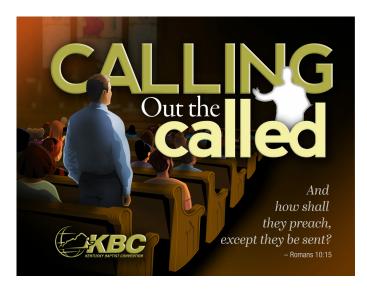


Laurel Link

Quarterly Newsletter & Highlights



The Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting is right around the corner **Nov 15-16** in Elizabethtown at Severns Valley Baptist Church.

The Theme of this year's convention is "Calling out the Called" This is a 3-year focus with the primary goal of raising up

local men to fill those bi-vocational pastorates. In addition to the primary goal, this emphasis will encourage men and women in other ministry-related callings as well. There is a great need in our state but also in our association for more men to step up and acknowledge the calling that God has placed on their life. In addition to the annual meeting in Elizabethtown, one of our own Bro Norm Brock (Pastor of FBC East Bernstadt) has been nominated to serve as 1st Vice President of the convention. The vote will be on Tuesday afternoon, show your support to Bro Norm. You will be blessed by attending our state convention.

Chicken Festival September 23-26

After a year of not having the Chicken Festival, It will be nice to have this event again. Just another step toward normalcy. With that said, this will be my first Chicken Festival as the Director of Missions and I know that I could use some help on set up on Thursday and working our booth. Our plan is to give away Gospel to Every Home resources for families, and pencil pouches and Dum Dum Suckers to kids. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with a huge demographic of folks in Laurel Co. If

you would like to work the booth with me please call our office and schedule your shift. Thursday through Saturday. 606-864-9441.



Pastor Birthdays September Birthdays

- 6 Kenny Johnson
- 6 Norm Brock
- 11 Cody Powell
- 21 Brad Wilson

October Birthdays

- 4 Gary Kirby
- 9 Joe Arnold
- 29 Shane Bingham

November Birthdays

- 14 Greg Deaton
- 18 Roy Faulkner

September Anniversaries

3rd Randy & Connie Bingham

- 12 Baxter & Michelle Corum
- 15 Roy & Kay Faulkner
- 21 Greg & Vicki Deaton

October Anniversaries

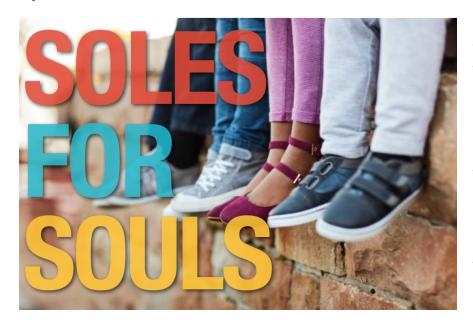
November Anniversaries

23. Brad & Jessie Wilson

Laurel River Baptist Annual Meeting: Sunday Oct 3

We are excited to share that our annual meeting will be on Sunday evening at **5:00pm at Corinth Baptist Church.** Our Executive board approved this change in our August meeting. It is our belief that this will lead to a larger attended meeting than on Friday evening. The annual meeting is a time of celebration of what God has done over the last year and a time of reports. We will use this time to encourage each other through praise and worship, and reflection over the last year.



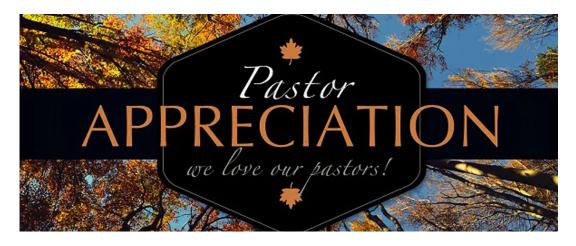


In August we began collecting shoes for Soles for Souls. We are extending this collection through **September 10.** This ministry is a needed one for our local school's Family Resource Centers. Our schools are always needing new closed toed shoes for their students. Keep in mind we have elementary, Middle school and High School students who are in need. **Bring them to the Association office by September 10.** We will be distributing them September 15

Changes in Clear Creek Turkey Day

For years our association has faithfully served the students and faculty of Clear Creek by providing Turkeys and other thanksgiving items during the month of November. In a recent conversation with Donnie Fox (President of Clear Creek) He desired to see us modify our serve day that would better fit with the Clear Creek academic calendar. This year we will be serving Clear Creek students and faculty by providing the side items of the Thanksgiving basket, and the Clear Creek Trustees will provide the Turkeys this year. **Here's How you can help:** We are asking for cans of Green Beans, Corn, Cranberry sauce, boxes of stuffing mix, or donate funds to this. The association will be getting 5lb bags of potatoes, and a frozen pie. Items need to be in the office by Nov. 15 Our association is very generous as it expresses love toward Clear Creek families, and I'm confident that we will be again.





