

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## March Calendar

**Saturday, March 4**  
Men's Breakfast at church, 8am  
**Tuesday, March 7**  
Church Council Meeting, 7pm  
**Wednesday, March 8**  
Deacons Meeting, 7pm  
**Sunday, March 26**  
AWANA Derby Race, 5pm

**Every Sunday:**  
**Sunday School**—9:45am  
**Worship Service**—11:00am  
**AWANA**—5pm  
**Every Wednesday**  
**Men's Bible Study**—Chick-fil-A at 8am

## March Birthday's



03/03 Kyle Harmon  
03/07 Frank Glover  
03/09 Tony Settles  
03/14 Tom Roney  
03/15 Jim Thomas

## North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (the month of March)

**Our church goal is \$1,000**

What would cause you to leave home, family and even a career to go to an unfamiliar place and people you don't know? What would be worth that sacrifice? Missionaries and the thousands they represent need your prayers. God is opening doors to transform lives. 2400 mission people in North America 350 languages and more than 14 religions 281 million have no relationship with Jesus Your gifts support North American missionaries.

## March 5-12

**Season of Prayer for North American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering—**  
**Church Goal—\$1,000**



**Time changes Saturday, March 11.**

## Upcoming in April

**Men's Breakfast—Church Fellowship Hall**  
Saturday, April 1, 8am  
**Palm Sunday**  
Sunday, April 2  
**WMU Ladies Meeting/Lunch**  
Wednesday, April 5, 12pm  
**Deacons Meeting**  
Wednesday, April 5, 7pm  
**Good Friday**  
Friday, April 7, 7pm  
**Easter Services—Sunday, April 9**  
Prayer & Thanksgiving Breakfast—TBA  
Sunday School—9:45am  
Worship Service—11am  
No AWANA  
**Family Business Meeting**  
Wednesday, April 19, 6:30pm  
**Church Staff Appreciation Sunday**  
Sunday, April 23



**Shell Point**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*sharing Jesus, one person at a time!*

**ISSUE 3**

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

**March 2023**

## The Dilemma of This Generation: Identity

"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them... God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good."

~ Genesis 1:27, 31 ~

When we consider the multitude of problems that young people face today, what usually comes to mind are issues such as substance abuse, sexual promiscuity, gender confusion, depression, obesity, violence, and a general lack of moral values. However, these things are not really the central problem – they are merely the symptoms of an even larger issue. **The real obstacle facing young people today is that of an existential identity crisis.** Most do not know who they are or "why" they are. They lack both identity and purpose.

Unlike preceding generations, today's young people have an exceedingly broad cultural berth to choose from when it comes to determining who they are, and who they want to be, so that they often find themselves utterly disoriented and confused. They are told that they must decide upon their preferred racial marker, sexual identity, preferred pronouns, philosophical leaning, political alignment, religious orientation, personal worldview, and even what they believe to be their own "truth."

Of course, the world's idea of fixing an identity crisis is vastly different from what the Scriptures teach. As one author observes:

"Do a quick web search on 'identity crisis' and it's not hard to figure out the general consensus on how to fix one. We're encouraged to 'look inward and explore,' 'go on a journey of self-discovery,' 'do things that make you happy,' 'ignore judgment' and, in short, turn our focus entirely toward ourselves. According to this thinking, our identity is something only we can define, and our emotions get the ruling vote on who we are. Any objective standard of identity has been torn away."

This type of relativistic doctrine advises young people rely on themselves. As the Lord told the Prophet Jeremiah, "For My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water" (Jer. 2:13). Rather than finding their identity in the Creator, they look toward the creation for purpose and identity.

There is only one hope for this generation. That hope is found in Christ alone. Only when this generation finds their identity and purpose in the revealed word of God will they truly discover their identity and purpose.

In Christ Alone,  
Pastor D. A. Jones

Barratt, Sara. "Why Christian Teens Have an Identity Crisis" The Gospel Coalition.  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/teens-identity-crisis/>



# — SPBC Newsletter —



## WMU NEWS

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I pray this finds each of you well. Is March going to roar in like a lion or a lamb? My dad used to tell me if it came in like a lion the month would

event for the children, no child should be held back from learning about Christ, because they can not afford the camp. We must reach our children. They are the future workers for Christ. So please pray about how you can help. We are in constant communication with Crystal and Jayson as we plan for this new adventure. Join the ADVENTURE, there is a place for you.

