



# The NAVIGATOR

**STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AND IMPACTING LOSTNESS**

**December 2014/January 2015**

## **MARK YOUR COURSE**

### **Calendar of Events** **December 2014**

- December 24th—January 2nd: TRBA Office Closed for Christmas/New Year Holidays. We are available in case of an emergency by calling 919-853-7551.

### **January 2015**

- **January 7th: LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2014:** All contributions and receipts for 2014 must be in the TRBA office by 1/7/2015. TRBA policy is that contributions dated 12/31 and received by 1/7 will be assigned to the previous year's budget. All receipts after 1/7 will count for the current budget year.
- **15th:** TRBA Finance Committee Meeting 1:00 PM TRBA Office
- **10th** Articles for February Newsletter due to Pauline at [Pauline@tarriverbaptist.com](mailto:Pauline@tarriverbaptist.com)
- **22nd**—Deadline for School Supply Collections
- **22nd:** ALT Meeting—Small conference room at TRBA 6:00 PM
- **31st—How To Reach Your Neighbor Training** 8:30AM-11:00AM TRBA office (Prior registration needed)

There will be a special training seminar in February for Church Treasurers and Finance Committee chairs. If you have specific areas of concern, please send topics to [Dougal@tarriverbaptist.com](mailto:Dougal@tarriverbaptist.com) so that they may be better addressed at this training.

SAVE March 27th & 28th to participate in Intentional Evangelistic Church Strategy training at Hopkins Chapel. More information to come in the near future.

**ATTENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DIRECTORS:** All councils and committees of TRBA are expected to meet at least quarterly. Please plan your meeting schedule and activities and get them to the office so we can place them on the calendar.

*Please check our calendar on the website on a regular basis for updated calendar information. Our website is [www.tarriverbaptist.org](http://www.tarriverbaptist.org).*

**Please Print for your Congregations**

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Tar River Baptist Association*



## **Charting His Course**

*By: Dougald McLaurin  
Associational Missionary*

*And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation".  
Mark 16:15*

# **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**Christmas and New Year Holiday Schedule:  
TRBA office will close on December 23 at 2:00 p.m. The office will remain closed from December 24th through January 4th and will re-open on January 5th.**

*The TRBA staff wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

**What an exciting December is passing us by!**

# **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

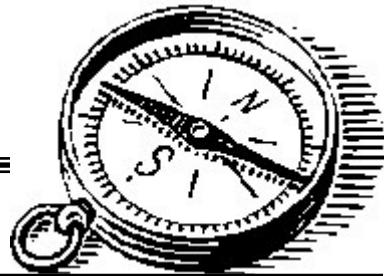
## **31 Days of Prayer in 2015**

Again this year, TRBA Staff invites you to join us in prayer for the association and our member churches. Beginning January 1st. Weekly prayer prompts will be sent and daily Facebook encouraging you to pray with us. We are convinced there is indeed power in prayer and we want to begin our New Year in prayer.

As we pray together in the New Year, let us also commit to work together to achieve His purpose. We are privileged to be a worker in His field and we know we can accomplish more working together through our churches ministering to the needs of those within the communities we serve. Pray for and minister to your neighbors in 2015—and allow them to see Jesus in you.

# CHURCH & COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

## MISSION AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



### 2014 CFM Toy Ministry

The 2014 Christmas Families Ministries was a huge success THANKS to each person who participated! Whether you donated money, toys or volunteered your time it was all greatly appreciated! With your help and by God's great provision we have assisted over 150 families and approximately 480 children. This year we had five TRBA churches who hosted CFM: Ephesus Baptist, Maple Springs Baptist, Mount Zion Baptist, Poplar Spring Baptist and Union Chapel Baptist Church. Each of these churches gave out toys donated by many of you but also gave out the greatest gift of all, the Gospel. I want to thank each of them for displaying a joyful spirit while serving others. Poplar Springs received family referrals from us but then provided all the toys (donated by their church) and delivered them to each family personally. It was truly a great ministry and many school counselors have called and thanked me for helping to provide Christmas for their students. Thank you all for making this year's CFM so wonderful!



