

Caldwell Baptist Association, Inc.
Lenoir, North Carolina



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MOMENTS WITH YOUR MISSION STRATEGIST

Rev. R. Dale Fisher
Mission Strategist
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A Journey of 35 Years

A journey began on April 1, 1986 that has spanned thirty-five years. On that Tuesday morning a thirty-three-year-old man started serving as director of missions for the Caldwell Baptist Association. The thought of spending half of my life in one position never crossed my mind that day. Three days later on April 4th I turned thirty-four years old. This year, I will celebrate Easter and my sixty-ninth birthday on the same day.

There have been many changes in my family over three and a half decades. My wife, Barbara, and I came to Caldwell County with two little boys, ages two and four. Two years later, our home was blessed with a baby girl. That baby girl is grown, married, the mother of two precious sons, and an educator like her Mom. Our little boys are now grown men with successful careers - one in architecture and the other in banking. In addition, God has blessed our family with a wonderful daughter-in-law, son-in-law, and two grandsons. However, during this same time period we have laid to rest other family members that we miss.

The world has changed during these decades as well. New typewriters were purchased for use at the Baptist Center not long after I came, which were replaced a few years later by computers. I remember the excitement in the Baptist Center with the addition of a new fax machine that is rarely used



**Happy 35th Work
Anniversary
Rev. Dale Fisher - April 1**

**Happy Birthday
Rev. Dale Fisher - April 4**

by our staff today. The first mobile phone used by our family was in a large leather bag that took up a lot of space on the front seat of the car. Today like many of you, I carry an iPhone in my pocket that enables me to communicate in ways that were unimaginable thirty-five years ago. Computer technology has probably changed what we do more than anything else.

The opinion many people have of Christ and His Church has also changed during these years. I remember the days when churches and ministers were respected even by people who did not believe the Gospel message. Today, the world tolerates the church as long as we stay in our places of worship. However, when we take a stand on biblical principles that speak against certain values and lifestyles we are criticized for being narrow-minded and out-of-touch with a modern society. Unfortunately, this dissatisfaction with the church is evidenced in a poll released by Gallup on March 29, 2021 and reported by Baptist Press and other news agencies. The poll reveals that in the United States "church members are in the minority for the first time in at least eight decades, with just 47 percent identifying with a congregation." "The number was 70 percent in 1999."

The coming of our Lord for His Church is thirty-five years closer than it was when I began this journey with the Caldwell Baptist Association in 1986. None of us know when the Lord will return, but according to what is revealed in the Bible it must be soon. We need to be ready when Jesus comes back. The words found in John 14:1-6 gives hope and encouragement in this troubled world. Jesus left this world by way of the cross to prepare a new home for those who believe in Him as Lord and Savior. He said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (14:6). This coming Sunday we will celebrate Easter, sharing the Good News that the tomb near Jerusalem where His body was laid is empty and Jesus is alive! Do you know Him as your Lord and Savior?

Thank you for your friendship and support during these many years. It is an honor and a blessing to serve as the Associational Mission Strategist (AMS) for the Caldwell Baptist Association. Yes, my title has also changed since 1986. Throughout these many years of ministry, you have been so kind and cooperative. I could not have asked for a better group of people with whom to share my life than with Caldwell Baptists.

In recent days, many of you have sent cards, made telephone calls, voiced kind comments, and shared gifts to celebrate my birthday and work anniversary. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for every expression of your love. Our journey moving forward will not be as long together as it has been, so in the days that do remain, let us be faithful servants of the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

- Dale

Vacation Bible School 2021 Schedule



If you are planning to have Vacation Bible School this year please email [Darlene](#) with the name of your church, the dates and times of your VBS along with the theme you are using and this information will be posted on the association's website and in the e-Caller.

Pray Together, Go Together. Scattered Prayer Walk or Drive



**Launched on January 9, 2021
in Caldwell County**

Please register to pray!

A special prayer emphasis began on January 9, 2021 in the Caldwell Baptist Association. The purpose of the prayer emphasis, sponsored by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, is to focus attention on the lostness in the Tar Heel State. The Convention has identified 250 Pockets of Lostness in North Carolina. A pocket of lostness is where a high concentration of unchurched and unsaved people live. Three of the pockets are located in Caldwell County. Would you be willing to pray for your neighbors?

