 (919) 459-5611 [plangston@ncbaptist.org](mailto:plangston@ncbaptist.org)

## Men's Worship Rallies To Be Held Throughout State in November 2025

Men's Ministry Rallies will be held in five locations throughout the state in November 2025. These rallies feature a good meal, great fellowship, worship, a spiritual challenge for men, missions information, and a prayer time. The purpose of the rallies is three-fold: 1) to worship and fellowship together as men, 2) to share information on mission opportunities, and 3) to provide inspiration and a model for how to strengthen the ministry to men in your church. All men and their pastors are invited to attend the rally closest to them. Rally dates are as follows: Region 1, Thursday, November 6; Region 3, Tuesday, November 4; Region 5, Thursday, November 13; Region 7, Tuesday, November 18; and Region 9, Thursday, November 20. (Specific rally sites will be listed on our website – [www.baptistsonmission.org/mwr](http://www.baptistsonmission.org/mwr) ). Registration is \$5 per person, which will help cover the cost of the meal.



For more information on these events and for starting or strengthening your ministry to men, contact Mark Abernathy at 919-459-5607 or [mabernathy@ncbaptist.org](mailto:mabernathy@ncbaptist.org) or visit our Men's Ministry webpage at [www.baptistsonmission.org/men](http://www.baptistsonmission.org/men)

## Igniting the Hearts of Men Conference 2025

September 13, 2025 – Rich Fork Baptist Church in Thomasville, NC



Do you desire to see men come alive with the realization of Christ's calling upon their lives? Would you rejoice to see them engaged in growing, meaningful fellowship with our Lord and other believers? Join us for one unforgettable day of encouragement, exhortation, and inspiration for men at the Igniting the Hearts of Men Conference. This one-day equipping conference is designed to prepare men to be courageous, effective Christ-followers. The IHM Conference is for men of all ages. It includes worship and inspiring messages from two nationally recognized keynote



speakers – Chris Harper, CEO of Betterman, and Rod Handley, Founder of Character Counts. Resources for men's spiritual growth and men's ministry development in the church will be featured. Three breakout session times will offer a choice of 16 seminars led by men's leaders from around the nation on subjects such as fatherhood, marriage, leadership, mentoring, anger management, spiritual growth for men, missions, and more!. Visit our website – [www.baptistsonmission.org/ihmc](http://www.baptistsonmission.org/ihmc). There is still room for you and your men!



## 2026 Men's Outdoor Weekend

In early May 2025, 150 men gathered for Baptist on Mission's Men's Outdoor Weekend, a time of fellowship, worship, and outdoor fun. The annual event, held at **Camp Caraway** in Asheboro, provides men with a fun outdoor experience that also challenges them to draw closer to Christ. The weekend begins with a time of worship on Friday night, followed by fellowship around the campfire. Saturday morning features demonstrations on a variety of shooting activities and hunting topics. Saturday afternoon includes competition in skeet, archery, tomahawk

throw, pistol shoot, and rifles. Information will also be shared on how your church might begin an outdoor ministry to the men in your area. Next year's event will take place on **May 1-2, 2026**. Mark your calendars now and plan to bring your men to this fun event. Visit our webpage for more information – [www.baptistsonmission.org/mow](http://www.baptistsonmission.org/mow)

## Men's Ministry Training Available

The Baptists on Mission Men's Ministry Advisory Team is available to provide men's ministry training for the local church and/or the Baptist Association. Training helps churches develop an intentional strategy for reaching and discipling men. Included is a discussion on reaching men spiritually, developing leadership among men, engaging men in the church's ministry, and involving men in missions. We will also discuss the resources available for men's ministry, including small group ministry. If you would like help in training and preparing the men of your church or association, contact Mark Abernathy at 919-459-5607 or [mabernathy@ncbaptist.org](mailto:mabernathy@ncbaptist.org).

## Baptist Men's Day 2026

The fourth Sunday in January is designated each year as Baptist Men's Day. Churches use this day to remind their entire congregation of the importance of Baptist Men's ministry within the church, community, and the world. In 2026, the 92nd observance of Baptist Men's Day falls on January 25. However, if January 25 is not a convenient date for Baptist Men's Day in your church, please feel free to plan it for any other Sunday. A detailed planning guide will be available on our Men's Ministry webpage at [www.baptistsonmission.org/men](http://www.baptistsonmission.org/men). Make sure you celebrate and honor the men of your church in 2026!

Thank you for praying for Deep Impact and Deep Impact Kids! Throughout the summer, the DI staff has been faithfully leading teams of students on mission in western North Carolina, Puerto Rico, and many other locations. The Lord has already moved in tremendous ways!

