

The Clarion

Volume 53 Issue 3 **April 2024**

Our mission is to Encourage, Equip and Engage our network of churches to share the love of Christ with our communities.

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Affirming the Positive

I'm writing this after having attended the funeral service for Joe McLendon, campus pastor, FBC Panama City- Youngstown. I came away with these observations:

- 1. Since our Youngstown church is an extension of FBC Panama City, Joe was a staff member there. This was quite apparent in the healthy ministerial presence at the visitation/ funeral and the interaction with the McLendon family and the Youngstown church as a whole.
- 2. David Hect did an excellent job in providing comfort, giving God glory, and establishing a framework for grieving healthily, and he is a talented shofar operator.
 - 3. There is such a thing as corporate grief. We take for granted that our pastors will always be there, until they aren't. We also forget that our ministry/ leadership/ support staff become friends/family in our churches. When a minister "buries" a church minister, the fact that he is burying a friend sneaks up on him. The reverse is also true— the impact of a pastor's passing reverberates strongly through a church and community.
- 4. A ministers family is not exempt from pain/ sorrow. Joe has a wonderful family. A lot of love for Joe was displayed by them. That also means they are experiencing a lot of brokenness right now. This seems a bit trite, but ministers and their families are real people. They laugh, they cry, they get frustrated, they get happy, and they get broken. That shouldn't be news but it is to some. Ordination doesn't make one devoid of their humanity. I am thankful that the Youngstown members get this.

Affirming the Positive.. Continued

5. Finally let me mention the biggest eye opener for all for us. Any of us could have been Joe, and still might be. I myself am dealing with the shock that Joe isn't here. He died suddenly from a heart- related complication while working on his Sunday sermon.

I myself "died" 3 years ago from a cardiac arrest. It took 6 days before I was aware of what happened. I say that to say—we owe it to God to make time to ready our families for that scenario. That means readying them spiritually, financially, emotionally, etc. Familiar are going to mourn—but they can mourn because of the time you shared or they can mourn ruing the time you didn't get to share. I'm glad that Joe invested in his family... What about you?

In Christ, Troy

2024 VBS Regional Training | Panama City

Location: Hiland Park Baptist Church | 2611 N Highway 231, Panama City, FL 32405

Date: April 13th, 2024

Deadline to Register: April 11th, 2024

Schedule:

8:30 AM: Check-In

9:00 AM: Opening Worship Rally

9:30 AM: Session 1

10:30 AM: Session 2

11:30 AM: Closing Worship Rally

12:00 PM: Dismiss

Register: https://www.sbcworkspace.com/

pub/event/register/55236613

NAMB Evangelism Training

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024

Time: 10:30 AM-1:30 PM ET

Venue: Church on Bayshore Niceville - 622

Bayshore Dr Niceville, FL 32578

NAMB Logistics: Sydney Fielder

Site Contact: James Ross – Lead Pastor james@churchonbayshore.org ,

Charlotte Smith (Charlye) – Ministry Coordinator charlotte@churchonbayshore.org

Regional Catalyst: Lewis Miller -

352-603-2570 – Lmiller@flbaptist.org

Register: https://web.cvent.com/
event/45ce1e25-9735-4555-8f17-
016bf5fb9f7d/summary

The Baptist Center Needs -

- <u>A Pianist</u> to play at the Baptist Center on Sundays for their worship service at 2:00 p. m. and on Fridays at 9:00 a.m. for the Ladies' Bible Class.
- <u>Volunteers</u> who can give 20 to 30 minutes of their time to lead in Missions, Crafts, and/or Recreation on Tuesday afternoon and Recreation on Friday, for the Youth and Children who come to the Center.

If you can help with any of these, or for more information, please call 850-763-8892.

Prayer Requests for the Baptist Center –

- Pray for the Staff & Damp; Administrators as they seek clear direction for the work at the Baptist Center, including tearing down the building which has been used for the "Clothing Room" and rebuilding it.
- Pray for the Staff to have wisdom as they minister to families in need and for guidance as they witness to people who have tried everything except faith and trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord.

<u>Northwest Coast Baptist Association –</u> Please continue to pray for additional help with towing, setting up and retrieving our Shower Unit, which is used for Mission Teams in our area as well as for Disaster Relief.

In HIS Service,
Jennie
Volunteer Missions Coordinator
Northwest Coast Baptist Association
vim.nwca@juno.com
850-814-2471

Do you know of just one couple in your church that could help you? One couple that has a healthy marriage? One couple that loves each other, serves each other, holds hands, is devoted solely to each other? Does any couple spring to mind?