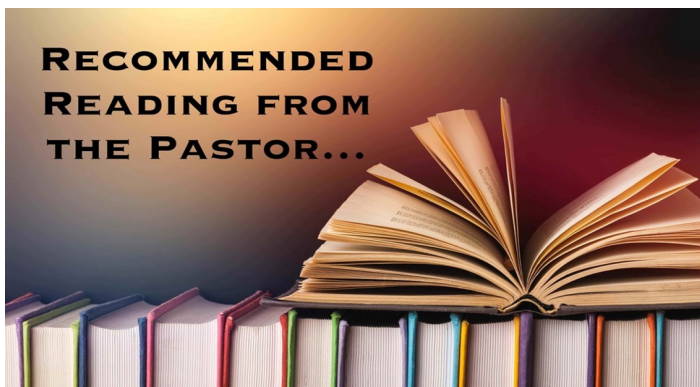
As always please keep us in prayer as we keep you in prayer.

Love in Christ, Jenny Durham

end like a lamb. We will have to wait and see if that ole wives tale is true or not. Are you getting ready to plant your flowers and garden vegetables. After a season of rest, (winter) it is now time to get busy. The season of renewal. I am not sure if I like spring or fall best. I love spring for all the new growth we see, little plants breaking ground and searching for the warmth of the spring light. Fall on the other hand has glorious colors of reds, yellows and oranges and crops being harvested before the time of rest. I can imagine you have your favorite season as well.

Upcoming is our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. So, get your knees ready to pray for our North American Missionaries. We will be setting a goal for the church and you will receive a brochure of who to pray for. There are approximately 371 million people in the United States, 281 million are lost, 350 different language and 2400+ missionaries. That is a lot of work for only 2400 North American Missionaries, so guess what, that means we need to be doing our jobs as missionaries in our own community. We need to be taking the challenge to reach the lost as well. The day you accepted Christ, you became a worker for Christ, with a job to share the gospel of Christ to others. Don't forget, every day that goes by, we are day closer to Christ returning. Who do you need to share the gospel with.

In February, 2023, we had Crystal and Jayson Shackelford come and speak to us about Camp Fearless. Camp Fearless takes place Labor Day Weekend and is held at Camp Jackson. It is opened to children in our area to learn more about Christ. They need volunteers. They need small group leaders, kitchen help, music team, recreation help, and floaters. You will be helping to share the gospel to our younger generation. If you can not physically help, they also need help in funding the camp. They want this to be a free



**RECOMMENDED  
READING FROM  
THE PASTOR...**

## “Nine Marks of a Healthy Church”

by Mark Dever

You may have read books on this topic before but not like this one. Instead of an instruction manual for church growth, this classic text points to basic biblical principles for assessing and strengthening the health of your church. Whether you're a pastor, a leader, or an involved member of your congregation, studying the nine marks of a healthy church will help you cultivate new life and well-being within your own church for God's glory.

This revised fourth edition includes two new chapters; updated material on prayer, missions, evangelism, and the gospel; and a foreword by H. B. Charles Jr.

\* New hardcover copies of this book are available on Amazon.com for \$26.99 and copy has also been placed in our church library and is available to borrow at your convenience.

# — SPBC Newsletter —

## AWANA NEWS

Dear Family:

March is here, and so is Derby Month. Yep, you got it, on March 26, 2023, please join us as the AWANA Clubbers and yourselves can participate in Derby Night. The AWANA Clubbers will be painting and getting their cars ready to race. Last year, Thor brought the hammer down and took place first in our Derby. This event pits the clubbers against each other and often their teachers and parents. It is a blast. Please come out and join us for a great evening of fellowship and racing.

The annual “You Are Loved” banquet took place on Saturday, February 11, 2023. There was a little something special on the table for those who attended. The AWANA clubbers had handmade Valentines Day cards that were placed on the table. CUTE, were they ever cute! We all shared a smile as we opened our cards. Thank you, Andrea for coming out and helping our kids in a craft night make these beautiful and unique cards.

It is hard to believe that the AWANA year is coming to a close. At the beginning of this month, we have approximately two months left and our 2022-2023 year will be over. The kids have faced challenges from teachers and each other. They are learning new Bible verses, The Lord's Prayer and more about our Lord and Savior. I appreciate each teacher and volunteer who has come out and given their time for these kids. If you haven't been out yet, please feel free to join us, we can always find a place for you.

Have a blessed day, and see you at the Derby Races on March 26, 2023!

In Christ, Mike Durham.



## AWANA Derby Race Sunday, March 26, 5PM

Adults and kids can race their car. If you don't have a car and want one, please let Mike Durham know. He will make sure you have a car. Just letting you know, Mike, I want one just like this one.



Spring

The air is crisp, the skies are blue  
everything is coming back to life  
The trees are greener, the flowers are growing  
and the feeling is just divine  
Here, amidst the colors of the season  
It's as if you're dreaming  
The landscapes are painted by Spring  
The wind feels like a caress  
and so I must profess  
This is nature's beautiful offering

