
2026

November

Chowan Baptist Association

108 Berry St.

Hertford, NC 27944



The CBA Office

Will be Closed

Thursday, November 26th

For the Thanksgiving Holiday

Happy Thanksgiving!

A Family Affair!

Early in the morning of the day of our Annual Meeting on October 20th, I felt a nudge in my spirit. For some reason, I simply felt compelled to prepare a short message, “just in case”.

As it turned out, we were about forty-five minutes ahead of schedule I believe, before the ending of the afternoon agenda. So, I shared the short (maybe not as short as I had intended) message.

For much of the eleven years that I have served as your AMS/DOM, I have been burdened for our churches. I am pretty sure that the burden I have is quite aligned with others in my position.

We have seen two thirds of our churches have pastoral changes in those eleven years and almost half of those have had two or more changes. We have also seen five churches close their doors.

My message focused on attitudes of pastors who come in as well as the church bodies they are called to serve.

As believers, humility should be a major component of who we are individually and as church families. Once the interview process is completed and a church has waited for what they feel was a long time, a call is made and a new pastor comes in. Way too often the man who shows up may have a bit different tint than when he was being interviewed. On the same token, the church may also have peeled off some of its makeup since the last date and the call was made.

That may sound a little offensive, but in my independent, informal research I believe it is accurate. Desperation is often a motivator for issuing a call (the church) and accepting a call (the pastor). Both parties feel a great need to have that void filled so they are well dressed in the process. When the marriage is made, they often show up in rags or a tuxedo.

In other words, there is either an indifference once the deal is done or an arrogance, both of which are destructive and likely disastrous.

There should be an overwhelming sense of humility in both parties, having a desire to serve and submit to one another just as Paul admonishes us to do in relationships. There should be a spirit of learning about each other and cultivating a relationship of trust and service.

They should develop and grow the kind of love for each other that you expect to find in a family.

Honesty, kindness and respect mixed lovingly with open communication is a key to family longevity and success. Humility, service and family should be identifying characteristics of every church that has a Kingdom focus at heart.

Let us strive to “Make Much of Jesus” as churches and an association.

Blessings to all!

James Harrington
Associational Mission Strategist

Leadership Council Members

AMS

James Harrington, Fellowship
333-8887

Leadership Group

Josh Engen, Ballards
Bridge

Section 1 Leader (Dare &

Currituck): Ethan Drum,
Coinjock 828-514-6979

Moderator

Chris Gravning,
Cross Church 232-8023

Section 2 Leader (Pasquotank Camden): Jason Wise, Berea

339-4044

Vice-Moderator

Russell Blanchard,
Center Hill, 339-5359

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): Greg

Jernigan, Beulah 757-377-7314

WMU

Church Planting & Revitalization

Wayne Proctor, Soundside
Missionary Interim 312-9910

Nancy Scaff, Woodville
339-4328

Section 5 Leader (Tyrell, Hyde

& Washington):

General Fund Budgeted Amount: \$150,000

CBA Amount Given in September: \$32,549.38

General Fund Given to-Date \$89,090.21(59.39% given toward budget requirement of 74.97%)

Camp Cale Budgeted Amount: \$72,000

Camp Cale Given in September: \$19,363.94

Camp Cale Given To-Date \$52,460.85(72.86% given towards budget requirement of 74.97%)

(These figures are through the end of September)

For our Red Box Ministry for women prisoners we will be collecting lotion in 8 to 11 oz. plastic bottles, No tubes and No pumps. I found the right size at Dollar General , Family Dollar and others said Dollar Tree also had these sizes. If you need me to meet you to pick up the bottles just let me know. If you take them to the Associational Office call first to make sure Annie will be there at the time you can go. 426-9621.

I will be unable to go do snacks for the Military Wives Retreat/ Mom Camp, we can still help by sending money to support WMU NC or sending it to me and I send one check from our association. The mailing address is PO Box 4249, Cary, NC 27519-4249. If you send it to me my address is 628 Old US 17, Elizabeth City, NC 27909.

Blessings,
Nancy Scaff
252-339-4328 call or text
ncmom78@hotmail.com

Chowan-Perquimans Pastors (section 3) for Nov. 23 at 11:30 AM, at the Broad Street Diner in Edenton.

Warwick Baptist celebrated our 165th Anniversary with a special service on October 25. Rev. Russell Blanchard of Center Hill Baptist brought the message. Russell grew up at Warwick and was ordained here in 1997. We had wonderful celebrations of special music, testimonies of senior members, and a covered-dish lunch.



