
2026

August

Chowan Baptist Association

108 Berry St.

Hertford, NC 27944



Is Vacation Bible School For Real?

It may sound like a dumb question, but let's talk about it a minute. Is V.B.S. for real? I have a certificate that shows my enrollment and attendance and co-operation in the "Nursery Two" class of VBS 1959. I was three months shy of my fourth birthday. I have no recollection of that summer activity, but I feel certain I enjoyed it. The proof for that is that I attended year after year after that date.

In fact, I branched out as a child and some summers attended at least three Bible Schools. One was my home church, of course, another was at an Independent Baptist Church who swooped me up on a bus and brought me back home again every day for a week. I became a repeat customer. The third one was a Pentecostal church three doors down from my house.

The nationwide movement of VBS began back in 1898 in, of all place, New York City (According to a Google search). NYC could probably use a good dose of VBS now. It was 1924 when the Baptist Sunday School Board (Remember them? Us? Now Lifeway) established a dedicated VBS department. It was just 35 years after that that Jimmy Harrington attended the "Nursery Two" VBS class in 1959.

So, VBS has been around a while and has affected millions of people. Back in my day, we looked forward to marching into the church ready to pledge allegiance to the American flag, the Christian flag then to the Bible. A song or two and we were off to bible time and crafts and at some point, two cookies with crème in the middle and a refreshing cup of Kool-Aid.

Some things have changed a bit over the years. Strong creative backgrounds are developed to transform the little church into a grand adventure. Whether walking through a jungle or shopping the market of Old Jerusalem or riding on a slick steam engine train across the frontier, the imagination is fully employed.

This year we enjoyed visiting and touring the Illumination Station and it was grand. Our entire church was transformed into an enormous and impressive array of lights as we focused on Jesus being "The Light of The World, where those who follow Him will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of Life."

Let's talk about the organization of VBS. A Volunteer plans, promotes and directs the event. A large number of men, women and teenagers, devote themselves to a full week of teaching, loving, directing, and helping children see, hear, sing and do all the things that are VBS.

Hundreds of man hours are spent preparing and converting the church into a kind of wonderland. Some do craft. Some do music. Some do bible story time. Some do games. Some sign them in and then out. Some feed ... no, not two crème filled cookies, but a full meal every night. Some count money, some keep the place secure, some break down and clean up.

For us, it was over sixty volunteers giving of their time, talents, compassion, resources, etc. to make this week work. In the end, a kind appeal to understand the gospel story and to decide if or how to respond to it was presented to the older children. Closing up on Friday night exhausted and ready for bed, hearts were full and thankful.

Imagine that, basically all volunteer help of all ages and abilities coming together as a unit and producing an organism that lives, loves and leads, all to His Glory.

Yep! Vacation Bible School is for real!

*Blessings,
James*

Leadership Council Members

AMS

James Harrington, Fellowship
333-8887

Leadership Group

Section 1 Leader (Dare &

Currituck): Charles Rikard,
Providence, 936-234-1657

Moderator

Ethan Drum, Coinjock
828-514-6979

Section 2 Leader (Pasquotank

Camden):

Vice-Moderator

Jeff Russell,
Warwick, 340-3272

Cale Advisory

Becky McLawhorn, Eure
209-4912

Section 3 Leader (Perquimans

& Chowan): Jeff Russell,
Warwick, 340-3272

Administrative Group

Jason Wise, Berea
339-4044

Baptist on Mission

Section 4 Leader (Gates):

Cody Brinkley, Reynoldson
273-0111

Church Planting & Revitalization

Wayne Proctor, Gatesville
Interim 312-9910

WMU

Nancy Scaff, Woodville
339-4328

Section 5 Leader (Tyrell, Hyde

& Washington):

General Fund Budgeted Amount: \$150,000

CBA Amount Given in June: \$6,910.22

General Fund Given to-Date \$56,540.83(37.69% given toward budget requirement of 49.98%)

Camp Cale Budgeted Amount: \$72,000

Camp Cale Given in June: \$5,111.73

Camp Cale Given To-Date \$33,096.91(45.97% given towards budget requirement of 49.98%)

(These figures are through the end of June)

INTERIM WHY?

