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**TRBA November Newsletter**

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To: pastor@mountainhillchurch.org

Fri, Nov 1, 2024 at 4:39 PM

[RSVP Today](#)



## A Note From Travis

Associational Mission Strategist

Where did 2024 go? With the coming and passing of October, we find ourselves on the doorstep of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years. When I was a child, it seemed like time crept by more slowly than a turtle walking through glue. Every time I would say something like, "I can't wait to grow up," my parents' response was always the same: enjoy life now because time will go by more quickly as you get older. As most children think when parents say anything, I thought they were brainless, clueless, and out of touch with reality. Now that I'm in their shoes, I realize how right they were, how much insight they had into everyday life, and how much I miss them. Time assuredly does fly by and, the older we get, the more we realize how quickly each moment passes. Secular society realizes the same thing. Popular music has songs like "Time Stand Still," "These Are the Times to Remember," and "Time." Though secular culture memorializes time because it has nothing bigger to look toward, Christians memorialize time as a precious gift from the Lord. Every moment and situation in which we find ourselves is a moment the Lord has given us to glorify and honor Him. During this month in which we celebrate our thankfulness to the Lord for all He has given, may we each live by the words of Paul in Colossians 3:17: "And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

As we continue working through 1 John to study the same passage of Scripture together in order to unite our Association together further, we look this month to 1 John 3:21-22. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, John writes, "Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight." These verses, unfortunately, have been taken out of context for centuries by folks who read the text and assume God will grant whatever a persons asks of and from Him. They have been further taken out of context by those who ask for something based on something they have done. Inside the full context of 1 John, and the more localized context of 1 John 3, these two thoughts could not be more wrongheaded. The meaning of 1 John 3:21, in context, is extremely clear. The context of 1 John 3 deals with how Christians are to act and treat each other. In fact, the larger context of 1 John as a whole is similar. 1 John is written to believers, not to the world generally, and so the promises of 1 John are given to those who have placed faith and trust in Christ and Christ alone. With that in mind, 1 John 3:21-22 come into plain view. John is here saying those who are in Christ have confidence before God because their sins have been forgiven and, thus, their hearts do not and cannot condemn them. Further, John is saying that those who are in Christ may ask the Father for anything and that request will be granted. This is not asking simply for anything in the world based on whatever our hearts may desire. This is petitioning the Father for a specific request based on His will, much like Jesus prays in the Lord's Prayer: Your will be done. As we seek the Lord daily and the Lord's will for our lives, we must always ask according to His will. In so doing, as 1 John 3:21-22 promises, we will receive that for which we ask because we ask according to God's will.

I want to provide you with a quick update concerning ongoing recovery efforts post hurricane Helene. First, our Disaster Relief teams have performed outstanding and selfless services for hundreds of people. In just a few weeks, our chainsaw and heavy equipment units completed 27 chainsaw projects that included 1,138 man hours and 234 equipment hours of work. Our laundry unit washed, dried, and folded 221 loads of laundry that included 541 volunteer hours and they were able to give out 19 Bibles. Second, because of your generosity, we collected and delivered two trailers filled with supplies to California Creek Baptist in Mars Hill, NC on Thursday, Oct 10. The people there were incredibly thankful for the supplies and assistance as we restocked their supplies the church is providing to their community. Third, as we look to the future and the longterm efforts of recovery, we have partnered with associations in western North Carolina and have been in contact with association leaders and churches in the region. All association partners in North Carolina have told us the same information: they are currently not in need of any supplies or volunteers as they are completely overwhelmed with both. I was able to speak to leaders with the North Carolina Baptist Convention on Monday, October 28, and they told me the same: they know of no areas in the state with supply or volunteer needs. Though that is true for the immediate present, it will not be in the future, but for now, because our partners on the ground in North Carolina have told us not to bring supplies or send volunteers, we will wait in a holding pattern until they call for assistance. As soon as they do, we will send information as to what their specific needs are and will begin

working quickly to fill those needs. This will be a 3-5 year recovery effort and we have committed to be with them for the long haul. Please continue praying for associations and churches as they keep working to share the gospel and assist their communities.

One very important way you can help with recovery efforts, though they have not yet been specifically requested, is by helping us restock our supply of health kits (different from prisoner packs) at the Three Rivers Association building. If you, or folks in your church, would like to begin making these kits, we will take as many as can be supplied as they are in constant need. Specific items for the health kit are as follows and should be placed inside a two gallon ziplock bag with the bag closed: bath towel, wash cloth, bath size bar of soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, baby wipes, and antibacterial wipes. Again, though these have yet to be requested specifically, these health kits will be a continuing need, so they will go to good use.

As we have been doing, please continue praying for each other and for the other churches in our Association. I want to encourage you strongly to pray for each other, other pastors, and sister congregations in our area as we work together to encourage pastors and equip churches to engage lostness for the sake of fulfilling our part of the Great Commission. Lift each of these pastors and congregations to the Father, asking for His providential care for them and for His mercy and grace to work mightily through them.