### 2014—2015 TRBA UPDATES

**New Office Hours:** To accommodate staff schedules and office needs, we have adjusted the regular office hours for TRBA:

**Monday:** 8:30AM until 4:00 PM

**Tuesday—Friday:** 10:00 AM until 2:00PM

Other times by appointment only! As always, call the office before heading to Louisburg.

We welcome Pauline Muller, member of Cedar Rock Baptist Church as our temporary Ministry Assistant. We will be completing our job description in the near future and taking applications soon.

**Church Contacts Needed:** We need at least one person in every church that will share information/see it gets into the bulletin or newsletter at your church. Contact [Pauline@tarriverbaptist.com](mailto:Pauline@tarriverbaptist.com) if you are willing.

**Volunteers Needed:** Again, contact Pauline.

**ACP Completion Needed:** To more effectively accomplish our work, we need to have 100% participation by member churches with their ACPs. ***What we need most is simply your CURRENT church leaders' contact information.*** Please contact [Meredith@tarriverbaptist.com](mailto:Meredith@tarriverbaptist.com) to assist in this

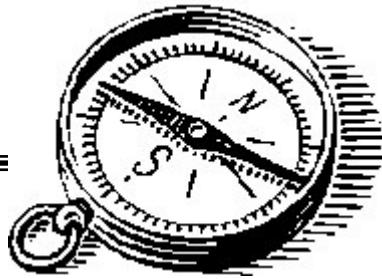
### What is God Doing?

Surely by now you have taken note!

**Is God calling you to the mission field? Here is a chance for you to minister with God's people. A team from Flat Rock Baptist Church is planning a missions trip to Mexico in the spring of 2015. Ernie Holden is looking for a few more people to participate. If you are interested in more information, please feel free to contact Ernie with any questions at 919-669-3416.**



# NEWS AND INFORMATION



## CHURCH AND ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

### 2015 Collection Lists

We encourage organizations and individuals to contribute throughout the year to our various ministries. Though Christmas is the season many contribute, there is a need all year. Listed below are our known collection needs for 2015. We will be updating the website with additional information in the days ahead.

**January:** School Supplies   **DEADLINE:** **January 22**

**February:** Easter Baskets   **DEADLINE:** **March 19**

**March:** Easter Baskets for Foster Children & MATCH Food Round Up for Baptist Children's Home

**April:** BCH Food Round Up   **DEADLINE:** **April 16**

**May:** Hygiene Items   **DEADLINE:** **May 28**

*For more information and collection list go to:  
[www.tarriverbaptist.org](http://www.tarriverbaptist.org)*

### PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

**“While the iron is hot....”** let’s go ahead and invite your church to consider serving as a “distribution point” for 2015 CFM Ministry! This year we actually had 6 of our member churches directly involved in distribution of toys and several people/groups from other churches that assisted. At least one church has expressed interest in serving as a distribution site in 2015—and we could use others!

Our goal is to strengthen the local church and impact lostness. Definitely engaging your church in ministry and missions could achieve both. We could use several other churches participating! We can say we assisted 150+ families, but we could assist more through our local churches. Divide into 150 the number of TRBA churches and you get fewer than 3 per church—and all our churches could minister to 3 families. And the impact that could be as you build relationship with the people in YOUR community.

TRBA could still serve as the screening and collection site to assist, but we ask that you prayerfully consider becoming involved with CFM in 2015. We will be making announcements early in 2015.

### TRBA Church Announcements

**THANK YOU for your Christmas Ministries:** We have gotten good reports of the various Christmas activities and ministry efforts being held in our church communities. God is at work and we continue to pray for all our churches as minister to our communities.