Many of you know that **October** is traditionally set for Pastor Appreciation. The second Sunday of October is commonly called Clergy appreciation day, but in recent years churches have adopted to whole month to show honor for their pastors. Ephesians 5:17csb tells the church "*The elders who are good leaders are to be considered worthy of a double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.*" Paul's instruction to Timothy should also be a word for us today. Here are 5 ways you can show appreciation for your pastor.

1. Write a note and include some of these:

- A gift card to his favorite store.
- Drawings made by your grandchildren.
- Family photographs.
- Personal note of appreciation and friendship
- A book inscribed by each family member.

2. Plan an outing.

- Give him and his family a fun vacation or a weekend getaway
- Offer to care for his children, when needed.
- Provide the pastor's wife tickets to special women's luncheons and retreat events.
- Give him the gift of a solitary spiritual retreat.

3. Volunteer for church jobs.

- Help him organize his church office.
- Join him on hospital and nursing home visits.
- Plan an event to honor him and his family.
- Help with a church spring cleaning.
- Provide meals to members who are sick.
- Transport homebound members to church.
- Assist with ministry outreach events.
- Help with church repair and carpentry work.

4. Express your love and appreciation.

- Invite him and his family to dinner.
- Surprise him with gift certificates to his family's favorite restaurants.
- Verbally express your appreciation to him and his family members.
- Encourage him regularly
- Pray for him, and let him know you and your family are praying for him, his family, the church, and the community.

Word from our Director

It's hard to believe that it has been nearly one year as your Director of Missions. This has been a challenging year to say the least but I have been encouraged by our partnerships and I pray that you are getting a renewed sense of vision here for our association. My goal from the beginning has been to serve churches in their mission of making disciples. I am committed to that mission and vision, and I'm looking for new ways that I can be a blessing to our churches.

At our last executive board meeting we voted on a new organizational structure that will serve our churches better in the days ahead. We have stream lined our ministry focus to 3 Big areas. Church Strengthening and Leadership Development, Missions & Mobilization and Community outreach. Moving forward as we consider new opportunities to serve churches, we will be channeling them through these 3 areas. By doing so, we will have a stronger concentration of efforts and resourcing to make a Kingdom impact.

As I begin to look forward to next year, I am envisioning an opportunity as an association to love Laurel Co better. My hope is that we can do an association mission project called "Love Laurel Co". The focus will help us unite as an association for some common projects that will bless our county. More info will come soon about that plan.

I'm looking forward to meeting together in October at our annual meeting. That meeting will take place on October 3, 2021 at Corinth Baptist Church, meeting at 5:00pm. I realize that some churches will be having evening service, I'm asking those churches to consider joining our association for a Sunday evening worship and celebration night together. Yes there will be some reports, but those will go quickly. Our churches need to be together. Its been far too long for us to be separated, we must unite and mutually encourage each other. I'm thankful for all of our churches and look forward to seeing you all soon.

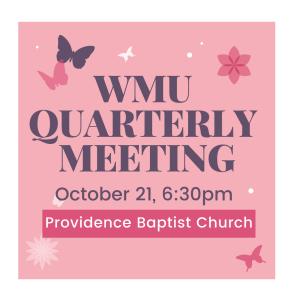
Week of Prayer for State Missions September 12-19





Campus Prayer Journey is coming up on **September 21** at **7:00**. Here at the office we have been reaching out to churches that are near by to a school to have them pray over that specific campus on Tuesday evening Sept 21. Several churches have already responded, and prayer guides will be going out soon to assist you. If your church was not contacted and would like to participate, please call our office and we will connect you with a school of your choosing. We believe that our students, teachers and school staff need our prayers as does our country. This is just a simple way that we can be salt and light to the community. Each year we work with First Priority to cover the schools in our area and we joyfully do that again this year.



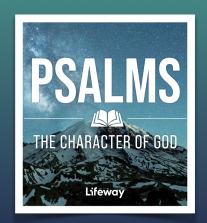




FIRST PRIORITY

JANUARY BIBLE STUDY PREVIEW

We are excited to share about the January Bible Study Preview that we will host at the Associational office. This year the JBS is going to look to the Psalms to study the Character of God. Bro. Jon Brummett from Hart Baptist is going to lead our preview event(s). On November 4th at 12:30-2:00 we will have our first preview. This day event will include a box lunch and each participant will receive a copy of the JBS leader guide. If the evening is better for you to attend we are also hosting a preview on November 9th from 6:30 -8:00. There will not be a meal with that one, but participants will get the leader guide. This is offered to help pastors or lay persons to lead the JBS for their church next year.





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We Serve Churches in Their Mission of Making Disciples



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