**As summer comes to a close, would you consider praying for the following?**

- That each mission week would make much of King Jesus as they seek to serve others through gospel ministry!
- That each project would have clear opportunities for students to share the hope of the gospel through word and action
- For students and their leaders to boldly proclaim Christ, remembering that He “will be with us to the end of the age”
- That many would respond to the gospel in repentance and belief
- That the DI and DI Kids staff would have the physical and spiritual endurance to serve each group well
- That children and students would more deeply understand their calling as Great Commission missionaries
- That the Lord would call missionaries through the ministry being done this summer
- That King Jesus would receive the glory!

It's not too late for you and your church to work alongside Deep Impact! Consider joining student ministries from across North Carolina during the Deep Impact missions retreat in Shelby from October 17th to 19th. Here, students will have the opportunity to participate in children's ministry, senior adult care, construction and landscaping projects, gospel conversations, and more! Visit <https://baptistsonmission.org/di> for details and registration.

Now is also the perfect time to consider applying for DI's 2026 summer staff! As a Student Pastor in North Carolina for the past decade, I have had several former students serve as summer missionaries through Deep Impact. This is the perfect platform for high school seniors and college students to get real, hands-on, practical experience in gospel ministry and missions! Contact Dollie Noa at [dnoa@ncbaptist.org](mailto:dnoa@ncbaptist.org) for more information.



**CONTACT**  
 Travis Suttles, *Ministry Coordinator*  
 (336) 953-9069 | [travis@brookwood.cc](mailto:travis@brookwood.cc)  
 Dollie Noa  
 (919) 594-4236 | [dnoa@ncbaptist.org](mailto:dnoa@ncbaptist.org)



2026 DEEP IMPACT STUDENT MISSIONS

# SENT

John 20:21



[baptistsonmission.org/di](https://baptistsonmission.org/di)

## di Mission Weeks

Hendersonville 1	June 8-13, 2026	\$299
Hendersonville 2	June 15-20, 2026	\$299
Shelby Mission Camp (half)	June 22-25, 2026	\$199
Shelby Mission Camp	June 22-27, 2026	\$299
Charity Mission Camp (half)	June 29-July 2, 2026	\$199
Charity Mission Camp	June 29-July 4, 2026	\$299
Red Springs Mission Camp	July 6-11, 2026	\$299
Albemarle	July 13-18, 2026	\$299
Wilmington	July 20-25, 2026	\$299
Charity Mission Camp (half)	July 27-30, 2026	\$199
Charity Mission Camp	July 27-Aug 1, 2026	\$299
Red Springs (half)	Aug 3-6, 2026	\$199

## di City Serve

New York City	June 21-27, 2026	\$550
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## di International

Puerto Rico 1	June 27-July 4, 2026	TBD
Puerto Rico 2	July 4-11, 2026	TBD
Cuba	July 11-18, 2026	TBD

\*Please note locations and dates are tentative at this time.





Baptists on Mission  
 North Carolina Baptist Men, Women and Students, 205 Convention Drive, Cary, NC 27511  
 NCBM is an auxiliary to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The missions and ministries of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina are made possible by your gifts through the Cooperative Program and the North Carolina Missions Offering.

baptistsonmission.org 53



[baptistsonmission.org/dikids](http://baptistsonmission.org/dikids)

<b>Shelby Mission Camp</b>	<b>June 8-12, 2026</b>	<b>\$240</b>
<b>Blowing Rock (mini)</b>	<b>June 15-18, 2026</b>	<b>\$245</b>
<b>Charity Mission Day</b>	<b>June 20, 2026</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Red Springs Mission Camp (mini)</b>	<b>June 22-25, 2026</b>	<b>\$185</b>
<b>Charity Mission Camp</b>	<b>July 20-24, 2026</b>	<b>\$240</b>
<b>Red Springs Mission Camp</b>	<b>July 27-30, 2026</b>	<b>\$240</b>
<b>Camp Dixie (mini)</b>	<b>August 3-6, 2026</b>	<b>\$245</b>

\*Please note that dates and locations are tentative at this time.



**Baptists On Mission**

North Carolina Baptist Men, Women and Students, 205 Convention Drive, Cary, NC 27511  
 NCBM is an auxiliary to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The missions and ministries of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina are made possible by your gifts through the Cooperative Program and the North Carolina Missions Offering.

Children's Missions

# MISSION INVOLVEMENT AS A PART OF THE VILLAGE

According to Dr. James Dobson, "American parents are intentional about many aspects of their children's lives; education, athletics, the arts. Yet, how intentional are we about our children's spiritual lives outside of Sunday school and an occasional prayer time?"

How can we, as the church, come alongside parents and make a difference in the spiritual lives of children?

