

Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc.
Lenoir, North Carolina



September 2023 e-Caller

Issue No. 165

In This Issue

Moments with your Interim AMS
Email Address Changes
AMS Search Team Report
Ministers Conference
Senior Adult Lunch & Learns
Media Library Book Swap
The VERY Important Church Budget
Coats for Caldwell
Retired Ministers & Wives Trip
WMU Red Box Item
WMU Church Leaders Training
See You at the Pole
Praise Sing
Mission Friends Fall Fun Day
Food for the Hungry
Raking for Missions
World Day of Prayer
WMU Retreat
Harvest Seeds Ministry
Financial Report
Church News
VBS News
Community News
Available Positions

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Rev. Dale Fisher
Interim Executive Director
Interim Mission Strategist
ams@caldwellbaptist.org



Rev. R. Dale Fisher

MOMENTS WITH YOUR INTERIM ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION STRATEGIST

Welcome Rev. Chuck Bounds

New Associational Mission Strategist and
Executive Director
Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc.

The messengers from member churches of the Caldwell Baptist Association met for a special-called meeting on Tuesday evening, August 15, 2023, in the facilities of Fellowship Baptist Church to consider a recommendation from the Associational Mission Strategist Search Team. The team recommended, and the messengers approved, the Rev. Chuck Bounds as the new leader of the Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc. We welcome Rev. Bounds and his wife, Martha Jo, to the Caldwell Association. Rev. Bounds will begin his ministry as AMS in mid-September.

Welcome Mrs. Amanda Beane

New Administrative Assistant and Financial
Secretary
Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc.

Amanda began her work with the Caldwell Association on August 7, 2023. She succeeds Darlene Townsend, who will retire on October

Darlene Townsend
Ministry Assistant
Financial Secretary
office@caldwellbaptist.org

Amanda Beane
Ministry Assistant
Financial Secretary
office@caldwellbaptist.org

27, 2023 after more than twenty-five years as an employee of the association. Darlene is currently training Amanda to do the ministry of Administrative Assistant and Financial Secretary. It is a pleasure to welcome Amanda to the position, who was selected and hired by the Administrative Team.

Final Article as Interim AMS

On February 1, 2023, I began serving as the Interim Associational Mission Strategist for the Caldwell Baptist Association, which followed nine months of retirement that began on May 1, 2022. Those months of retirement followed thirty-six years and one month of service as leader of this great association of Southern Baptist churches.

The Associational Mission Strategist Search Team has faithfully and diligently worked for nearly two years to find my successor. On August 15th, the messengers approved the team's recommendation that Rev. Chuck Bounds become the new leader. Please express your appreciation to the search team consisting of Rev. Stuart White (Team Leader), Mrs. Miranda Denning, Rev. Randy Goode, Rev. Mike LaBrose, Mr. Jeff Roland, Rev. Jay Worsley, and also Rev. Stephen Owen, who served during his term as president.

Please pray for Chuck and Martha Jo Bounds as they move through this time of transition. In addition, please offer your prayers for Amanda Beane in her new position with the association. I encourage you to offer your support to each of them as you have so graciously done for Darlene and me for these many years.

So, in just a couple of weeks, I will again return to retirement. However, I am available for supply preaching as needed. Just give me a call or send me a text message.

Dale, Interim AMS

The Caldwell Baptist Association has new email addresses.

Dale Fisher: ams@caldwellbaptist.org

Amanda Beane: office@caldwellbaptist.org

Associational Mission Strategist Search Team Report

In behalf of the AMS Search Team, I want to thank everyone for your prayers as we worked through the process of searching for and nominating Rev. Chuck Bounds as our candidate for the Associational Mission Strategist for Caldwell Association! The Lord heard and answered your prayers and we are so thankful!

Thank you for responding in such a gracious manner when Brother Chuck and Martha Jo were in Caldwell County for the time of meet and greet and then on August 15, 2023 when they again came to the Fellowship Baptist Church for the special called meeting of the association. The attendance at the meeting was tremendous and there was a great spirit of excitement in that meeting! Your vote was overwhelmingly in favor of Chuck as our AMS!

