Hey UCBC Family,

I thank the Lord for our youth and for their tender hearts. On Saturday, September 8th, the youth volunteered at Baptist Children's Home "Friends of Children" workday. Our youth were able to directly impact Baptist Children's Home boys and girls while seeing the ministry firsthand. We cleaned a cottage, did some landscaping, and unloaded furniture in order to get it ready for children to move in. I praise God that we were able to make a difference within our North Carolina mission field.

Don't forget these upcoming events:

- o October 1st—Passport Camp registration opens
- o October 2nd—EPOCH Church/Burmese Refugees (6pm to 8:00pm)
- o October 17th—Hayride & Maze at Clodbuster Farms at 6pm cost \$8
- o October 24th—Trunk-or-treat at 6:30pm

Here is a verse to get you through a hard day at school: Psalm 37:23-24 (NIV)

The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

Sincerely, Andy

Homecoming

Join us on Sunday, October 21st, for our 62nd annual Homecoming celebration. Our guest speaker this year is Rev. Caroll Anthony. He has a unique ministry of sharing the Bible while authentically dressing and dramatizing the character and lesson. The Homecoming offering will be received to benefit our General Fund. We'll have lunch in the Fellowship Hall following our worship service. Bring your covered dishes and be ready for a good time. Clean-up day to prepare for homecoming is Saturday, October 13th beginning at 8am. Rain date will be Saturday, October 20th. We ask that the Building & Grounds Committee and anyone who would like to volunteer, please come help set up the Fellowship Hall on Friday, October 19th at 7pm.



October Birthdays

10/1	Aaron Kramer
10/2	Trevor Ward, Josh Wilson
10/4	Teresa Riggs
10/5	Amy Turner, Tina Church
10/7	Dennis Hester, Tyler Johnson
10/8	Michael Buckner, Madyson Daniels
10/11	Charlie Hall
10/12	Jake Weavil
10/13	Barbara Dortch, Kathy Idol
10/25	Ralph Hedgecock
10/26	Ann Canada
10/27	Durham Clodfelter
10/28	Angie Weavil

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Deacon Ordination

Sunday, October 7th

Seniors to the Fair

Tuesday, October 2nd

Youth Sponsored Food Drive Saturday, October 13th

Homecoming

Sunday, October 21st

Senior Moments Luncheon

October 18th @ 11am

Trunk or Treat

October 24th @ 6:30pm

The Purpose of Ministry

What is the purpose of ministry? The purpose of ministry is to take Jesus to people at the point of their need. Ministry is the vehicle that enables you to connect with people to share the gospel with them. For example, Operation Christmas Child begins in October. The purpose of Operation Christmas Child is not to simply give a present to a poor child in a foreign land. The present becomes a vehicle to take the gospel to those children. Before the children get the shoebox you packed, there is a gospel presentation and an opportunity to trust Jesus as their Savior. The shoebox gift draws multitudes of children because of their needy financial condition, it becomes the vehicle to share the good news of Jesus who died and rose again. Samaritan's Purse which began the Operation Christmas Child ministry has a mission statement which reads "the mission of Samaritan's Purse—to follow the example of Christ by helping those in need and proclaiming the hope of the Gospel." Another ministry example is Trunk or Treat held

here on October 24th. The goal of Trunk or Treat is not to simply give children candy. Trunk or Treat is a vehicle that draws families with children to a safe time of costumes, refreshments, candy, and



fun. It's a ministry vehicle that brings families to Union Cross Baptist Church, which would not otherwise come on a Wednesday evening. They will be blessed as we begin the night with the gospel, the good news of the Jesus who died and rose again and can save them. Then they will be blessed as we show the generosity of Jesus Christ by providing them a safe and fun evening with their children. Whatever ministries you are involved in begin to ask, "How does this help us to connect with others to share the good news of Jesus Christ?" That's the purpose of ministry.

Peace, Kent

The **Senior Moments Group** will be going to the fair on Tuesday, October 3rd, leaving the church at 9:00am. Their monthly luncheon will be on Thursday, October 18th at 11am. They will be having pizza and playing bingo. Bring some new prizes to add to the fun.

Nursery Schedule

Kathy Idol & Alice Striplin AM	October 7, (Sun)
Julie Striplin PM	October 10, (Wed)
Ann & Lisa Canada AM	October 14, (Sun)
Nancy Clodfelter PM	October 17, (Wed)
Tina & Crista Church AM	October 21, (Sun)
Brenda Grose PM	October 24, (Wed)
Marianne & CC Casas AM	October 28, (Sun)
Alice Striplin PM	October 31, (Wed)

Children's Church & Wee Church Schedule

October 7, (Children's)	Megan Coleman & Need Volunteer (Teen?)
October 7, (Wee)	Robin French & Need Volunteer (Teen?)
October 14, (Children's)	Susan Kramer & Children
October 14, (Wee)	Jane & Jill Sutphin
October 21, (Children's)	Carole Blakley & Melissa Little
October 21, (Wee)	Krisi Kern & Need Volunteer (Teen?)
October 28 (Children's)	Stacy & Morgan Bowlin
October 28, (Wee)	Julie Striplin
	& Need Volunteer (Teen?)

New Deacon Officers for the 2018/2019 church year are: Steve Grose - Chair, *Mike Sexton* - Vice Chair, *Lindsey Parnell* -Secretary, and *Jane Sutphin* - Assistant Secretary.



FYI, a total of <u>1,932</u> items for UCES and GHS students to help with their back to school needs were donated!!! WOW!! UCBC participants – you are amazing!!!

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES:

For the PMBA Fair Ministry we collected 65 men's polo/golf shirts, 7 blankets and 4 hygiene kits – thank you to each one who donated for this ministry. Also, at our WOM meeting, we voted to use \$50 of WOM funds to purchase water and nabs and I am pleased to report we were able to send 288 bottles of water and 46 packs of nabs. Two of our WOM ladies are scheduled to volunteer at the booth this year.

September 9th & 10th: Several boxes of home baked cookies and other snack items were delivered to both Hospice Homes.

On September 22nd, five WOM members served a meal at the HP Hospice Home to approximately 40 patient family members and Hospice staff. Another big thank you goes to each one of the ladies who prepared the meal and assisted with serving.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES:

October 7th is Hospice Ministry Day.

Ready, Set, Go for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry, which will once again be sponsored by WOM ladies during October under the leadership of Bettie Spencer. Watch for promotional videos, posters and displays – this is one of the very few international projects we do. I ask that you just try and remember as a child one of your most memorable Christmases ever. Well, you can make this year just as special and memorable for a child somewhere around the world as your filled shoebox may be the only gift that child has ever received.

With the recent devastation from Hurricane Florence, we are afforded many, many ways we can help. The North Carolina Baptist Men, NC Missions, and our own Baptist Men are just a few local ways to get direct assistance to those in need. Please pray for the victims of the storm and all those who are giving of their time and efforts to help out.

Yes, many of us feel so helpless and overwhelmed by the effects of Hurricane Florence to the Carolinas. Remember God has spared us the devastation here at UCBC, but He is also providing us an avenue to be the Christians we should be as we search our hearts to prove once again how "UNION CROSS REACHES OUT TO SHOW HIS LOVE."