Abner Creek, Greer, Donald Thomas  
Airport, Greer, Phillip Gilmore  
Apalache, Greer, Brian Childers  
Belvue, Travelers Rest, Michael Lewis  
Berea First, Greenville, Chad Rickenbaker  
Bethel, Greenville, Daniel Lee  
Blue Ridge, Greer, Chad Hastings  
Burnsview, Greer, Tim Huckaby  
Calvary First, Greenville, Caleb Durham

Finally, our Association Annual Meeting is November 4 from 6:30pm-8:00pm at Victor Baptist in Greer on New Woodruff Rd. Our Annual Meeting time will be filled with amazing reports of all that has happened in the Three Rivers Association since our last meeting and we will sing, pray, hear God's Word proclaimed, and rejoice in all the Lord is doing. If you would like to join us, you can register on our website at [threeriversba.org/events](http://threeriversba.org/events). If you can't register before the meeting, plan to attend anyway. This is your Association and our work is wholly dependent on your voice being heard. I would love to see you there.

My prayer for you for November is the same as always. May the Lord grant each of us opportunities to share the message of Christ with unbelievers and to disciple believers in the message of Christ. As an association of churches, we partner together for the sake of encouraging and equipping each other to engage lostness for the sake of fulfilling our part of the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20).

# SC BAPTIST

## PRISONER PACKETS

### S.C.D.C Approved Packing List

ONE black non-retractable pen (no wire clips, no other color ink)

ONE 5" x 8" junior legal pad – white or yellow only (now wire bound books, composition books)

ONE adult toothbrush (individually factory-sealed, no multi-packs, holders, floss, or folding/travel toothbrushes)

ONE 4 oz to 6 oz toothpaste (no travel size)

ONE 3.2 oz to 6 oz bar of soap (no travel size, no unwrapped or unboxed bars)

TWO rolls of hard candy like LifeSavers, Mentos, Breath Savers (NO Smarties, Sweetarts, Necco Wafers, Rolos, Starburst, TicTacs)

THREE first-class #10 Stamp-Embossed Envelopes (from US Post Office, NO regular stamps, no other size envelope)

ONE gallon size zipper bag (no other size bags accepted)

**ALL ITEMS MUST FIT IN THE ZIPPER BAG  
WITH  
ZIPPER CLOSED SECURELY**

**DO NOT INCLUDE: washcloths, toothbrush  
holders, floss, and combs.**

**Extra approved items may be sent to Three  
Rivers at delivery in a bag/box marked "extra  
items."**

**PRISONER PACKETS ARE DUE TO THREE RIVERS  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OFFICE ON NOVEMBER 21,  
2024.**



**Thank You, Disaster Relief Volunteers!**





We are so grateful to our Disaster Relief volunteers who have been serving non-stop since Hurricane Helene struck our area. These teams have removed trees from homes and driveways, delivered meals, and washed hundreds of loads of laundry. We especially want to thank Ron Darnell and Jennifer McJunkin for their leadership, coordinating volunteers and making sure our units are effectively run.

Please continue to pray for these teams' safety and for continued opportunities to share the Gospel with the people they are serving.



MINISTERS & SPOUSE

# Christmas Dinner

SPACE IS LIMITED, SO RSVP TODAY!

TEXAS DE BRAZIL  
700 HAYWOOD RD  
GREENVILLE, SC 29607

## DEC 2ND

5:30 PM



RSVP TODAY



## Help Us Replenish Our Health Kits



PLACE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN A TWO-GALLON ZIPLOCK BAG TO MAKE 1 KIT



Bath Towel & Wash Cloth



Bar of Bath Soap



Toothpaste & Toothbrush



Comb



Baby Wipes & Antibacterial Wipes

## ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE



It is time to complete the 2024 Annual Church Profile (ACP). These documents help us celebrate the incredible things God is doing through the work of our churches. Pastors & Ministry Assistants will be emailed ACP forms later this month.

**To designate someone as the ACP Contact for your church, [click here](#).**

ACP instructions were mailed out to each church in September. If you need help with your ACP or if you have questions please contact our office.

## Church Giving Update



**Click here to view our latest giving report**



## News From Our Ministry Partners

### SC Baptist Pastor's Conference 2024



**FIRE**  
*From Heaven*

**NOVEMBER 11**

**9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

**Columbia First Baptist Church  
Boyce Chapel**



*Travis Agnew*  
Rocky Creek Church – Greenville



*Richard Blackaby*  
Blackaby Ministries International



*Daniel Dickard*  
Shandon Baptist Church - Columbia



*DJ Horton*  
Church at The Mill - Spartanburg



*Andre Rogers*  
Columbia International University



# TILL ALL HAVE **HEARD**

[LEARN MORE](#)

**NORTH GREENVILLE  
UNIVERSITY**  
*Christ Makes the Difference*

## A Free Worship Seminar

Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 2:30 PM until 5:30 PM Eastern Standard Time UTC -05:00

The North Greenville University Christian Ministry program invites you to join local pastors and musical worship leaders to consider and discuss planning Sunday morning worship on Thursday, November 21, 2024, 2:30-5:30pm in Tigerville.

If your church has information to be included in the November newsletter, please submit that information to the TRBA office by Thursday, November 21st, by 4 pm.



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[Unsubscribe](#)