Please continue praying for Brother Chuck and Martha Jo as they will be making the transition to Caldwell County during the month of September. They are packing and closing out their current place of ministry and service. They need our prayers as they say "goodbye" to folks they love and appreciate!

As I understand, Brother Chuck plans to move to Caldwell County the week following September 17. They will need our prayers as they make this move and begin their new work in Caldwell Baptist Association!

There will be an installation service for Brother Chuck at the Fall Gathering of the Messengers on Thursday, October 26 at Friendship Baptist Church.

May the Lord bless you for your prayers, encouragement, and support through the entire experience of the call of our new AMS!

I ask that you join the AMS Search Team in giving praise and thanks to the Lord for His faithfulness! Let us look ahead to what God has in store for the association as He leads!

AMS Search Team
Stuart White

**Ministers Conference
September 6, 2023**



The next Ministers Conference will be held on September 6 at 10:00 AM at the Caldwell Baptist Center. The program will be an inspirational message by Rev. Dan Kiefer, Pastor of Concord Baptist Church. A Dutch-treat lunch will be enjoyed by all interested persons at a nearby restaurant following the conference.

Senior Adult Lunch & Learns

August, September, October, November 2023
There will not be a Lunch & Learn in December.



Please register
by the date
listed so the
churches and
restaurants can
plan for the
correct number
of meals.

Thursday, September 14 at 11:00 AM

Dodge City Steakhouse, 954 Blowing Rock Blvd, Lenoir
Cost: Dutch-treat
Bible Study Leader: Mr. Logan Rash, Associate Pastor
Youth & Family Ministry, Dudley Shoals Church
Register by Thursday, **September 7** (Call 758-4081) or
register [online](#).

Thursday, October 19 at 11:00 AM

Buffalo Cove Church, 6356 Buffalo Cove Rd, Lenoir
Cost: Free (Compliments of Buffalo Cove Church)
Bible Study Leader: Rev. Jim Phillips, Pastor, Buffalo
Cove Church
Register by Thursday, **October 12** (Call 758-4081)

Thursday, November 16 at 11:00 AM

Southern Crossroads Diner, 129 Wilkesboro Blvd. Lenoir
Cost: Dutch-treat
Bible Study Leader: Rev. Ashley Crouse, Pastor, New
Vision Fellowship
Register by Thursday, **November 9** (Call 758-4081)

**Please share this with the
Senior Adults in your church.**

Media Library Book Swap

September 11, 2023



Church Librarians are invited to bring discarded or duplicate books for a Book Swap on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Caldwell Baptist Center, 208 Nuway Circle, NE, Lenoir. Please bring finger foods and the association will provide the drinks. Last year we had a great time at Hudson First Baptist Church for our first Book Swap so hope you can attend this one.

The VERY Important Church Budget (How to Avoid the IRS Crosshairs) September 12, 2023



Harris Chapel Baptist Church will be hosting this church budgeting seminar on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:00 PM. It is for treasurers, bookkeepers, finance committee members, pastors, and anyone who deals with finances in the church. Seminar leaders will be Bethany Scott and Claren Crisp with J&D Tax Service, Hudson. There is no charge, but please register by Tuesday, September 5, 2022 by calling 758-4081 or via [email](#) or [online](#).

Coats for Caldwell September 17, 2023



The Associational Mission Mobilization Team sponsors an annual "Coats for Caldwell" Ingathering Day to receive donations of new or gently used clean coats to share with needy people in Caldwell County. If you would like to help, bring the coats to the garage behind the Caldwell Baptist Center on Sunday, September 17 from 2:30-4:00 PM. This is the only day coats will be received. The coats will be distributed before winter to people who need them.

Retired Ministers & Wives Trip Farmer's Market, Asheville September 18, 2023



Retired ministers and wives will enjoy a trip to the Farmer's Market in Asheville on Monday, September 18. Please meet at the Caldwell Baptist Center at 9:00 AM and you will travel by church bus. Lunch will be provided by the Caldwell Baptist Association at the Moose Café. Must register by Friday, September 8 by calling 758-4081, [email](#) or registering [online](#). The bus has a 25 passenger capacity so please register early.