**Churches without pastors as we begin 2015:** Cedar Rock, Duke Memorial, Pilot, Saint's Delight, Sandy Creek, Social Plains, and Unity. Please be in prayer for these churches as they seek out the individual God has prepared for them.

**Help is needed:** Poplar Spring Baptist Church has 2 pianos that are not being used. If anyone (individual or church) is interested in helping find them a new home, please contact Matt James, Administrative Assistant at Poplar Spring at [mjameslsu@gmail.com](mailto:mjameslsu@gmail.com).

**Attention all pastors:** As the new year begins, we want to offer opportunities for those that serve as pastors and other ministry positions within our churches. Expect some updated information in the near future as the year begins and feel free to call on us at any time for ways we might assist you.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ TRBA stands in need of several individuals that are willing to serve on our various committees and councils. If you feel led of God to serve in an area, please let us know and we will prayerfully consider you.
- ◆ ACP—BSCNC re-opened being able to file ACPs online but that opportunity ends 12/31/2014. We encourage all church clerks to file and make sure you hit save. TRBA staff is updating our records through the ACPs filed and Pauline is contacting all churches to make sure we have contact information for our key leaders in every church.
- ◆ As we begin 2015, if you are not regularly receiving TRBA emails and would like to receive, please update your contact information by sending an email to [Pauline@tarriverbaptist.com](mailto:Pauline@tarriverbaptist.com). Communication is key and we are making every effort to contact our members in the way they most prefer.
- ◆ You will notice TRBA is not posting quarterly contributions in this newsletter. With the yearend activities and the closing of our books on January 7th, we will be getting that information to our churches during January. When you get notification of your church's contributions, we ask that you double-check the information to insure accuracy. We recognize there will be some variances simply due to when contributions are received in the mail at the office.

### How To Reach Your Neighbors

*Saturday, January 31st from 8:30 AM—11:00 AM TRBA will offer training sharing information and ideas about how to reach your neighbors. Our theme for the year—"to REACH them, we must KNOW them," emphasizes that we need to get to know our neighbors.*

*BSCNC offers a new tool available for member churches to help us better know the communities we serve. The tool is called MissionInsite and it will help you develop strategies specific to your church to minister to and share the Gospel with the people who live in the shadow of your steeple.*

*BSCNC has identified 250 "pockets of lostness." These are places where high percentages of people have no personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Certainly, most of those "pockets" are in more urban areas, but 3 of those "pockets" could be minister to by TRBA churches (3 mile circles in Franklinton, Sims, and Youngsville). Truthfully, there are pockets of lostness in every community that surrounds every church in TRBA!*

*Bring your laptop and a couple of key leaders in your church and begin to develop a strategy to reach your community.*

## REQUIREMENTS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Bylaws of the association have three basic requirements for membership in the association. As we begin the New Year, let's review them and perhaps explain a couple of things as people have questioned:

1. **Attendance at business meetings of the association:** Member churches should have messengers in attendance to at least one business meeting annually. Remember, we now only have the Spring and the Fall meetings.
2. **Contributing to the budget of the association:** The association encourages that member churches prayerfully consider contributing 5% of undesignated offerings to the association's budget to allow us to do the work you have determined we are to do as an association. **Please note: NO CP giving comes to the local association.**
3. **Complete the Annual Church Profile:** This enables us to have the current leadership of your church and get information to you better.



### MARK YOUR STEPS

GO AHEAD AND SAVE THE DATE!!!!

MONDAY, APRIL 27TH  
5:30 PM REGISTRATION WITH PRE-SESSION  
MUSIC AT 6:30 pm  
OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH  
Youngsville

Each member church is entitled to 5 voting messengers—one is the pastor or interim and then 4 others elected by the church. If TRBA has email addresses of all messengers, we will get important information to you in time for review before the meetings.

PLEASE NOTE: Everyone is ALWAYS welcome to attend, but each church has only the 5 voting members.