The phrase "it takes a village to raise a child" is an African proverb that emphasizes the importance of a supportive community in a child's development. It suggests that raising a child requires the involvement of various individuals, including family, neighbors, community members, and professionals, all working together to provide a nurturing and positive environment. We have a responsibility to be a part of the village in our communities. The children need to be introduced to Jesus!

Baptists on Mission offers opportunities for our children to be involved in different types of hands-on mission projects, including dikids overnight mission camps, and one-day mission events. Not only are the children experiencing the joy of serving others (following the example of Jesus), but working in the community allows others to be a positive influence on the children as well! For example, when children serve at an assisted living facility, they interact with

adults who have lived many years and can show genuine love for this younger generation. It helps validate their worth in the world and the need to love and serve others as Jesus tells us to do!

Help the children in your church glorify God by getting involved in meeting the needs of others in Jesus' name.

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

You can involve your church in a scheduled one-day mission event across the state, or you may want to host one at your church! For more information, contact Dollie Noa ([dnoa@ncbaptist.org](mailto:dnoa@ncbaptist.org)) or 800-395-5102 ext 5598.

Check out the dikids 2026 schedule and prepare your group for a mission camp experience! Registration opens September 1. Call for more info!

**CONTACT**

Dollie Noa  
 (919) 594-4236 [dnoa@ncbaptist.org](mailto:dnoa@ncbaptist.org)

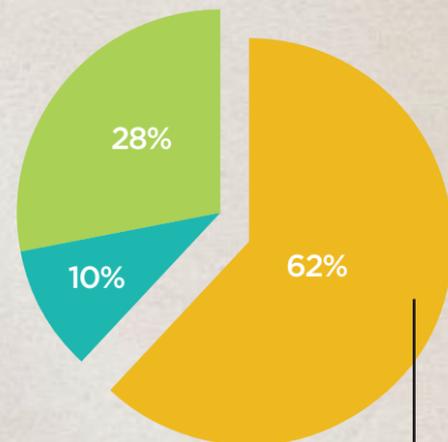




# THE NORTH CAROLINA MISSIONS OFFERING:

As followers of Christ, we are called to live sent lives — going out with compassion into a broken world that is desperate for hope. “Living Sent” means we see a need, respond to the need and offer hope in Jesus’ name. Through your faithful gifts to the North Carolina Missions Offering, N.C. Baptists across our state and around the world are being mobilized to bring relief in times of crisis and share the good news of Jesus Christ. From responding to natural disasters and feeding the hungry, to planting new churches or serving through local missions, these ministries reflect God’s love in action. Know that every gift supports life-changing ministries that proclaim the gospel and extend the peace of Christ to those in need.

Visit [vimeo.com/channels/ncmo](https://vimeo.com/channels/ncmo) or scan the QR code to watch our video.



**BAPTISTS ON MISSION MINISTRIES 2025 GOAL:**

# \$1,601,600

# Where Do I Fit In?

## Baptists on Mission Ministries

### AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS

The purpose of BOM Agricultural Missions is to Glorify God by involving Christians in meeting poverty and hunger needs through Agricultural Missions. Volunteers are needed from all walks of life, including foresters, crop scientists, soil scientists, beekeepers, teachers, homemakers, engineers, and farmers.

### AVIATION MISSIONS

The Aviation Ministry involves pilots in ministry by providing medical air transport for patients en route to medical care, long-distance air transport for families in need, ground transportation for patients, and assistance in disaster situations. **Earth Angels** are responsible for meeting the inbound Angel Flight and driving passengers to the treating facility, hotel, and/or doctor’s office.

### BAPTIST BUILDERS

Baptist Builders involves volunteers in all types of construction projects in and out of state. This ministry includes: **Handyman Ministries** which involves assisting those in need by offering volunteer labor upon request for building wheelchair ramps, minor home repairs and other needs for the physically disabled, **Disaster Rebuild**, and **Missions Construction**.

### BAPTIST EDUCATORS

A ministry for educators who have a heart for missions and wish to use their educational skills to adopt a local school in various ways, teach **English as a Second Language (ESL)** to reach internationals for Christ and pray for students and teachers for the school year.

### CHILDREN MISSIONS

Children Missions opportunities are available to assist families and churches in engaging elementary-age children in mission education and hands-on mission experiences. **Deep Impact Kids (DI Kids)**, is a pre-packaged week or weekend hands-on mission experiences. As a result, elementary-age children and their leaders are provided the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ.

### CHURCH RENEWAL

The Church Renewal Journey is a “pew-to-pew” ministry designed to assist the congregation in experiencing a spiritual awakening. Led by lay volunteers, these weekends are known to both revitalize and encourage churches to change their worlds in Jesus’ name.

### COMPASSION MINISTRIES

All churches are called to share God’s love and grace with those who are hurting. Compassion ministry encourages, resources and equips NC churches in the following areas: supporting families affected by disability, foster care/adoption, helping those experiencing divorce or separation, tutoring, hunger relief, helping free people from addiction, job training, and many other areas.

