



The Messenger

A Bi-Monthly Publication of the Moriah Baptist Association

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9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
Closed on Friday

Happy New Year

*Wishing you a
New Year filled
With peace and happiness.*

Joe, Judy, and Lois

*"I will bless you...and you will be a blessing."
Genesis 12:2 CSB*



The Mission Center will reopen on January 4, 2021.

Pastors/Wives/Family Christmas—December 3

Our annual Pastors/Wives/Family Christmas Banquet was held on December 3 at Lancaster Second Baptist Church in Lancaster. Our guests enjoyed a delicious steak dinner with all the trimmings (grilled by David Williams, Heath Springs Baptist), and the beautiful, tasty desserts were prepared by Mrs. Heather McAlister, wife of Pastor Rusty McAlister, Sherwood Baptist Church. The children enjoyed pizza and cookies together. They also had a craft time in which they made tree ornaments.

It was such a joy to Moriah to see so many of our pastors and their families at this event. The evening's entertainment was provided by Mrs. Suzanne Brown, Organist at First Baptist Church, Lancaster, which we enjoyed immensely .

The Association gave away three \$75 gift cards as door prizes. Congratulations to the winners.

Mr. Richard Kyzer from Simplified Office Systems was a guest speaker, and his company provided funds to help defray the costs of the evening.

Thank you to the following people who worked very hard in decorating, cutting cakes, preparing salads, cooking steaks, etc.:

Second Baptist Church, Lancaster for use of their facility

Dianne Belk, Lancaster Second

Dr. Joe Youngblood and Connie, Moriah

Judy Hammond, Moriah / Immanuel

Lois Lucas, Sherwood

Mike Hammond, Beaver Creek

Steve Lucas, Pictures

Milbry & Thurmond Johnson, Springdell

David Williams, Heath Springs



Moriah's Ministry Assistant's Luncheon—December 1

Immanuel Baptist Church opened its doors to Moriah's Ministry Assistants for their annual Christmas Luncheon on December 1. Pastor Tim Anderson opened our time together with a warm welcome and a blessing over the food and fellowship. The event was a wonderful time of fellowship and just being able to be with our friends.

Dr. Joe Youngblood spoke to the ladies and emphasized how important they are to our Association.

Mr. Jim Ellis, Southern Mutual Church Insurance, provided our delicious meal. Cromer's of Kershaw catered our meal with turkey, dressing and all the trimmings.

Thank you to Milbry Johnson and Judy Hammond for organizing our luncheon and to Immanuel for hosting.



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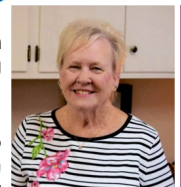
WMU

Judy Sims, Director



Happy New Year to all! May you be blessed with good health and much happiness in the coming year.

This year has been difficult and we all had to be so very careful. However, just as you always do, you made the prisoner bags a priority. We received over 400 bags. Thank you to all the churches that participated in the prisoner bags.



I will be contacting each WMU Director with updated schedules for 2021 soon.



Pastor's Small Groups—Encouragement/Accountability

Rev. Bill Truesdale, Facilitator

These small groups are open for all lead and staff pastors.

The Kershaw-Heath Springs Meeting is the first Thursday in the month, and the Lancaster meeting is the third Thursday at 11:00 a.m., with lunch following. The meeting dates are listed below:

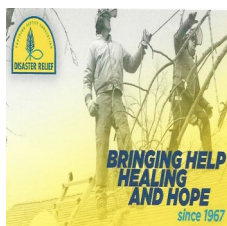
January 7	Kershaw Area, Kershaw Second
21	Lancaster Area, Mission Center
February 4	Kershaw Area, Kershaw Second
18	Lancaster Area, Mission Center

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Disaster Relief

Shirley Buckner, Director

Moriah's Disaster Relief Team's next scheduled meeting is February 16. We will address the feasibility of meeting before that date, and team members will be notified.



Please remember to practice all the guidelines that have been given to us and stay safe not only for yourself but also for your family and friends.

Happy New Year to you and your families.

