The BC of the CBA

The Monthly Newsletter of the Cumberland Baptist Association

Dr. Rick Stevens, Associational Missionary

Our Mission is Strategically Resourcing Churches to Carry out the Great Commission

Cumberland Baptist Association April 2024



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From the Missionary

CBA Church Family,

Sometimes we are tempted to think back about the "good old days" of many aspects of life. The reality of those past memories is that lots of things were not as sweet as we remember. This may be true of our perspective about the early New Testament Church.

Rick Stevens

While we may think of the early church as being pure and much less complicated, they did deal with many challenges in their day. Both Corinthian letters in the scripture deal with problems and challenges in the early church. There is one thing, however, that we can see about the early believers. They did not live in a culture that was particularly friendly to the church, nor have a government that valued their presence. They were consistently having to focus on the mission and the task of living out the call of Christ in local churches amid the culture around them. That focus can help us nearly 2000 years after they lived.

Among the many resources that help with Church Revitalization, one of them is the book entitled, The Autopsy of a Deceased Church, by Thom Rainer. In that book, he describes a series of realities for churches that eventually died. They include a lack of focus on The Great Commission, living in the past, prayer that becomes focused on the physical needs of the people who remain in the church, budgets that focus on maintaining the current building and ministry to the members, lack of engagement with the community, and an inability to articulate the purpose of their church consistent with scripture. These priorities will, over time, ensure decline. On the other hand, when a church addresses these concepts and sets out, asking the Lord for His guidance, amazing things can happen. When we make sure the main thing is the main thing, God can do miracles.

This year, we are trying to make sure we point our CBA churches toward resources, ideas, and questions that can help with this concept of Church Revitalization. Our Spring Meeting at Northeast BC on April 22 with Bro. Larry Murphy will provide another of those opportunities. Come and join us and we will get to see some of the ways that every church can refocus ministry toward increased church health. If you would like to see some more resources, you can always reach out and we will be glad to point you to some helpful tools that can help every church see revitalization take place.

In Christ,

Bro. Rick Stevens

Churches Without Pastors

Cumberland City, Dotsonville, Excell, Hillcrest, Little West Fork & Trinity

Please Welcome to the CBA Family!





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Ladies' Spring Coffee \$\mathbb{G}\$

Saturday, April 20 10:00 AM - Noon

Hillcrest Baptist Church 380 Dover Rd, Clarksville

Music: Diane Carroccia
Speaker: Stacy Murphree
Baptist Collegiate Minister, APSU

Deadline to Register: Thursday, April 11th. Call / text Sandra, 931-449-0083 (Leave msg.)

Email: womensoutreach.cba@gmail.com

Sponsored by Women's Outreach Ministry, Cumberland Baptist Association

God uses ordinary Women to achieve Kingdom purposes!

Evangelism Training with Tim Dowdy | April 29

First Baptist Clarksville

EVANGELISM KIT

TRAINING

Schedule:

8:30 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - Noon Evangelism Training

The Evangelism Training is for pastors, staff members, and lay leaders. The goal of the day is to increase awareness of how to turn an everyday conversation into a gospel conversation. There's no cost to attend!



5-Day Clubs are a great way to teach children about Jesus during the summer, wherever they are.

Will you host a club? Could your church sponsor a club? Will you donate funds to help support this important mission? Will you pray for the children and those teaching them?

How might God use YOU this summer to change a child's life and eternity?

ReachingKidsForJesus.com reachingkidsforjesus@gmail.com

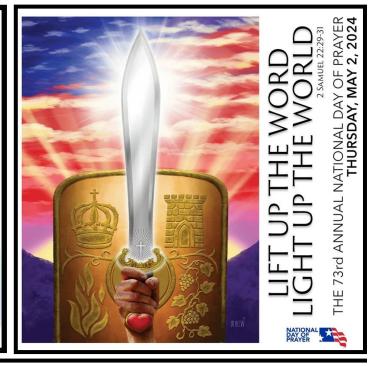
931-241-8202



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Christian Counseling Biblical Counselor

Dr. Melvin Felts
Appointments available
Tuesday / Thursday
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
by appointment only
Call (931) 358-9036





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Notice:

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Schedule of Events			
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
April 07 - 08, 2024	State Evangelism Conference	New Vision BC Murfreesboro, TN	See Website for Details
April 08 - 10, 2024	State Secretary Conference	Sevierville First BC	See Website for Details
April 11 - 13, 2024	For His Glory Missions Get - Together	Brentwood BC	See Website for Details
April 13, 2024	VBS Training & More Clinic	Hilldale BC	9:00 a.m 11:30 a.m.
April 18, 2024	Pastor/Staff Lunch	Hilldale BC - Building B	11:30 a.m.
April 20, 2024	CBA Ladies' Coffee -	Hillcrest BC	10:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.
April 22, 2024	Executive Board Meeting	Northeast BC	6:30 p.m.
April 28, 2024	Ignite Tennessee	Central BC Crossville, TN	6:00 p.m 8:00 p.m.
April 29, 2024	NAMB Evangelism Kit Training	First Baptist Clarksville	8:30 a.m 12:00 p.m.
May 2, 2024	National Day of Prayer		