Here's what you do: (1) Sign up to pray at [Pray Together](#). This link will take you to a simple form where you can register to participate in the prayer effort. Please indicate "Unifour" for the area when you register. Then (2), go pray. Walk or drive through your neighborhood, saturating your neighbors in prayer, particularly those who do not know Christ. It is a very simple activity, but one that could have eternal results. If you cross paths with one or more neighbors, then as the Holy Spirit leads you, talk with them about the Lord. Do this "Scattered Prayer Walk or Drive" activity when it is convenient for you. You may wish to walk with your spouse or another family member or friend. Due to the virus, please keep the group of prayer walkers small.

Have you signed up? If not, go to [Pray Together](#) and sign up now.

Ministers Conference Wednesday, April 7, 2021



The Ministers Conference will be held Wednesday, April 7 at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall of Harris Chapel Baptist Church. The program will be "How to Broadcast Worship Services Legally", led by Kenny Lamm, Senior Consultant, Worship and Music, Baptist State Convention of NC. Thank you for wearing a mask and keeping your distance from others at this conference. The church is located at 1444 Cajah Mountain Road in Hudson.

WMU Directors Appreciation Dinner Tuesday, April 20, 2021



This informal gathering for church **WMU Directors** will take place on Tuesday, April 20 at 6:00 PM at the Life Center of FBC Hudson. A complimentary meal from the WMU Team of the Caldwell Baptist Association will be served. Come and be encouraged as you enjoy dinner, music, a skit, a slideshow, and more. You must register no later than Friday, April 16th by emailing [Darlene](#) or call 828-758-4081. Please give your choice of a burger, BBQ sandwich, or grilled chicken sandwich and your choice of waffle fries or regular fries. We will observe social distancing and please wear a mask when not eating.

Baptist Children's Homes Food Roundup Ingathering April 25, 2:30-4:00 PM



The annual Food Roundup for the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina has resumed for April 2021. With the pandemic continuing into 2021, your participation in this food drive is vital. The collection list with the most needed items has been updated. Click on the [link](#) for more information and to download the updated list. The Caldwell Baptist Association will receive these items on Sunday, April 25 from 2:30-4:00 PM (one day only) at the garage behind the Baptist Center, 208 NuWay Circle, Lenoir.

Ruth Keller Craig Scholarship

Applications must be received by April 30



The Ruth Keller Craig Scholarship Fund is managed by the WMU Team of the Caldwell Baptist Association. The scholarship is available for men or women who have committed themselves to a full time Christian vocation and are active members of a Southern Baptist Church in the Caldwell Baptist Association. Click [here](#) for more information and an application form. Applications must be received no later than April 30. If you would like to contribute to this fund please send a check to the Caldwell Baptist Association and memo the check for the RKC Scholarship Fund.

70th Annual National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 6, 2021, 12:00-12:30 PM



Theme: LORD pour out Your LOVE, LIFE, and LIBERTY

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." 2 Corinthians 3:17

Please join with us in prayer at one of the four locations.
The locations have asked that we practice social distancing and wear a mask.

LENOIR: Lenoir Downtown Plaza with rain location FBC Lenoir sanctuary
Prayer Leader: Dr. Terry Hunt

GAMEWELL: Gamewell Town Hall with rain location in the council chambers
Prayer Leader: Dr. Todd Smith

HUDSON: FBC Hudson with rain location in the sanctuary
Prayer Leader: Rev. Mack Jarvis

GRANITE FALLS: FBC Granite Falls with rain location in the fellowship building
Prayer Leader: Rev. Jay Worsley

Harvest Seeds Ministry



The Caldwell Baptist Center continues to collect 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. Press the button beside the glass door to alert the staff that you have arrived. Literature must be delivered in boxes with lids for easy packing. If the box has flaps, please make sure the flaps are not folded into the box. The boxes must be brought ready for shipment with no exposed literature.

Caldwell Baptist Association Financial Report January - March 2021

Click on the button below to see the Financial Report

Financial Report

Church News

Rock Creek Baptist Church needs a pianist. If interested contact Spencer Greathouse at 828-292-4722.