Gulf Shores, AL (Orange Beach) and Pensacola, FL

Our Sisters of the Laundry (Carolyn, Judy, and Toni) traveled to these locations to do laundry for the workers on site. We hope to have a full report for you in our next publication.

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The Connection Ministry

Jason and Nancy Smith,
Directors



Jason and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy New Year .

Thank you to all who participated in our limited activities at The Connection this year. You have been a blessing to us as we continue to strive to proclaim the gospel to our community.

God bless each of you.

Opportunities within the Association

• Prayer Corner

Please pray for these churches without pastors in Moriah. They are as follows:

Beaver Creek	Jones Crossroads
Center Grove	Oakhurst
Charlesboro	Spring Hill
Flint Ridge	

- **Oak Ridge Baptist Church, Kershaw** is prayerfully seeking a full-time Pastor. We are a Southern Baptist Church and active in the Kershaw Baptist Association. Please mail resume to 603 Oak Ridge Church Rd, Kershaw, SC 29067 or email to

oakridge.baptist@yahoo.com

- **Bethel Baptist Church** is seeking a part-time music director. If interested, please send resume or inquiries to the email address below:

slanglin67@gmail.com

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Revitalization Project

Dr. Joe Youngblood

Six pastors of the Moriah Baptist Association have been trained by the South Carolina Baptist Convention to serve as a Revitalization Practitioner. These pastors also have experience in leading their churches through revitalization. The six pastors who have been trained are:

Brian Saxon of Second Baptist Church
David Falgout of Second Baptist Church
Trent McLaughlin of Antioch Baptist Church
Bobby Strother of Covenant Baptist Church
Jesse Adams of Pleasant Dale Baptist Church
Casey Swails of Crestview Baptist Church

The Revitalization Project is designed to assist a church to move towards a new future of fulfilling the Great Commission by "winning the lost and discipling the saved." The Revitalization Project is aimed at churches that are declining or stagnated and need assistance to regain spiritual health.

Pastor, if you are interested in discussing the possibility of participating in this project, please call the association office at (803) 283-8409 or call me on my cell phone at (803) 215-3841.

Organizational Resources

John Hess, Treasurer

	2020		
	<u>First Ten Mos.</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Antioch	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	\$1,100.00
Beaver Creek	822.00	73.00	895.00
Bethel	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Bethlehem	6,945.86	643.70	7,589.56
Calvary	500.00	0.00	500.00
Camp Creek	500.01	0.00	500.01
Carolinas Cowboy	105.52	0.00	105.52
Catawba	200.00	20.00	220.00
Center Grove	1,553.69	0.00	1,553.69
Charlesboro	0.00	0.00	0.00
Covenant	3,300.00	330.00	3,630.00
Crestview	1,000.00	100.00	1,100.00
Eastside	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ebenezer	387.50	0.00	387.50
Elgin	0.00	500.00	500.00
Flat Creek	1,250.00	125.00	1,375.00
Flint Ridge	1,125.00	125.00	1,250.00
Fork Hill	1,916.98	255.58	2,172.56
Friendship	0.00	0.00	0.00
Glenwood Heights	749.97	83.33	833.30
Haile Gold Mine	800.00	0.00	800.00
Heath Springs	0.00	0.00	0.00
High Point	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hyde Park	3,783.94	248.49	4,032.43
Immanuel	2,563.71	0.00	2,563.71
Indian Land	700.00	0.00	700.00
Jones Crossroads	450.00	50.00	500.00
Kershaw 1st	200.00	0.00	200.00
Kershaw 2nd	2,000.00	200.00	2,200.00
Lancaster 1st	6,681.00	446.00	7,127.00
Lancaster 2nd	10,627.47	2,361.66	12,989.13
La Roca (Mission)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Midway	6,635.15	0.00	6,635.15
New Hope	3,061.92	213.74	3,275.66
New Horizon	0.00	0.00	0.00
Oak Hill	0.00	0.00	0.00
Oakhurst	1,300.59	73.36	1,373.95
Pineview	1,226.44	99.89	1,326.33
Pleasant Dale	1,660.70	166.67	1,833.37
Pleasant Hill	3,294.08	139.25	3,433.33
Pleasant Plain	2,138.64	0.00	2,138.64
Rich Hill	3,181.25	303.75	3,485.00
Sand Hill	5,093.04	1,515.48	6,608.52
Sherwood	500.00	50.00	550.00
Springdell	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Spring Hill	2,953.56	0.00	2,953.56
Taxahaw	0.00	0.00	0.00
Taylors Grove	1,200.00	120.00	1,320.00
Temple	500.00	0.00	500.00
Thorn Hill	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Union	780.00	0.00	780.00
Westside	1,609.00	0.00	1,609.00
White Bluff	2,005.30	304.96	2,310.26
White Springs	225.00	50.00	275.00
Grand Total	\$90,033.32	\$8,698.86	\$98,732.18
Gifts to Moriah: Basic, 3%; Glory, 4%; Hallelujah, 5%.			