If so, you've just found your first "Marriage Champions" This couple can help you launch a marriage ministry at your church! No matter how you want to start, this couple can help you help couples in and around your church. Maybe they could open up their home and tell their marriage story to some younger couples. Maybe they could lead a small group either at the church or in their home. Maybe they could invite other couples and individuals to help plan a date night event.

ALL it takes is ONE couple that has a heart for other couples.

I think you'd agree that healthy marriages and families are the very foundation of a healthy church. God created the marriage relationship before He created any other institution, including the church. As marriages go, so goes the church, and so goes the world. And since God created "them" in His image (Adam & Eve), doesn't it make sense that the church should take the lead ministering to marriages and families?

ALL it takes is that ONE couple that has a heart for other couples.

One amazing way that this ONE couple could help you is by leading other couples through FamilyLife's acclaimed program, "Art of Marriage." Live the Life is offering for a VERY limited time, the opportunity for couples to experience the "Best Marriage Ever" program where couples would experience EITHER "Art of Marriage" or the internationally recognized "Adventures in Marriage" and in 7 months, they could experience the other. So, in one year, they could experience BOTH programs and have "The Best Marriage Ever". Also, the church would be paid \$90 for every couple that completes the program AND the couples could earn up to \$140 per couple.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, let's talk soon! And if any of these other ideas sound interesting, please let me know.

Again, all it takes is just ONE couple.

Logan Kelly
Live the Life NWFL/850-832-3291



Ministers Conference Schedule 11:00 a.m. (CT).

4/1- Easter Praises

4/8- The Unique Challenge of a Young Pastor Leading an Older Church

4/15 - The innovative Church - The Small Church Edition

4/22 What it Means To Be An Updated Small Church

4/29 - The List of Bad Habits That Pastors Need to Drop

5/6- Factors In Burnout Prevention

5/13 - Keeping an Office From Being An Idol

5/20- End of Semester Luncheon

Disaster Relief/Shower Unit Schedule

DR Breakfast: 3rd Saturday of every month

Region 6 -April 6 FBC Sarasota – Sarasota Region 4 -April 20 FBC Bushnell – Bushnell Region 3 -May 4 FBC Chiefland – Chiefland Region 2 -May 18 FBC Havana – Havana Region 1—June 1 Olive Baptist - Pensacola

Shower Trailer unit:

FBC Chief land May 3rd and 4th
FBC Havana May 18th and 19th
Olive Baptist Pensacola May 31st and June 1st
FBC Altha– June 22nd– 29th
FBC Panama City– July 5th– 12th

April 2024

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 01 ('83) Mike (Robin) Stroud, Pastor-FBC, Wewahitchka
- 07 ('17) Danny (Janet) Smith, Financial Secretary, FBC Port St. Joe
- 30 ('75) Craig (Karen) Conner, Pastor-FBC, PC



STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

- 01 ('13) Barry Fish, Music Minister, Gulf Beach
- 12 ('07) Steve Taylor, Pastor, Emerald Coast Fellowship
- 14 ('93) Ross Davis, Pastor-FBC, White City
- 20 ('04) Caren Endres, Secretary, FBC PSJ



BIRTHDAYS

- Doug Moore, Youth Pastor, Emerald Coast Fellowship
- 25 Laurie Roman, Ministry Assistant, Immanuel



