

"Fair English"

They say that the English language is one of the hardest to learn. Now I wouldn't really be the best person to ask about that since it is the only language that I have ever tried to learn (and that with marginal success). Some of you probably assumed that with a name like Reinhold Koschel that I must at least speak a little German. Well, you would be wrong, unless you can consider my gifted ability to count to ten in old German. Having to live with my name through childhood was enough German for me, especially if you learn to say it with a little roll of the tongue and some guttural coming from down in the throat. Then it sounds a bit like Colonel Clink from the epic TV series "Hogan's Heroes." (Wow, now I am giving away my age and my liking for high-brow humor.)

When it comes to English, I have been known to butcher the language a bit. At my previous pastorate, I had several English teachers in the congregation and from time to time I would see them squirm a bit as I would preach. Now I have tried to convince myself that the content of my sermons weren't the reason for their discomfort (work with me here), instead it was usually some word usage or tense that I didn't have grammatically correct. For many years as I would preach I would make the statement that, "Jesus died for you and I." The problem was that Jesus didn't die for you and I (don't check out yet), although theologically correct, grammatically everybody knows that, "Jesus died for you and me!" That's probably why I never learned a second language because I figured you should probably learn the first one before you moved on to another.

You see, English is full of those words that may sound the same, and sometimes that are even spelled the same, but that can have very different meanings based on the context. For instance, "Sally went to the sea to see how many words she could write with the letter "C". Sea what I mean? (or is it see...) Every little nuance and colloquialism (not exactly sure what that means but it sounded cool) of the English language can make it difficult to learn. Which brings me to another word in English that is even spelled the same but can have a very different meaning. The word is "fair." Growing up, I always enjoyed the summer when our county fair would come to town. I would hope for fair weather and pray that my parents would be fair by allowing me to stay out later than usual and also find it in their heart to give me a fair amount of money so I could afford the "Zipper" fare. Fair, fair, fair, and fare....

Last week during the Spring WMU meeting, Margaret Brown and Kay Leagans worked to put together another kind of "fair", a Mission's Fair. After hearing from retired Missionary Jean Phillips, everyone moved back in the Children's wing at Bellview Baptist Church to have an opportunity to walk through the various booths and see the many mission opportunities that are available right here in Laurens County and also on into the world. I was once again struck by the many ways that each of us has to impact our local community with the Gospel. What was really exciting was to see the many opportunities and tools that our Association makes available for our churches who want to engage their community and beyond.

Brenda Hartline was at the table that showcased the Crisis Center ministry where each week the churches of our Association have an opportunity to meet the physical needs in our community. Although this ministry has been going for many years now, the needs in our community have not diminished at all. There is always opportunities to serve in and through our Crisis Center.

Phil Bryson and a group of men from several of our churches were there to make people aware of the opportunities available to serve through Disaster Relief. Their yellow Disaster Relief shirts stuck out in the crowd and the chainsaw trailer was fully equipped, tuned up, and on display for everyone to see. Perhaps you would consider making yourself available to be called out when a disaster strikes our nation again.

Brett Davis was at the display for the Disciple's Trail Retreat Center. His display showcased where the facility has come and the opportunities available to use this beautiful piece of property to impact young and old alike for the Kingdom of God. He even had some "Disciple's Trail Mix" available for those who needed a little snack to carry them through.

David and Angela Shiflet were there to display the regional mission trips that our Association has sponsored during the past several years. We are planning another trip to Virginia in July and would welcome those from our churches who would like to experience the opportunity to go on Missions with us to Virginia this summer.

There were many other mission displays showcased, including "yours truly" there to talk about our Block Party Trailer. No matter what kind of English you use to say it, there is a fair amount of opportunities for individuals and churches to serve through missions. After all, it wouldn't be fair for believing Baptists in Laurens County to stand idly by when we have been given the wonderful message of the Gospel with no fare required!

