

BAPTIST BULLETIN

October 18, 2012

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

Volume 6, Number 17

Early Voting in North Carolina Begins Today

Early voting begins on today in North Carolina. More than 350 one-stop voting sites opened across North Carolina on Thursday, and scores more will open next week to give people opportunities to cast ballots before Election Day.

More than 2.4 million people cast in-person early votes in 2008 in North Carolina, which accounted for 55 percent of all ballots cast in the general election.

According to WRAL-TV, all eight early voting sites open in Wake County on Thursday saw heavy traffic.



**Early Voting in North Carolina
October 18 – November 3**

145th Annual Session Emphasis: STATE MISSIONS



Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr., GBSC President, reviews the State Missions giving records for the 2011-12 fiscal year with Rev. Selma S. Hunter, GBSC Finance Officer. The President spent two days in Raleigh in late August.

President Howard W. Parker, Jr. spent the closing days of the 2011-12 fiscal year at Baptist Headquarters calling Moderators and Pastors across the state urging increased giving for State Missions. The President has determined that the emphasis for the upcoming Annual Session on October 29-31 should be State Missions.

Churches across the State have been asked to bring a special donation earmarked for State Missions to the Annual Session. This special donation is to be above and beyond the normal registration fees.

The Baptist Headquarters is suggesting that Churches give according to the following scale:

- SILVER: \$300.00 to \$499.00
- GOLD: \$500.00 to \$999.00
- PLATINUM: \$1,000.00 and up

“The President has rightly been concerned about this past year’s giving to state missions,” says Dr. Haywood T. Gray, Executive Secretary-Treasurer. “To sum it up, we are struggling to make ends meet.”

Spring Hill Suites Named Overflow Hotel

Strong and early reservations at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel suggest a large gathering at the upcoming Annual Session on October 29-31. There are no rooms available at the Sheraton Imperial. Overflow housing has been arranged at the nearby Spring Hill Suites hotel (920 Slater Road, Durham). Spring Hill



Suites will continue to take reservations for the GBSC room block through Friday, October

19, 2012.

There are other hotel choices in the immediate area of the Sheraton Imperial. However, rooms have only been blocked at Spring Hill Suites for the General Baptist group. **For reservations at Spring Hill Suites, please call 919-998-9500 by Friday, October 19.**

“PREACHING ... TEACHING ... REACHING”

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of North Carolina, Inc.

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Late Night Services at Annual Session

Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowens, Late Night Coordinator



MONDAY NIGHT:

Dr. Kenneth R. Hammond
Pastor, Union Baptist, Durham
PREACHING

TUESDAY NIGHT:

Dr. Herbert L. Dickerson
Pastor, Orange Grove Baptist, Durham
PREACHING



October is Clergy Appreciation Month



October is “Clergy Appreciation Month” and congregations are encouraged to remember their pastor-leaders in a special way during October.

This is a special time where congregations can show their appreciation to their pastor-leaders who preach and teach God’s Word.

While it is appropriate to show appreciation at any time during the year, Clergy Appreciation Month is a special time to show love.

The celebration was established in 1992 with a specific mission and purpose of uplifting and encouraging pastors, missionaries and religious workers. It is estimated that 42,500 persons serve as full-time clergy in the United States. The 2012 Census reported that almost 133 million people identify themselves as attendees of a Christian Church. Those sheer facts speak to how hard clergy work to shepherd the sheep in their flocks.

There are many ways that congregations can show their appreciation to their pastoral leaders. Be creative! Think of new ways to express your love and concern. He goal is that every pastor and staff minister feels that his or her family is appreciated by those that they serve.

In observance of
“Clergy Appreciation Month,”
the General Baptist State Convention
will sponsor a

Clergy Fellowship Luncheon

at the 145th Annual Session.

Tuesday, October 30, 2012
11:30 a.m. in the Empire Ballroom
Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Durham

Tickets: \$25.00

BUFFET MENU:

Field Greens Salad, Bowtie Pasta Salad
Marinated Cucumbers and Tomatoes
Chicken Marsala, London Broil
Green Beans Almondine, Roasted Vegetables
Oven Browned Potatoes, Wild Rice Blend
Pecan Pie, Peach Cobbler, Chocolate Cake
Starbuck Coffee and Iced Tea