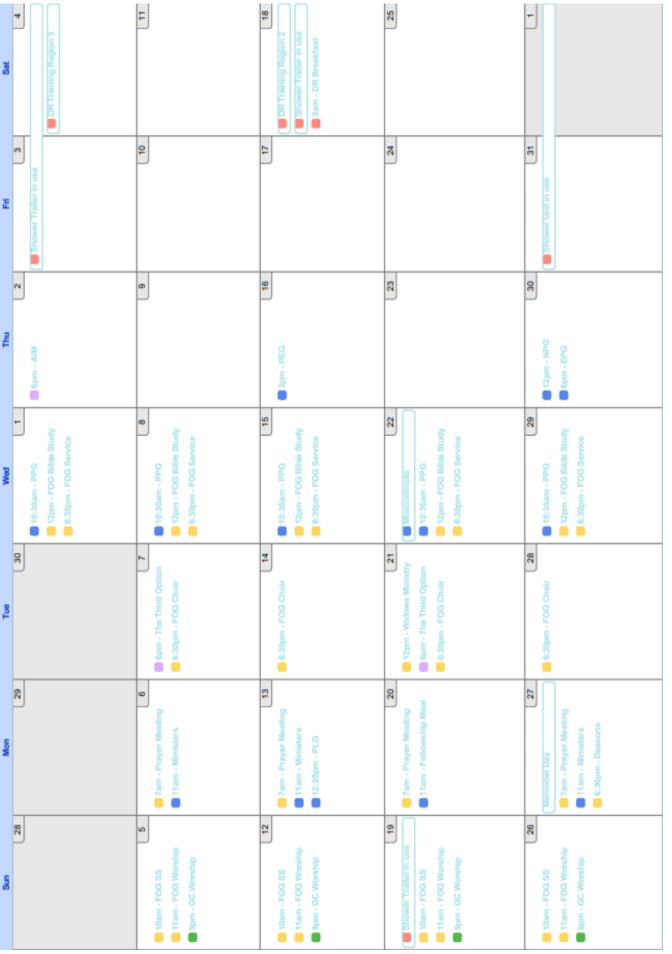
April 2024

O Live the Life (GP)

O Family Of God

Grace Covenant

13 27 4 10am - Anna Baby Shower 8am - DR Breakfast 15 19 es Mission Center 18 ŧ 12pm - NPG ■ 6pm - AIM Bpm - AIM ■ 6pm - EPG Bpm - AlM 3pm - PEG 10 17 24 -12pm - FOG Bible Study 12pm - FOG Bible Study 12pm - FOG Bible Study 12pm - FOG Bible Study 8:30pm - FOG Service 6:30pm - FOG Service 6:30pm - FOG Service 10:30am - PPG 10:30am - PPG 30 6 18 23 12pm - Widows Ministry ■ 6pm - The Third Option ■ 6pm - The Third Option 6:30pm - FOG Choir 8:30pm - FOG Choir 6:30pm - FOG Choir 8:30pm - FOG Choir 6:30pm - FOG Choir 15 29 7am - Prayer Meeting Tam - Prayer Meeting 7am - Prayer Meeting ■ 7am - Prayer Meeting 7am - Prayer Meeting 6:30pm - Deacons 11am - Ministers 12:30pm - PLG 31 14 21 28 11am - FOG Worship 11am - FOG Worship 11am - FOG Worship 11am - FOG Worship Spm - GC Worship Spm - GC Worship ■ 5pm - GC Worship ■ 5pm - GC Worship 10am - FOG SS 10am - FOG SS 10am - FOG SS 10am - FOG SS



Northwest Coast Baptist Association

Contributions By Donor January 1st- March 28th 2024

	Total	Other YTD	Total
Apalachicola FBC	463.12		463.12
Bayou George FBC	2,857.47		2,857.47
Beach Baptist Chapel	504.93		504.93
Callaway FBC	1,640.68		1,640.68
Carlisle Baptist Church	2,072.56		2,072.56
Cedar Grove Baptist Church	1,914.64		1,914.64
City Church at Northside	49.97		49.97
Cornerstone Baptist Church	1,309.86		1,309.86
Cove Baptist Church			
Dalkeith Baptist Church	240.00		240.00
Deerpoint Lake FBC	583.46		583.46
The Church at East Bay	375.00		375.00
Eastpoint FBC	338.00		338.00
Emerald Coast Fellowship	1,200.00		1,200.00
Family of God Baptist Church	2,561.00		2,561.00
Fellowship Baptist Church Fountain, FBC	429.89		429.89
Gulf Beach Baptist Church	2,100.00		2,100.00
Grace Covenant Church			
Highland View Baptist Church	947.44		947.44
Hiland Park Baptist Church	4,250.00		4,250.00
Holy Hill Baptist Church	396.08		396.08
Howard Creek Baptist Church	250.00		250.00
Immanuel Baptist Church	2,219.17		2,219.17
Long Avenue Baptist Church	1,200.00		1,200.00
Lynn Haven FBC	4,638.12		4,638.12
Mexico Beach FBC	272.18		272.18
New Bethel Baptist Church	600.00		600.00
New Midway Baptist Church Oak Grove Baptist	1,747.00		1,747.00
PC FBC	1,250.37		1,250.37
Port St Joe FBC	3,314.86	50.00	3,364.86 `
Sand Hills Baptist Church	1,019.12	100.00	1,119.12
Southport, FBC	100.00		100.00
Springfield Baptist Church	79.44	27.39	106.83
St. Andrew Baptist Church	4,206.03		4,206.03
Sunnyside FBC	716.28		716.28
Temple Baptist	957.61		957.61
West Bay Baptist Church	717.45		717.45
Wewahitchka Westside Baptist Church	630.00		630.00
Wewahitchka FBC	141.02		141.02
White City FBC	58.58		58.58
5 Bridges Church	300.00		300.00
TOTAL	48,651.33	177.39	48,828.72