WMU Red Box Item Due Thursday, September 21, 2023



Hope you are busy collecting the item for the WMU Red Boxes for this year. The item being collected by the Caldwell Baptist Association is Chapstick (original size). The due date at the Baptist Center is Thursday, September 21 (a month earlier than usual). Please bring the Chapstick in a cardboard box and the name of the church and number of items written on the box lid. Please do not bring the Chapstick in plastic bags, shopping bags, or plastic containers. Thank you.

WMU Church Leaders Training Dudley Shoals Baptist Church, Granite Falls September 23, 2023

WMU NC is committed to helping leaders feel equipped to lead in their churches and communities. ABOUND is their annual leadership training focused on encouraging and equipping leaders to live out their specific ministry callings within their churches and communities.

Leaders hear from trained speakers and a wide variety of workshop sessions are available, from WMU age-level mission groups to spiritual development sessions. It's a time for leaders to network and fellowship with one another, gain fresh ideas, and receive new resources.

This training will take place at Dudley Shoals Baptist Church in Granite Falls on Saturday, September 23 from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. The cost is \$15.00 and includes a copy of the 2023-2024 Missions Leader Planning Guide. Please click on the [link](#) for more information and to register.

See You at the Pole Rally September 24, 2023



The See You at the Pole (SYATP) Rally will be different this year. It will be held at Poovey's Chapel Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon, September 24 from 4:00-7:00 pm. The rally will begin with hamburgers, hotdogs, and ice-cream. There will be fellowship along with volleyball games, followed by a time of prayer for our schools, students, and staff. Youth will be encouraged to attend the SYATP at their school on Wednesday, September 27. This rally is for students in grades 6-12. Be sure to encourage the youth in your church to attend this rally. Church leaders please register your students no later than Monday September 18th, by [email](#), calling 828-758-4081, click the link for [Google Form](#) or by scanning the QR code on the left.



Praise Sing September 25, 2023



Union Grove Baptist Church will host Praise Sing on Monday, September 25 at 7:00 PM. Everyone is invited to attend this praise and worship service. Your church may participate with a choir, a praise team or a quartet, etc. The group must register by Monday, September 11 and will be placed in the order the registration is received. Register [online](#).

Mission Friends Fall Fun Day October 7, 2023 Must Register by September 28



This fun day will be Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 10:30AM - 12:30 PM at Whitnel First Baptist Church, 1201 Connelly Springs Road, Lenoir. It is for all children ages 3 - Kindergarten. They do not have to be a member of a Mission Friends group to attend. There will be Bible stories, crafts, games and pizza for lunch. Please **register by Thursday, September 28** by calling the Baptist Center at 758-4081 or by [email](#). Please give the name of the church and the number of children attending. We want to have a big turnout so be sure and share this in your church.

Food For the Hungry October 8, 2023



Please mark this date on your calendar and start making preparations to lead your church in collecting money, gift cards, food and supplies for the Food for the Hungry. On Sunday, October 8 from 3:00 – 4:00 PM, please drop off food, supplies, money and gifts cards at the Life Center of First Baptist Church of Hudson. Please attach the receipt to the gift cards so that we know how much the gift card is worth. Organizations that will receive the donations are Bethel Colony, Caldwell County Yokefellow, Lenoir Soup Kitchen, and South Caldwell Christian Ministries. Only store bought items will be accepted. Please do not bring homemade, damaged, or out-of-date food items. Please sort, count the items, and avoid the use of big boxes in transporting food and supplies. Please make checks payable to the Caldwell Baptist Association and designate on the check “Food for the Hungry”.

Raking For Missions Mid October - Mid December



This is a local mission project sponsored by the Associational Baptist Men's Team. Churches are encouraged to choose a date and time within the two-month period (Mid-October – Mid-December) to rake leaves in their neighborhood. Each church is responsible for making arrangements with homeowners to be on their property and to rake their leaves. This will be an opportunity to share the Gospel as appropriate, pray with the homeowners, and to share information about your church. Please report to the associational office the number of homes your church serviced during this mission project.