### DISASTER RECOVERY MINISTRY

Disaster Recovery is a great way to minister to people affected by disasters. We help with clean-up (tear-out/chainsaw), temporary repairs (tarping roofs, etc.), and other recovery needs. In addition, disaster training events teach volunteers various skills needed to perform their duties under stressful situations.

### DISASTER RELIEF MINISTRY

The purpose of Baptists on Mission Disaster Relief Ministry is to relieve human suffering caused by disasters. The goal of BOM Disaster Relief Ministry is to provide ways for Christians to minister to people who are hurting. In addition, we seek to provide organization, equipment and strategy for committed volunteers to help affected individuals/families rebuild their lives and homes.

### FAMILY FOUNDATIONS MINISTRY

Family Foundations seeks to assist and encourage churches, pastors, and church leaders in all aspects of the family: Marriage Retreats, Family Enrichment, and Family Missions Involvement.

### INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS/PROJECTS

There are numerous international partnership opportunities that are available for involvement in Armenia, Cuba, Guatemala, Kenya, Moldova, Hungary, Roma Gypsy, South Africa, and Ukraine. We want to Glorify God by involving churches and Christians in international short term missions.

### MEDICAL MOBILE HEALTH SCREENING AND MOBILE DENTAL MINISTRIES

There are many opportunities for medical and dental personnel to be involved in missions with BOM including International medical mission trips, the Mobile Dental Ministry and the Mobile Health Screening Ministry. In addition, support persons skilled in medical assistance and **non-medical** laypeople are involved in this ministry.

### MEN’S MINISTRY

Purpose: Assist churches in providing a well-rounded, balanced ministry that challenges men to grow in their walk with Christ; share their faith with others; find their place of service in the local church, and be on mission with God. Outdoor Ministry is another part of Men’s Ministry.

### NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS/PROJECTS

Many national missions opportunities are available for your church in places like the Appalachian Coalfields, Pennsylvania, New England, Rocky Mountain, Hawaii and Alaska. There are a big variety of mission projects that are needed.

### NC STATE PROJECTS

**Mission Camps at Red Springs, Rose Hill and Shelby:** Involve churches and Christians in life-changing mission projects at an affordable cost; each mission camp can house and feed up to 200 volunteers at a time.

### OIAM/SERVENC (COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION)

A one-day to a one-week missions blitz in your community that involves your church in local missions where you live.

### PRAYER SUPPORT

Because prayer should undergird all we do as Christians, churches are discovering new ways to become involved in missions through prayer walks, as well as praying for mission needs, mission volunteers, and missionaries.

### STUDENT MOBILIZATION/COLLEGE MISSIONS

**Deep Impact** Missions Weeks are pre-packaged mission experiences that allow middle and high school students and their leaders to share the love of God with people throughout North Carolina and around the world.

### For more information about any of the ministries of Baptists on Missions, contact:

Baptists on Missions  
PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512  
919.459.5596

[www.baptistsonmission.org](http://www.baptistsonmission.org)  
[facebook.com/ncmissions](https://facebook.com/ncmissions)  
[vimeo.com/channels/baptistsonmission](https://vimeo.com/channels/baptistsonmission)  
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## LIVING SENT

### Living Sent *p. 10*

April 10-11, 2026

Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC

Featuring Tim Tebow, Jennifer Rothschild, Lee Strobel,  
Tom Richter, Lisa Chinn, Shauna Pilgreen.

[baptistsonmission.org/events/missions-conference](http://baptistsonmission.org/events/missions-conference)

### DEEP IMPACT *Student Missions*



### Deep Impact Students and Kids Camps - various dates in 2026 *pp. 54 & 55*

To learn more, contact Dollie Noa (919) 459-5598;  
[dnoa@ncbaptist.org](mailto:dnoa@ncbaptist.org)

[baptistsonmission.org/di](http://baptistsonmission.org/di)  
[baptistsonmission.org/dikids](http://baptistsonmission.org/dikids)



### Spring 2025 Disaster Relief Trainings *p. 23*

Contact Tracey Ford (919) 459-5606; [tford@ncbaptist.org](mailto:tford@ncbaptist.org)

[baptistsonmission.org/training/disaster-relief-training](http://baptistsonmission.org/training/disaster-relief-training)



### Hurricane Helene Disaster Rebuild *p. 6*

Helene Essential Rapid Repair (ERR) rebuilding continues to need volunteers. Contact Paul Langston,  
(919) 459-5611; [plangston@ncbaptist.org](mailto:plangston@ncbaptist.org)

[baptistsonmission.org/helene-volunteer-rebuild](http://baptistsonmission.org/helene-volunteer-rebuild)