Article Written By: Reiny Koschel, Associational Missionary

General Church Contributions:			
	JAN / MAR 2015	2015 YTD	2014 YTD
---Bar None Cowboy	96.83	96.83	111.78
Beaverdam	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bellview	2,313.18	2,313.18	2,632.03
Bethabara	150.00	150.00	150.00
Bethel	375.00	375.00	375.00
Beulah	1,184.54	1,184.54	1,866.54
Calvary	419.29	419.29	0.00
Cedarwood	2,150.27	2,150.27	1,398.69
Chestnut Ridge	2,822.30	2,822.30	2,524.18
Clinton First	1,524.99	1,524.99	1,524.99
Community	0.00	0.00	500.00
Cornerstone	150.00	150.00	150.00
Cross Hill First	480.00	480.00	450.00
Davidson Street	200.00	200.00	366.00
Durbin Creek	578.34	578.34	675.42
Eastside	500.00	500.00	600.00
Family Of God	428.50	428.50	372.15
Friendship	871.47	871.47	1,042.55
Gateway	0.00	0.00	528.48
*Grace Church	300.00	300.00	0.00
Gray Court First	131.43	131.43	0.00
Harmony	222.33	222.33	92.70
Henderson	646.41	646.41	850.15
---Heritage Fellowship	218.30	218.30	191.85
Highland Home	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hillcrest	462.00	462.00	474.27
Holly Grove	323.21	323.21	0.00
Hurricane	293.52	293.52	422.93
Joanna First	900.00	900.00	900.00
Lanford	375.00	375.00	375.00
Langston	0.00	0.00	76.00
Laurens First	5,541.52	5,541.52	3,058.52
Laurens Second	744.62	744.62	415.88
Lucas Avenue	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,500.00
Lydia	0.00	0.00	75.00
Mountville	690.09	690.09	394.45
Mount Gallagher	600.00	600.00	900.00
Mount Olive	300.00	300.00	300.00
Mount Pleasant	0.00	0.00	0.00
New Beginning	147.00	147.00	142.00
New Prospect	1,014.99	1,014.99	958.98
Northside	150.00	150.00	0.00
Pine Grove	189.58	189.58	0.00
Pleasant Grove	904.03	904.03	227.35
Poplar Springs	600.00	600.00	800.00
Princeton	325.69	325.69	637.97
Rabun Creek	498.55	498.55	0.00
Rosemont	1,810.00	1,810.00	915.00
The Spring	317.55	317.55	184.84
Union	951.48	951.48	0.00
Warrior Creek	0.00	0.00	834.60
Waterloo	60.00	60.00	60.00
Wayside	447.82	447.82	505.41
Welcome	133.13	133.13	149.74
	\$34,542.96	\$34,542.96	\$30,710.45

*LBA Sanctioned Church Start
 **LBA Credentialing Process
 ***Other Church Starts

 Thank you for supporting Associational Missions by giving at least 3% of your undesignated offerings.

Happy Mother's Day! **SUNDAY MAY 10, 2015**
Mother's Day Offering For Baptist Homes For The Aging

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
 There will be no **Minister's Conferences** for the months of June & July. We will resume meeting in August.

CRISIS CENTER

May Schedule

- Tuesday, May 05 - Beulah
- Thursday, May 07 - Family Of God
- Tuesday, May 12 - Henderson
- Thursday, May 14 - Rosemont
- Tuesday, May 19 - Calvary
- Thursday, May 21 - Highland Home
- Tuesday, May 26 - Cornerstone
- Thursday, May 28 - Durbin Creek

June Schedule

- Tuesday, June 02 - Grace
- Thursday, June 04 - Joanna First
- Tuesday, June 09 - New Prospect
- Thursday, June 11 - Poplar Springs
- Tuesday, June 16 - Friendship
- Thursday, June 18 - Cross Hill First
- Tuesday, June 23 - Mt. Gallagher
- Thursday, June 25 - Eastside
- Tuesday, June 30 - Princeton

If your church cannot provide at least 3 volunteers, call Kay at 984-0123.

May Crisis Center Needs

Sugar, Tea, Kool-Aid

June Crisis Center Needs

Ramen Noodles, Boxed Dinners

HomeLife, Mature Living, and Devotional Magazines are always needed.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesday & Thursday
 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

We have received mats for the homeless, pillowcase dresses, and salvation dolls. If your church is going on a mission trip and would like to take items with you, contact Kay at 984-0123.



Place your canned goods by your mailbox for the mail carrier to pickup.

POST OFFICE FOOD DRIVE WORKDAY

**Laurens Baptist Crisis Center
 Monday, May 11
 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Volunteers are needed to sort food, stock shelves and unload trucks. We will work until 2 PM or until all food is sorted and shelves stocked, whichever comes first.

Volunteer by contacting Kay at 984-0123.

ONE DAY MISSION TRIP TO:

Triune Mercy Center In Greenville, SC

To Learn About Homelessness In Greenville And Prayerwalk Areas Of Greenville

DATE: Wednesday, June 10th

TIME: 7:30 AM To 3:00 PM

COST: No Cost - But You Are Responsible For Own Transportation & Lunch

For Ages 12 And Up

For More Information Contact Kay @ 984-0123

Deadline To Register: June 3rd

Schedule For One Day Mission Trip

- 7:30 AM Meet At LBA Mission Center
- 8:45 AM Arrive At Triune Mercy Center
- 9:00 AM - 12 Noon Orientation & Tour
- 1:00 PM Lunch
- 3:00 PM Arrive At LBA Mission Center

*PLEASE WEAR COMFORTABLE SHOES FOR WALKING



New Tennis Shoes Needed For Children K5-Grade 6 In Appalachia Region. Due Date: July 17th
Drop-Off Point: LBA Mission Center
 We will be taking shoes on the LBA Mission Trip To Virginia.