World Day of Prayer November 6, 2023



The World Day of Prayer will be held Monday, November 6 at 7:00 PM at Mount Zion Baptist Church. All ladies, whether affiliated with Baptist Women or not, are invited to join us and thousands of other women around the world in prayer for each other. The church is located at 1787 Cahaj Mountain Rd, Hudson.

WMU Retreat November 17-18, 2023 Must register by October 26

The WMU Retreat will be held November 17-18 at Ridgecrest Conference Center. The theme will be "Resting in Jesus". All activities will be in the same building. You do not need to be a member of WMU to attend.

Cost per person is \$154 for single, \$97 for double, \$81 for triple, and \$73 for quad. Campus usage fee for commuters is \$25 plus meals. **Reservations and full payment must be mailed to the Caldwell Baptist Association, PO Box 1555, Lenoir, NC 28645 no later than Thursday, October 26.** Reservations must include number of rooms needed and names of guests in each room. The age of the guest, if under 18 years, is also needed. Please provide mailing or email address for each guest.

Retreat speaker will be Debbie Presnell. After a 30 year career in higher education, Debbie is now a Christian author, national speaker and Bible study teacher. Kendal Bray Clark, Music Director at Crest View Baptist Church, will be back with us this year as the music & worship leader.

The Friday night fun activity will be a "Slumber Party". For a bedtime game, everyone please bring an inexpensive (no more than \$2.00) stuffed animal. You will be given time before the games begin to change into your favorite pajamas.

Harvest Seeds Ministry



The Caldwell Baptist Center continues to be a collection site for used literature for Harvest Seeds Ministry. Please bring your gently used literature to the back of the Baptist Center during the hours of 8:30am-12:30pm and 1:30-4:30pm Monday-Friday. Literature must be delivered in boxes with lids for easy packing. The boxes must be brought ready for shipment with no exposed literature.

Caldwell Baptist Association Financial Report August 2023

Click on the button below to see the Financial Report

[Financial Report](#)

Church News

College Avenue Baptist Church will have a community breakfast and service on Sunday, September 10, 2023 in the fellowship hall. Breakfast will be served at 9:00AM with the service following. This is free for the community. The church address is 1201 College Avenue, SW, Lenoir NC. For more information call the church office at 828-754-6482 Monday-Thursday from 9:00am-12:00pm.

Joseph Habedank will be in concert at North Catawba Baptist Church on Friday, September 15th at 7:00PM. Admission is free, but a love offering will be received. The church is located at 1596 North Catawba Church Avenue in Lenoir.

A church has been gifted twelve gallons of hand sanitizer, manufactured by Neptune Wellness Solutions. If your church is interested in any of this hand sanitizer, please contact the Caldwell Baptist Association at 828-758-4081 or [email](#).

Join Union Grove Baptist Church each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday for their "Bags of Blessings" Food Ministry Distribution. The event starts at 5:00 PM and lasts until 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome! If it is your first time participation please bring a photo id with current address. The goal is to serve between 250-500 families.

For a list of available interim/supply ministers click on the [link](#).

Community News

Join Union Grove Baptist Church each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday for their "Bags of Blessings" Food Ministry Distribution. The event starts at 5:00 PM and lasts until 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome! If it is your first time participation please bring a photo id with current address. The goal is to serve between 250-500 families.

Click on the [link](#) for upcoming Unifour Christian Ministries events.

Baptist Children's Homes (BCH) is hosting their 62nd Annual Western Conference September 7 on the Broyhill Campus in Clyde. The celebration begins at 4:00pm with tours, a free meal, music and an inspirational program involving the children in care and management of BCH. All churches are invited to come and be a part of this fellowship.

North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry (NCBAM) will be having a fundraiser on September 9, 9am-4pm on the Mills Home Campus in Thomasville. This artisan event will feature North Carolina's finest crafters, food vendors, and live music. Click on the [link](#) to purchase tickets.