By Wayne Proctor, Church Planting & Revitalization

As I write this, I have completed 18 months of interim ministry. It has been a great joy! The goal of interim ministry is to work myself out of a job – to prepare the way for the next pastor so that the church's next chapter can be written. If the next pastor is successful, I have done my job well.

Why interim ministry? Because it can greatly help the church. Interim periods happen because the previous pastor is gone – either to retirement or resignation (yes, some get “fired”) or death. While churches can do pulpit supply as their next step, normally pulpit supply is a temporary measure. While it may be refreshing to have different people preaching, the guest preacher is not the pastor. He will not be around Monday-Saturday.

Interim ministry lets the church take a breath, and maybe even heal. It helps the church formulate a pastor search team when they know they can take their time and do their due diligence.

Interim ministry can take two forms. One is called “traditional” interim ministry. The interim pastor usually preaches on Sunday and does some pastoral care and funerals, baptisms, weddings, and communion. He may also teach a Bible study. He probably gets paid a specified amount per week or month. The other form of interim ministry, which I have been doing, used to be called “intentional” interim ministry. Now it is called “transitional” interim ministry. The more I've thought about it, the more convinced I am that the word “transitional” better fits the role. As a transitional pastor, the pastor serves as a legitimate pastor, doing pastoral roles, including some administration. However, the main benefit of the transitional work is **strategic planning** and **training**. The transitional pastor has been trained to look at everything the church has done and is doing and make some helpful observations and suggestions. He will work with key church leaders and when a pastor search team has been assembled, will train the team in all aspects of their work.

In my leadership, we reworked the constitution and by-laws and pastor job description, and made some minor, but important, changes to church leadership group roles. The goal has been creating a healthier church, a church that the next pastor will “love” to come to. In closing, let me make these clarifying statements:

- 1 – Churches assemble pastor search committees or teams, not pulpit supply, to find their next pastor. Churches are looking to call their next pastor, not pulpit speaker.
- 2 – Revitalization may be a good step for many churches in an interim situation. Our State Convention includes revitalization training as part of transitional interim (TIM) training.
- 3 – We desperately need more trained transitional interim pastors. We have two that I know of in our Chowan Association. We need more – it's worth the investment.

Baptist on Mission Rally to be August 17 at Ballard's Bridge.

Meal

5:45 pm

Missions Program

6:50 - 8:30 pm

A meal is provided for the NC Mission Rallies at no charge.

The cut-off date for reserving a meal for each rally is one week **PRIOR** to the event.

Reservation link - <https://baptistsonmission.org/bom/regional-rallies/region-1-nc-missions-rally-2026---tyner/7692>

We look forward to seeing you there. As a reminder we have these rallies all across the state. These rallies (10 of them) will highlight the variety of opportunities NC Baptists have to be involved in missions across our state, in our nation, and around the world. Featured will be worship, testimony, mission videos, and a prayer time for missions. These rallies are for men, women and youth- everyone interested in missions is encouraged to attend. A main focus of these rallies will be state, national, international partnerships and projects (including Disaster Relief) and the NC Missions Offering.

Josh Engen

We will be collecting lotion in plastic bottles 8-11 oz. No Pumps for the Red Box Ministry for women prisoners. As always it has to be these sizes so they will be uniform to go in the prisons. This is one item they always have trouble getting so I know our ladies will provide, we have committed to 1500 bottles but you always do more than I commit to. I have already brought some from Dollar General, I have not checked any place else. I will need these by October 31.

Once again I will be doing snacks at Military Wives Retreat/ Mom Camp. It is November 13-15 so any help with money, snacks, drinks or water would be greatly appreciated.

More information will be out soon for annual training.

As always thank you for all you and your groups do being the hands and feet of Jesus. It is my great pleasure to serve with you and your love for missions.

Blessings,

Nancy Scaff

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Camp Cale
"Experiences 4 Life"



Summer 2026 Recap

Thank you for supporting us at Camp Cale! We had a great 2026 summer camp! Our staff welcomed hundreds of campers this year and were blessed to be able to share the gospel!

118 First Time Decisions

142 Rededications

156 Scholarships

