

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LITHIA SPRINGS

BOOK OF REPORTS

February 16, 2014

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SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 2013 AND JANUARY, 2014

ENROLLMENT 10/31/13	820 + 157 Prospects
ENROLLMENT 01/31/14	885 + 155 Prospects
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE IN NOVEMBER - JANUARY	316
% OF AVERAGE	30%

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CLERK'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 2013 AND JANUARY, 2014

ADDITIONS	Destiny Green, for Baptism Faith Green, for Baptism Hope Green, for Baptism Kyle Ussery, for Baptism Bryce McGaughey, for Baptism Logan Strickland, for Baptism Sade' Cooper, for Baptism Kira Rodriguez, for Baptism Eli Somers, by Statement Danielle Taylor, by Statement Trey Strickland, by Letter
TOTAL ADDITIONS	11
DELETIONS	Steve Spurrier, Moved to West Cobb Church Natasha Spurrier, Moved to West Cobb Church Tambra Watkins, Moved to Beulah Baptist Church Beverly Akers, Moved to No. Ave. Presbyterian Church Kim White, Moved to Ephesus Baptist Church Shirley Cloud, Deceased Charles (Bubba) Bennett, Deceased Irene Shirley, Deceased Naomi West, Deceased James Thomas Lindsey, Jr., Deceased James Cunningham, Deceased Bessie Hood, Deceased
TOTAL DELETIONS	12

FBC MEMBERS AS OF 10/31/13	2210
FBC MEMBERS AS OF 01/31/14	2209

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LITHIA SPRINGS
MINUTES OF CHURCH CONFERENCE – NOVEMBER 17, 2013

Pastor Kevin McKoy called the conference to order and led in opening prayer.

Pastor McKoy called attention to the **Book of Reports** which had been distributed to the congregation.

Included in the Book of Reports were the following:

Minutes of the August 18, 2013 Church Conference: Approved as presented.

Minutes of the November 10, 2013 Called Church Conference: Approved as presented.

Clerk's Report for August, September, October, 2013: Approved as presented.

Financial Reports for August, September, October, 2013: Approved as Presented.

(There was a question by Frances Young as to why the Cash Flow Balance Sheet was omitted from the Financial Reports. This was an oversight, due to a change in Financial Secretaries. The Balance Sheet will be included in the future.)

Clerk's Report for August, September, October, 2013 for Lithia Springs West African Mission: Approved as presented.

Financial Report for August, September, October, 2013 for Lithia Springs West African Mission: Approved as presented.

Organizational Reports were included in the November Book of Reports.

An additional report from the Building Committee, accompanied with slides, was presented by Tom Richardson.
(Copy attached to these minutes>)

Old Business: Recommendation from the Nominating Committee as presented by Jill Coats, Chairperson, to elect the following to leadership positions:

Kevin Smythe: Audit Committee, 3 Year Term	Mike Jennings: Transportation Committee, 1 Year Term
Dan DeFoor: Flower Committee, 1 Year Term	Joan Gamel: Recreation Council, 2 Year Term
Sara Davis: Food Committee, 3 Year Term	Henry Robinette: Stewardship Committee, 1 Year Term
Ken Howle: Personnel Committee, 1 Year Term	Lynn Williams: Preschool Council, 2 Year

There were no questions/no discussion. A vote was taken by the uplifted hand and the **recommendation passed unanimously.**

New Business: Recommendation from the Stewardship Committee as presented by Julie Johnson, Chairperson:

To allow the Stewardship Committee, at the December meeting, to take funds out of Contingency Account to zero out the line items in the 2013 budget. It was noted that this would not affect the Restricted Fund Accounts.

Following discussion and questions, a voice vote was taken and the **recommendation passed.**

New Business: Recommendation from the Stewardship Committee as presented by Julie Johnson:

To adopt the 2014 Budget as proposed in the November, 2013 Book of Reports.

Julie Johnson thanked the Ministers and Committees for submitting their budget proposals, and noted that funds were not available to support all the proposals. She thanked Tommy Hagler, who had saved the church a considerable amount of money by re-negotiating Property Committee contracts. She also recognized and thanked the members of the Stewardship Committee.

During discussion/questions on the recommendation, Frances Young noted that no payments showed in the Contingency Fund account. It was explained that due to a lack of extra funds, the committee found it necessary to stop setting money aside for this fund until such time as offerings increase.