♪ EVERLASTING PRAISE 4 CONCERT ♪

Presented by
BELLVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR
Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17
6:00 PM

Bellview Baptist Church, Laurens

A collection of Gospel Songs, Hymns and Classic Praise. There is something for every age and musical taste from Chris Tomlin, The Gettys, Andrae Crouch and Bill Gaither. There are also some songs made popular by Cliff Barrows and George Beverly Shea.

Come join us for an exciting evening of worship!



"Sunrise" Day Camp

JOIN US FOR THE FUN!

July 6-10, 2015

Children Ages 6-11

Cost Only \$40

Swimming - Boating - Crafts
Bible Study - Music - Games

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL THE
LAURENS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AT 984-0123

(Registration Deadline: June 25, 2015)



2015 CAMPER
REGISTRATION PACKETS

Associational Staff

Associational Missionary

Reiny Koschel

Missions Mobilization Director

Kay W. Leagans

Office Manager

Deborah W. Adams

MISSION CENTER HOURS

Monday-Thursday...8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Lunch Hour...12:30 PM-1:30 PM

www.laurensisland.org

www.laurensbaptistassoc.org



LAURENS COUNTY CRUSADE

At The Exchange Building

Sunday, August 30th

Thru

Thursday, September 3, 2015

Beginning @ 7:00 PM Nightly

The Outreach Team requests your prayers as preparation continues for our upcoming crusade.

ABC's For Becoming A Christian

A – Admit

to God you are a sinner. Repent and turn away from your sin. (Romans 3:23 & 6:23, I John 1:9; Acts 3:19)

B – Believe

that Jesus is God's Son and that God sent Jesus to save people from their sin. (Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31; John 3:16; I Peter 3:18; John 14:16)

C – Commit

your life to Jesus. Trust Him to be your Savior and Lord. (Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)

NEWSLETTER
Laurens Baptist Association
Post Office Box 745
Laurens, SC 29360
(864) 984-0123

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Equipping Churches To Reach "LAURENS ISLAND" Laurens Baptist Association

Churches Working Together For HIS Kingdom, By HIS Power, For HIS Glory

MAY / JUNE 2015

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LBA NEWS

www.laurensbaptistassoc.org

www.laurensisland.org



National Day Of Prayer
Thursday, May 7th @ 12 Noon
Old Laurens County Courthouse Steps

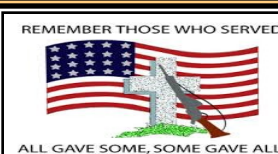
Come and join fellow believers in praying for Laurens County, our state and our nation.

Combined Meeting For Trustees, Administrative Committee, and Christian Conference/Retreat Team

Thursday, May 14th @ 6:30 PM
LBA Mission Center

Combined Minister's Conference Luncheon
with Lakelands Association to be held on
Tuesday, May 19th @ 11:30 AM
Disciple's Trail Retreat Center

Lunch will be provided.
Please let the LBA Office know if you are
planning on attending.



LBA Office Closed
Memorial Day
May 25, 2015

2015 Summer Mission Trip Powell River Baptist Association Jonesville, VA July 26 - August 1, 2015



Service Opportunities:

Shoe Ministry

Brown Bag Lunch Program - Feeding Hungry Children

Carpenter's Hammer Ministry - Minor Home Repair

Prayerwalking Block Parties Servant Evangelism

Lodging Will Be At The Powell River Baptist Association:

Kitchen With Ice Maker

Large Meeting / Dining Area

Bathrooms With Showers

3 Small Bedrooms Plus Bunkhouse

Washer & Dryer

Picnic Shelter

Large Outdoor Area For Corn Hole, Basketball, Etc.

Cost: \$150/Adult (Ages 12 and Up)

\$75/Child (Ages 6-11)

Discount For Families Of 3 Or More

Cost Includes: Food, Lodging And Transportation While In Virginia. Does Not Include Food And Transportation To And From Virginia.

Deposit: \$50 Per Person Due By: June 8, 2015

Balance Due By: July 13, 2015

Sign up by calling Kay at 984-0123 with church name and approximate number in your group.

There will be a planning meeting Tuesday, May 26 at 6:30 PM at the LBA Mission Center.