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Chester/Moriah Associations Marriage

Dr. Joe Youngblood

The purpose of examining the possibility of a marriage/merger between the Moriah and Chester Associations is to accomplish the following:

1. Improve the spiritual health of **ALL** the churches of the two associations
2. Institute a revitalization process to revitalize the churches by impacting the lostness of their community through the development of spiritually strong disciples.
3. Institute a church planting process
4. To impact the spiritual lostness of Lancaster and Chester counties

Ongoing discussions are being held between the Marriage/Merger Leadership Teams of the Moriah and Chester Baptist Association. Discussion meetings have also been held with pastors of both associations as well as pastoral prayer meetings.

Starting in January, I will be leading the Chester Association through an adapted version of the Restore Process. The adapted version is called "Reset." There will also be a meeting of the two Marriage/Merger Leadership Teams on January 12 at Richburg First Baptist from noon—1:30 p.m.

It is anticipated that in late Spring or early summer of 2021, there will be a vote by the two associations on whether or not to merge.

Please be praying much about this marriage/merger possibility.

Refocused: A New Way For A New Day

Dr. Joe Youngblood

Refocus: A New Way For A New Day is a leadership process that has the primary focus of developing the leadership skills of the senior pastor and is aimed at refocusing the church upon the Great Commission. This leadership process will equip pastors with the skills to lead their lay leaders and churches into a Great Commission culture. A Great Commission church is one that is focused upon impacting the lostness of the community and disciplining the saved for spiritual maturity, service and leadership.

Refocus: A New Way For A New Day is designed to equip a pastor to lead his church through the many changes that have been forced upon the church in the new reality of the corona-virus.

The process will use cohorts, small groups, to examine biblical principles of leadership, current and relevant resources and the best biblical practices of evangelism and discipleship. Two cohorts will be developed. One cohort will meet on the second Thursday of each month and the other will meet on the third Tuesday of each month beginning in February. An Introductory Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28 at the association office starting at 10:00 am. Eight participants is the maximum number for each cohort. If there is enough interest among the co-vocational pastors, a third cohort will be developed for an evening session.

Please call Lois or Judy at the association office, (803) 283-8409, or respond via email to Judy at:

Judy_Moriah@Comporium.net

to register for the Introductory Meeting on January 28.

If you have any questions about the process, please call me (803) 215-3841.

Around the Association...



January 2021

Happy New Year

1		New Year's Day, Mission Center Closed
4		Mission Center Reopens
7	11:00 a.m.	Kershaw Area Pastor's Small Group, Kershaw Second
12	Noon—1:30 p.m.	Marriage/Merger Leadership Team Meeting at Richburg First Baptist
21	11:00 a.m.	Lancaster Area Pastor's Small Group—Mission Center
	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Zoom Meeting with Moriah Finance Team
26	10:00 a.m.	Executive Team Meeting—Mission Center
28	10:00 a.m.	Refocus: A New Way for a New Day Introductory Meeting—Mission Center

February

4	11:00 a.m.	Kershaw Area Pastor's Small Group Kershaw Second
14		Valentine's Day
16	7:00 p.m.	Disaster Relief Team Meeting—to Be confirmed
18	11:00 a.m.	Lancaster Area Pastor's Small Group—Mission Center