**MINUTES OF CHURCH CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 17, 2013
(CONTINUED)**

Also during discussion/questions on the recommendation, errors were noted in the 2014 Ministry Budget Summary as follows:

Ministry Through Missions	\$106,560.00	Should Be: \$117,560.00
Ministry Through Personnel	\$556,037.50	Should Be: \$556,037.50
Ministry Through Christian Education	\$ 47,152.00	Should Be: \$ 47,152.00
Ministry Through Service & Support	\$ 54,448.00	Should Be: \$ 54,448.00
Ministry Through Property	\$182,238.48	Should Be: \$182,238.46
Total 2014 Ministry Budget Proposal	\$946,435.96	Should Be: \$957,435.96

Other errors in the budget proposal were noted as follows:

Cooperative Program (10% of Offerings)	\$85,000	Should Be: \$95,000
Associational Missions (1% of Offerings)	\$ 8,500	Should Be: \$ 9,500
Total Ministry Through Missions	\$106,560	Should Be: \$117,560

The recommendation was amended to include the above corrections, making a total budget amount of \$957,435.96. A vote was taken by the uplifted hand and the motion carried - to adopt the 2014 Budget, as corrected.

**New Business: Recommendation from the Stewardship Committee, by Julie Johnson:
To adopt the Lithia Springs West African Mission Budget for 2014, of \$56,580.00,
as printed in the November, 2013 Book of Reports.**

There were no questions or discussion. A voice vote was taken and **the recommendation carried.**

Pastor McKoy made several announcements about upcoming events and ministry opportunities. He led in prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane J. Hitchcock

Diane J. Hitchcock

Church Clerk

MINISTRY REPORTS

BAPTISMAL COMMITTEE Lloyd Chambers

We have been blessed with eight baptisms since our last report, and look forward to, we hope, at least four more on February 23rd, the day of the next Church Conference.

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY Teresa Royall

Spring semester has started, even though with the cold weather it does not seem like spring! But students are back and we are getting a good start. Here are some of the highlights of what is happening:

The Maze - January 29th: A major evangelistic outreach. We partnered with other Christian organizations to bring Jim Munroe, an illusionist, to campus. He did illusions and shared his testimony. Students invited their non-Christian friends.

43 of us joined with about 150 other students and staff for a ski trip with international students to Cataloochee Ski Resort where we shared our love of Christ with international friends.

We are planning a Spring Break trip to Savannah, GA, where we will do construction work and work with homeless, and then to New Jersey, where we will do disaster relief from Hurricane Sandy. Pray for the right students to sign up and for the preparations for the trip.

Bible studies, worship, with the theme *Faith in Action*, and lunches have all started back. Prey for us at BCM to live our faith in Christ and to reach our campus for Christ.

Thank you for your care and support of BCM through your prayers. You are such an encouragement to us.

BUILDING COMMITTEE Tom Richardson

The Easement Project with the Water & Sewer Department regarding the relocation of the sewer lift station, is close to being completed. The project is to be finished in early spring.

The committee will be recommending that we accept a bid from West Georgia Fence Co. to install a rolling fence across the upper level of our parking lot. This will be the entrance coming off Highway 78. The bid will include 16 feet of permanent fence (3 ft. high), and a rolling fence (3 feet high and 32 feet long.)

The cost of the fencing is in the amount of \$2,200.00 plus some signage costs - yet to be determined. The funds will be taken from the *Journey to Tomorrow* account.

The purpose of the fencing is to deter traffic through our parking areas, which has become a real safety issue.

We are also looking at ways to improve lighting in our Worship Center areas. We will have further information at a later date.

Building Committee Members

*Tom Richardson, Chairman,
Susan Beasley, Greg Lamb, Jimmy Rose, Vickie Rutherford, Jim West*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Kelsey Chapman

The Children's Ministry is excited and expectant for God to do great things this upcoming year. It has been so wonderful to see children worship the Lord and study the Truth of the Bible. These children desire to know who the God of the Bible is and they desire to be in relationship with Him. In January of this year we had two young ladies in 4th and 5th grade who wanted to accept Christ as their Savior! It truly cannot get any better than seeing people come to know Christ!