A Romanian Baptist Church in Mountain View is needing brass instruments for a growing youth band. Contact Sima Marijan at 828-396-1121 or 216-316-3096.

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

Community News

The Baptist State Convention of NC will be offering virtual VBS Training on April 20 from 9:30 AM to Noon. Training will feature keynote and breakout sessions covering all aspects of VBS, including how to adapt amid the lingering impact of COVID-19. This is a free virtual training event. Your registration includes access to all content for 30 days after the event. To obtain more information and to register click on the [link](#).

The Woman's Missionary Union of NC will be offering a virtual Missions Extravaganza on April 24. There is a \$20 registration fee that includes the following:

- An all-access digital pass and conference program packet
- 90 day access to worship sessions, conference sessions, and the Missions Expo
- Free printables and resources from the Missions Expo

- Online voting

To register click on the [link](#).

Baptists on Mission will be offering construction skills training for men, women, and students at Shelby Mission Camp on April 24. The training will be from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The cost for training only is \$10.00 and for training with overnight housing is \$21.00. Click on the [link](#) to register.

The NC Baptists on Mission Disaster Relief Team will be offering Region 7 Training on April 24 at Hudson First Baptist Church. If you would like to participate in this training, registration is required. Click on the [link](#) for more information about the training and how to register. Click [here](#) to obtain a couple of slides to use in your church advertising the need for Disaster Relief Volunteers.

Hands on Missions will have a Spring Golf Fundraiser on May 7, 2021 at Deer Brook Golf Club in Shelby, NC. The event will begin at 11:30 AM with a shotgun start at 1:00 PM. Cost is \$300 per team. All entries must be received by April 30. To register a team online click on the [link](#).

Would you like to participate in a program that will benefit the work of Baptists on Mission? You can do so by signing up for a Lowe's Rebate using a Lowe's Credit card, Visa, or Mastercard. Baptists on Mission will receive 5% back for all that you spend at Lowe's on that card. This does not affect any discount that the card holder would get themselves. Details on how to sign up can be found by clicking on the [link](#).

Truett Conference Center & Camp in Hayesville, NC is seeking volunteers who feel led to serve for a week or more. Areas of service are medical, grounds, food, construction and hospitality. Click on the [link](#) for more information concerning this ministry.

Available Positions

Mountain Grove Baptist Church of Granite Falls is seeking a part-time Director of Student Ministries (middle & high school). Click on the [link](#) to send a resume. For more information click [here](#).

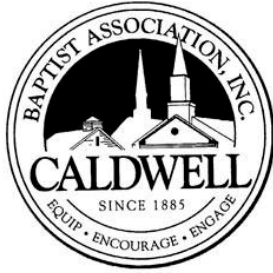
First Baptist Church of Rhodhiss is seeking a part-time music minister. Resumes can be sent to the church at PO Box 29, Rhodhiss, NC 28667 or click on the [link](#) to send via email.

Mount Zion Baptist Church in Hudson is seeking a full-time Associate Pastor/Minister of Music and Education. Please send resume to Mount Zion Baptist Church, % Search Committee, 1787 Cahah Mountain Rd, Hudson, NC 28638 or click on the [link](#) to send via email. Resumes will be accepted until March 15, 2021. For more information click [here](#).

Rocky Hill Baptist Church in Statesville is seeking a senior pastor. Resume and cover letter may be mailed to Pastor Search Committee, Rocky Hill Baptist Church, 823 Mountain View Rd, Statesville, NC 28625 or click on the [link](#) to send via email. For more information click [here](#).

Zoar Baptist Church in Shelby is seeking a part-time worship leader. Please click on the [link](#) for more information and to send a resume via email. Resumes can be mailed to Worship Leader Search Committee, 1740 South Lafayette St, Shelby, NC 28152.

Macedonia Baptist Church is seeking a full-time Associate Pastor of Family Ministries. Please click on the [link](#) for more information and to send a resume via email. Resumes can be mailed to the attention of Dr. Randy Setzer at Macedonia Baptist Church, 5286 E. Hwy. 150, Lincolnton, NC 28092.



Visit the Caldwell Baptist Association's Website

www.caldwellbaptist.org

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