



A WORD FROM DR. PRINCE

February has been self-declared the love month: Valentine's Day, roses, and heart decorations. My wife hates the day. She doesn't want flowers or a nice dinner out of obligation due to a day on the calendar, but from my heart. So, I now choose other times of the year spontaneously to do things that show her I still adore and love her.

What is amazing about God is that His love for us is not out of duty but comes chosen from His heart even while we were His enemies. And even more astonishing is His love will never run out as the Psalmist declares, His love is steadfast and is everlasting. Our God loves us, has his heart set upon us, and desires to be with us!

Emmanuel - God is with us - reveals He wants a close relationship. His Spirit to not just dwell upon us, but in us reveals His devotion for us. His preparing a home and the assurance we will be with Him forever confirms His heart is upon us. Our God loves us! Rest and enjoy the love of your God, if you are His child, not just this month, or this year, but forever!

Dr. Andy Prince
SMBA Mission Strategist



Grants open doors to mission opportunities

"On Mission Together" - it's been the theme for N.C. Baptists for a couple of years and rightly so since every church should be on mission. But what happens when God calls a church to a task that seems too big or too costly? That's often where the "Together" comes in as SMBA churches collaborate to help make the lift lighter or seek outside funding.

In late 2023, the SMBA introduced **Mission Opportunity Grants** to help churches fill gaps in their mission budgets. The grants are funded in part from donations to Baptists on Mission. Supported almost solely by the North Carolina Missions Offering, BOM sends 10 percent of that offering to local associations for missions.

"Our goal with the grants is to help congregations that have ide-

as for outreach but need extra funding to make it happen," says Andy Prince, SMBA AMS.

Since the program's inception, the SMBA has awarded more than \$10,100 in grants. Checks, ranging from \$300 to \$2,000, have helped pay for supplies for mission trips to Guatemala, Ecuador and the Dominican Republic and have also helped provide ramps for numerous local residents and to mail copies of the gospels to thousands more. The Missions Team, made up of eight SMBA pastors, reviews and votes on grant applications.

To learn more about the grants and how your church may apply, visit stanlymontgomery.com and look for Mission Opportunity Grant Application under the Resources tab at the top of the page.



Our Ironmen Pastor's Fellowship for March will be a dinner with our wives. Hope to see you there. Text Dinner to 704-982-1033 to register.



Dr. Robert Nelson will lead this FREE training for pastors and ministry leaders!

Feb. 7 & 8 (Fri., 5:30 - 9 p.m. & Sat., 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

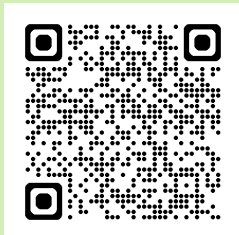
White Crest Baptist Church
1051 River Road, Mt. Gilead



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Church support
as of Dec. 31 **\$211,190.05**
Budget need
as of Dec. 31 **\$209,797.92**

Thank you for your support throughout 2024! For a look at support by church throughout all of last year, scan the QR code.



COMING SOON:

The Baptist Children's Homes of N.C. and Faith Alive Ministries are partnering to offer a Foster Family licensing class on Mondays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Feb. 3 through April 7. Email Jordan Whitley at faithaliveministries217@gmail.com for details or to register.

The Baby Bottle Boomerang, a fundraiser for pregnancy resource centers, wraps up Feb. 9. To learn more, call PRC Stanly, 704-983-2100; or Uwharrie Women's Center, 910-974-0597.

Bethel Baptist in Mt. Gilead has scheduled its Spring Awakening Revival for Sundays in March. Services start at 6 p.m. with the following pastors speaking: Nick Allen, March 2; Steve Jarman, March 9; Mike Greene, March 16; Arlen Johnson, March 23; and Jimmy Anderson, March 30. The church is at 590 Hydro Road.

First Baptist Locust will have revival on Mondays in March. Services begin at 7 p.m. with the following speakers: Rev. Jesse Carpenter, March 10; Dr. Mike Whitson, March 17; Rev. Brian Bolding, March 24; and Rev. Nathan Brooks, March 31. The church is at 320 S. Central Ave.

The N.C. Baptist Singers & Orchestra will present a concert at 6:45 p.m. on March 10 at Prospect Baptist. The group is made up of musicians from churches across the state. The concert is free. Prospect is at 502 Prospect Church Road, Albemarle.

Spread the Word, a workshop to address crimes against children in our area, is set for Feb. 18, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center at the corner of N.C. 24/27 and Newt Road. Presenters from the Stanly County Sheriff's Office, the Butterfly House and the Department of Social Services will provide information about the sex-offender registry, mandatory reporting, internet crimes against children and more. The event is tailored for churches. Pastors and ministry staff as well as anyone who volunteers with children are invited. There is no charge for the training.

Connect with the SMBA

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Visit stanlymontgomery.com
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