Kidstyle: Over the next few months, through prayer and ministry guidance, we will begin revamping Kidstyle. We see Kidstyle as a vital ministry for our children and know that this can be a place where children can become disciples who grow to know, love and serve the Lord because it is a place of worship that is specifically designed for them. We are excited and hopeful in seeing what the Lord is going to do in this ministry and how He is going to set the heart of His people on fire to lead and teach the children in this ministry.

I cannot say thank you enough to all my leaders who teach in Springsville. From Sunday School to Kidstyle to iQuest, the children's ministry has amazing teachers. I am so thankful for their hearts for our children and how they continue to teach them week after week. They each have such a servant's heart and are truly a blessing to the children's ministry.

We are thrilled about the activities coming up this month for the children's ministry. On Friday February 7th, we had a Daddy and Daughter Western Night that turned out to be a fun night of fellowship. Then coming up in two weeks on February 21, we will have a night of fun with Mothers and Sons as they enjoy playing Minute-It-To-Win-It games. We are looking forward to this event! Also, this spring we will have our annual Community Easter Egg Hunt in April!

VBS is just around the corner and the planning has begun! Sign-ups to volunteer for VBS will begin March 9th. We look forward to hearing from those who would love to volunteer for VBS this summer!

DEACONS

Kevin Smythe

The Deacons' and Wives Christmas Dinner was on December 5, 2013. There were 74 deacons and guests, as well as entertainment from Golden United Methodist Church.

The January meeting was held on January 20, 2014 with 24 deacons attending and a number of people on the Prayer List.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Rev. Mike Sinyard

The "Mere Christianity" class will be concluding Wednesday, Feb 26. Many thanks to Bob Elle for facilitating this most interesting study. Bob is planning to teach it again at the 7pm time slot soon.

New Wednesday night classes will begin on March 5.

Women's study- GIDEON by Priscilla Shirer

Men's Study-THE MEASURE OF A MAN by Gene Getz

Co-ed study- THE DANIEL PLAN by Rick Warren

Sign up in the Worship Center foyer.

EMERITUS AT SWEETWATER (Assisted Living)
Betty Robertson

We continue to enjoy our worship services at Emeritus at Sweetwater on Wednesday at 2 p.m. The residents seem to love gathering to sing songs of worship, to pray, and to hear Brother Hugh Grimmer preach The Word. Though a few of the original group have gone to be with Jesus, we continue to gain new residents to our worship service. We love these precious people and want to be a blessing to each one.

We also have a ministry among the residents in the Rose Garden (memory care). Though the approach is a bit different, we all come away feeling joyful. Join us when you can!

ESL
(English as a Second Language)
Kay Grimmer

Interesting results of ESL being taught in Georgia this past year - 2013:

Students ministered to - 4,258; Teachers ministering - 578;
Salvations - 122; Summer ministries - 26; Citizenship classes - 26;
Countries represented - 91.

Thanks to LSFBC for your support as we meet on Wednesday evening.

iQuest
Michelle Sampson

The iQuest kids are working hard on an Easter musical called "Happy Day!" The musical will be presented on Easter morning and will include all 4 iQuest groups. This is an exciting opportunity for us!

The groups are, also, getting the opportunity to sing during the monthly Celebration Services on Sunday evenings and are looking at the possibility of singing in the 4-church presentation of "I Will Rise."

During all of this, we continue our weekly study of the Fruit of the Spirit. March's focus will be faithfulness. April will be gentleness, and we'll end our study in May with self control.

Thank you for your continued support and prayer for our iQuest program and all workers and children involved.

LSWAM
(Lithia Springs West African Mission)
Charles Owusu

Due to the repair work at the Whitmire Activities Center, the West African Mission now meets for our regular services at the West Metro Baptist Association building. We are continuing with our preparations towards constituting as an autonomous sister church of FBCLS, including the adoption of a new constitution and completion of the necessary paperwork. We are also looking for a permanent meeting facility strategically located within the community for our new church. We would appreciate the continued prayer support and assistance of the FBCLS family during the transition period.

We had two outreach events during December: our Friends and Families Day and our Watchnight Service on the last night of the year to bring people in our community to the church. Some of our guests made decisions to join the church and are now attending the Discovering Church Membership Class. Three new members were baptized in November, and two people completed the membership class and were added to our membership. One more person is expected to be baptized in February.

We appreciate the support of our Senior Pastor, ministers, staff, and all members of FBCLS to our mission. God richly bless you all!