Kairos Prison Ministry will be having training events for volunteers who would like to assist with this ministry. The dates are as follows:

- September 9th at Pleasant City Church, Shelby NC
- September 16th at First United Methodist Church, Granite Falls NC
- September 30th at Western Avenue Baptist Church, Statesville NC
- October 14th at Concord Baptist Church, Granite Falls NC

For more information send an [email](#) or call 828-455-2901

Baptist Children's Homes (BCH) will be having their Saturday One-Day Missions event in September. This is an opportunity for your church to help with projects at one of the BCH ministry locations. Dates and locations are listed below. Registration is from 8:30-9:00am. Projects are from 9:00 to noon with lunch served and optional tours available afterwards.

- September 16: Cameron Boys Camp, Cameron
- September 16: Kennedy Home, Kinston
- September 16: Odum Home, Pembroke
- September 23: Camp Duncan, Aberdeen
- September 23: Mills Home, Thomasville

Wake Forest University Faith and Family Weekend will be 9/22-9/24. Tickets for game on the 23rd will be \$15 each. For more information click [here](#).

Free wheelchair ramp construction training will be held on September 23 at NCBAM, 201-A Idol Street, Thomasville from 9:30-11:30 am. The training will be provided by Baptists on Mission and sponsored by NCBAM. To register click on the [link](#).

On Saturday September 30, 2023 in Apex NC, the NC Baptist State Convention will be offering a Renewing Worship EXPO. The event will provide training for most everyone in your churches' worship ministries. There will be general sessions of worship and inspiration along with around 45 breakout classes. For more information click [here](#).

The Virginia Church Library Association is having a fall conference, *Celebrating 65 years of VCLA* on Saturday October 21st in the Richmond area. For more details click [here](#).

The North Carolina Baptist Ministry Assistants Conference will be held at Caraway Conference Center November 13-15. The theme is "Relax, Refresh, Renew". The guest speaker will be Lori Jarvis and the worship leader Ashley Rouselle, both from Hudson First Baptist Church. For more information and to register click on the [link](#).

Church Renewal Journey, a ministry of NC Baptists on Mission, sponsors Awakening Weekends. These weekends help congregations to equip, commission, empower, and send by highlighting believers' faith and their hopes for their church. For more information click [here](#).

Available Positions

Union Grove Baptist Church is seeking to fill their pianist position. If interested, please contact Mike Watson 828-320-6213 for a job description and additional information.

Mountain Grove is seeking a Senior Pastor. For more information click [here](#).

Samaritan's Purse is looking to hire 150+ seasonal workers for this year's Operation Christmas Child shoebox ministry. To apply and for more information click [here](#).

Center Grove Baptist Church in Hudson is seeking a part-time Children and Youth Ministry Leader. Please [email](#) your resume and three references. For more information and a list of responsibilities click [here](#).

Lower Creek Baptist Church is searching for a part-time choir director. The position is five hours a week for practice and Sunday morning service. If interested, please contact the church office at 828-758-2315.

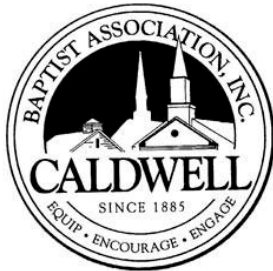
First Baptist Church of Lenoir currently has an open position for an afternoon care assistant teacher for their preschool. Hours would be from 12:00-5:30 PM. If interested contact Audrey Bentley at 754-2952 or [email](#).

Clover Baptist Church is seeking a Senior Pastor. Resumes may be emailed to carol@cloverbaptistchurch.com or mailed to Clover Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 100 Pinewood Road, Granite Falls, NC 28630.

Mount Zion Baptist Church, Hudson is seeking a full-time Associate Pastor of Families, Youth, and Children. Please click on the [link](#) for more information and how to apply. Deadline to receive resumes is May 12, 2023.

Setzer Creek Baptist Church is in search of a full-time pastor. Please send resume to Setzer Creek Baptist Church, Search Committee, PO Box 449, Patterson, NC 28661.

Barnardsville Baptist Church, Barnardsville is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. To apply send your resume, salvation testimony, call to the ministry testimony, and cover letter to Barnardsville Baptist Church, Pastoral Search Committee, PO Box 8, Barnardsville, NC 28709.



Visit the Caldwell Baptist Association's Website

www.caldwellbaptist.org

Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc. | PO Box 1555, Lenoir, NC 28645

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