65 Years of Camp Cale

Sometimes the question gets asked, "Where does the time go?"

The answer is simply; into the hands of God, and that is where Camp Cale has been for 65 years. Established in 1961 as a ministry of the Chowan Baptist Association, Cale has seen its share of triumphs and challenges but the end results are shared through our mission statement: ***"To share Christ, develop faith, and build community."*** The vision of Cale is to ***"be a premiere camp and conference center on the East Coast."*** As such we have seen growth and experienced times that we have endured.

The growth of Cale is intentional and has at its purpose to be a place where people can have ***"Experiences 4 Life"***. This simple tag line gets quickly to the heart of who we are and supports our mission statement. We pursue this mission through relationship evangelism, using the unique experiences of camp life to find teachable moments to share the love of Christ. Our approach is rooted in traditional theology, with a focus on teaching the foundational truths of the Bible. In this way campers and guests will have "Experiences 4 Life" that will change their lives for eternity.

What is next for Cale? We are excited about the direction that Cale is going. Our growth and development falls in line with the initial mandate of those early visionaries that saw a need for camp and conferencing. Our current project is a new dining facility. With each new building we have had to update and come under regulations and codes required to run this type of facility. Our plans are guided by being good stewards of what the Lord has blessed us with, through those who have a heart for this ministry. We strive for the best, so that we can give our best in service to the Lord.

Here is to another 65 years of growth, stability and most importantly service to the Kingdom of God here on this earth. As the years continue to go by, may we never miss the opportunity to share the love of Christ and change hearts one camper/guest at a time.

Experiencing life together,
Matt

Matt Thomas, D.Min

Camp Cale: Executive Director

matt@campcale.com

www.campcale.com

(252)264-2513

Staff

James Harrington, AMS

Annie Weir, Administrative Assistant

Chowan Baptist Association Office

Matt Thomas, Executive Director

Erin Herndon, Operations Director

Kayli Goodwin, Assistant Director

Ashley Gregory, Development & Major Projects Director

Parker Long, Adventure Coordinator

Dina Hurdle, Administrative Assistant

Camp Cale

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WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

By Wayne Proctor, Church Planting & Revitalization

In preparation for our CBA training event, I spent some time researching “strategic planning.” In the process I came across a conversation between Dr. Leo Endel and the folks from the Georgia Baptist Convention. This conversation led to me purchasing the book, Where Do We Go From Here? Strategic Planning for the Smaller Church, by Dr. Endel. It was refreshing to identify a simpler model or strategy, one that would work for any of our CBA churches.

This process for strategic planning is based upon what is called the Planning Arrow. It contains 8 stages. Sometimes we think that church visioning or strategic planning is just getting the right folks together in a room for a couple of hours and brainstorming ideas, then identifying the best ideas, and doing them. While that might be helpful, good strategic planning is more thought out. Just in case you don't go out and purchase the book, here are the stages.

- 1 – Begin with Prayer. Prayer throughout.
- 2 – History. Understand the history of the church. We need to appreciate the history of the church, even if a new vision brings forth many substantive changes.
- 3 – Functions. There are 5 functions of the local church. Being faithful to these 5 functions must determine anything and everything we do. I refer to these as Worship, Evangelism, Discipleship, Missions, and Fellowship. Dr. Endel uses the word Ministry rather than Missions. My preference for Missions is that all the functions form “ministry,” and “missions” cannot be left out for a church to be healthy. In my teaching on church budgeting, I recommend that “missions” be the first line item, making sure that the church gives at least 10% toward missions. The more the missions giving, (and participation) the healthier the church.
- 4 – Assessment. Where are we right now? Why are we where we are right now? Are we willing to think and act differently? To move forward?
- 5 – Brainstorm. Bring your best folks to discuss burdens and needs. What are the passions of your people? What are the opportunities? What are the resources?
- 6 – Evaluation. What are the best ideas chosen? Which one or two or three are you going to put forward now? In 6 months? In one year?
- 7 – Plan. Refine your ideas. Make them presentable to the congregation. Mobilize.
- 8 – Implement. Now you're doing your strategic plan. Look for wins. Celebrate every win, whether small or large. Find joy in doing ministry together.

If you want me to work with your church in strategic planning, then contact me @ twp7nba@gmail.com or 252-312-9910.