LORD'S SUPPER COMMITTEE

Alvie Stiefel

Last observance: Christmas Eve, December 24, 2013

Attendance (approx): 400

We enjoyed The Lord's Supper during the annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. We are privileged to be available to serve our Lord and fellow believers in this manner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Committee: Alvie Stiefel, Chair
Michael & June Strow
Linda Smith
Shirley McDaniel
Steve & Alvie Stiefel

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mark Sampson

Financial Secretary: The personnel committee gladly welcomed Sarah Fulton as our church's Financial Secretary. Sarah has already proven to be an invaluable asset to our church.

Search for Interim Music Minister: The committee has been in contact with the Georgia Baptist Convention, and is working on enlisting an Interim Music Minister. The committee completed writing a "job description" for the position and has completed the process by which candidates will be interviewed. We hope to have a candidate to present in the near future.

The committee is very appreciative of those who have stepped up and taken on additional responsibilities.

2014 Minister's Housing Allowance: The personnel committee will present a recommendation in the February church conference regarding the allocation of Minister's Housing allowances for 2014. The committee will recommend that a total of \$102,189 be set aside for Housing Allowance.

Committee Members: Mark Sampson (Chairman), Gail Houghton, Ken Howle, Rick Martin, Tom Richardson, Mary Scott

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Tommy Hagler

The Property Committee has been actively engaged in the up-keep of our facilities. Examples include:

- The exterior intrusion points of the roofs of all buildings have been sealed.
- Pigeon deterrents are in place to prevent their roosting and soiling of our walk-ways.
- The New Life Building has been sealed against external intruders (vermin).
- A new exterminating service has begun.
- HVAC maintenance and repairs are taking place.
- Bids, repairs, renovations, and replacement of the gym floor of the Activities Center are underway.
- The New Life Building is now being used for new Sunday School Classes.
- Trim-Decorative painting in the Preschool rooms is nearing completion.
- The West African Mission was offered, and they accepted, the chairs from the Activities Center that we no longer use. They will use these chairs to begin their new church.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY
Marion Beaver

The month of December was a full action month. The RAF was host to the Mt Harmony Senior Adult Choir, who blessed us with a program of Christmas music. The Homebound Ministry members and others delivered over 40 tins of Danish Cookies to our shut-ins and nursing home patients. Extremely cold weather caused cancellation of the regular meeting.

Bill Leonhard, of the Wycliffe Bible Translators, presented our February program, in which he shared the efforts of the translators to get the Bible into the hands of more people groups. It was a tremendously enlightening message.

Plans, as of now, are under way for a trip to Fernbank soon.

STUDENT MINISTRY
Rev. Danny Anderson

Connecting Students...
To God...
To Others...
To One Another...

U-TURN Student Ministry

Winter has been interesting here in GA recently. This has cause some creative planning, as we are in the middle of a purity series. We have been looking at how God has called us to live a life of purity in all that we do. Our eyes, ears, mouth, hand, feet, heart, mind, relationships, and finally leading us to marriage are all areas that we are looking at. Please be in prayer for us as we dive into this call that God has called us all to have.

D-NOW is around the corner and we are excited about this year. Students have been signing up and host homes are volunteering, so everything is going well and looking forward to seeing how God will "Redefine" our lives.

REMEDY (College/Career)

It is always a blessing to see students grow in their faith and walk with Christ. It is also a confirmation when you see those disciples, making other disciples. Many of our college students are working in areas of ministry around the church and using their talents for God. Some are engaged on working with children's ministries, some are leading small groups with our youth, as well as many other areas in the church.

If you have not sent a card to some of our college students recently, it would be a big encouragement for them to get something from home.

God bless you as we minister to our students together,

SWEETWATER MISSION (Formerly C.A.M.P.)
Richard Clough

2013 was a busy and productive year for Sweetwater Mission, our local Christian based relief ministry. Sweetwater Mission formally known as C.A.M.P., or Sweetwater Community Action Mission Partnership, or Christian Aid, or Christian Aid Mission Partnership, or Our Father's Hands, or The Hope Project, or Rescue Repurpose Redeem. So many names were just too confusing. Plus, the most common name, C.A.M.P, was becoming an ever increasing problem.

As the ministry expanded out of the south Cobb and Lithia Springs area, many prospects and corporate America told us; "C.A.M.P., no sorry we don't contribute to group homes or summer camps."

Thus a new name was needed. Sweetwater Mission is our new legal, registered ministry name. Sweetwater ties into our history as first serving the Sweetwater "valley" area of Cobb County beginning in 1969 and Mission because our mission is to minister to our neighbors in need.

A few local parishioners have asked why not just use the name Christian Aid? Afraid of offending someone? Afraid to say you are a Christian organization? NO! Actually Christian Aid was the board's first choice. However, the name Christian Aid is the legal and registered name of one the largest European relief agencies led by British and Irish churches. Christian Aid Ministries is an Amish - Mennonite charity based in Ohio and is the 16th largest Christian relief agency in North America.

So, how productive was 2013? A year end recap:

- 850,056 pounds of food distributed to 13,072 families
- 100,333 articles of clothing given to 7,146 families
- 17,486 meals served to the hungry
- 55 newborn baby layettes distributed
- 518 back to school supplies given to children
- 785 children received Christmas toys.
- 274 children were given required school uniforms, shoes, socks, underwear
- Plus limited financial aid to many desperate families.

THANK YOU First Baptist Church Lithia Springs for your continued generosity.

Question? Can you help us with a special need? No, this is NOT another request for funds. Because of our expanded service area and services, Sweetwater Mission needs you. Can you pick food orders? Can you sort and hang clothes? Gentlemen especially, can you stock shelves.

We are open Monday through Friday 9am - 1pm. If you can volunteer daily, once a week or even once a month; please call the Sweetwater Mission volunteer coordinator Barb Cogliano at 770-819-0662 or see me.

Finally, the 12th annual Spring Chicken Run is scheduled for March 22, 2014. This annual *Race Against Hunger* is a Certified Official Peachtree Race Qualifier event and is one of Sweetwater Mission's major fund raising events of the year. Check registering for the race or how to donate at www.SpringChickenRun.com.

Again, thank you First Baptist on behalf of the Sweetwater Mission board, staff, volunteers and our neighbors in need.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Rev. Mike Sinyard

Congratulations to the *Classroom Packers*, winners of this year's Super Bowl of Contacts. The team consisted of Kindergarten/1st Gr, 2nd/3rd Gr, Youth 1, Adult 5 Johnson, Adult 5.5 Praise and Adult 7 Morelock with a last Sunday assist from the Singles, Adult 1 and Adult 5 men.

Our first monthly workers meeting was WELL attended. The choir suite was nearly full. Our next meeting will be on February 23rd.

**VIDEO MINISTRY
Mark Sampson**

Nov 2013 - Jan 2014

The Video Ministry Team continues to staff Sunday Morning services, Sunday Evening services, and Wednesday night prayer meetings. We also recorded each Sunday Morning service, as well as several Sunday Evening (CAMP Thanksgiving Service, Church Greening Service, "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and the Westside Winds Concert). We also recorded the Christmas Eve service.

In November, 2013, we copied and distributed 34 DVDs to 12 different families.

In December, 2013, we copied and distributed 76 DVDs to 25 different families.

For 2013, a total of 680 DVDs were distributed to 67 different families.

In January, 2014, we copied and distributed 35 DVDs to 7 different families.

To order DVDs online, visit www.fbcls.org or call church office.

The Video Ministry Team includes the following:

Team Leader – Mark Sampson

Video Board Operators – John Horton, Bobby McConnell, June Strow

Computer Operators – Brett Beasley, Jeff McGuire, Mike Strow

Camera Operators – Sherry Horton, Mike Joyner, Hamish Lamb, Blake McMichen, Brenda-Ann Miller, Seth Redwine, Jonah Sampson, Michelle Sampson

Sunday Nights - Brett Beasley, Mark Sampson, Mike Strow

Wednesday Nights – Mike Joyner

LITHIA SPRINGS WEST AFRICAN MISSION

CLERK'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 2013 AND JANUARY, 2014

ADDITIONS	Frank Boah Darkway, by Statement Matthew Kofi Nkrumah, for Baptism Louisa Mensah Squire, by Statement
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TOTAL ADDITIONS	3
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DELETIONS	0
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LSWAM MEMBERS AS OF 10/31/13	83
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LSWAM MEMBERS AS OF 01/31/14	86
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