MISSIONS – WHY WE DO IT?

The people who make St. Andrew Baptist Church the church it is are a people on mission.

- You find them in neighborhoods scattered around Panama City and the Beach, ministering to people who have suffered loss or are battling some of life’s tough problems.

- You find them across the street from our church almost any day of the week, loving a young lady with an unplanned pregnancy and helping her find a way through the challenges without doing something she will regret the rest of her life.

- You find them sharing food and clothes.

- You find them giving medical care and prescription medicine.

- You find them all sharing the gospel simply, but with conviction.

- You find them at the Baptist Center or in Baltimore or Washington State helping fellow Christians in tiny churches reach out with the love of Christ to their communities.

- You find them in Brazil sitting on a porch with a whole family telling them how they can receive the gift of eternal life.

- You find them in central Mexico or out in the bush in West Africa, explaining the story of the Bible that all leads to Jesus.

Those are the people who make up St. Andrew Baptist Church – Exalting Christ, Meeting Needs, Reaching the World – An Acts 1:8 Church – Doing Missions.

Why? Not every church does this. Why do we?

We do missions because we love the Lord our God with all of our heart and mind and strength! The Lord we love said, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.” And He commanded us to go into all the world and make disciples. We love Him, so we obey, and we go, and we make disciples.

We do missions because we love other people, and we strive to love them as much as we love ourselves. We want to go to heaven when we die. We want others to go also, so we share the gospel. Somebody told us. We tell them. We want to eat, so we give food to those who don’t have enough. We want decent clothes to wear, so we share with those who are without. We want medical care and someone who lovingly helps us

(Continued; see SHEPHERD’S STAFF on page 2)
work through life’s biggest problems, so we try to help others have those things too, as much as we can.

It’s not complex. It’s not rocket science. And we don’t claim that we do it perfectly. We just try. But we are firmly committed to keep trying to love God with every ounce of our being and to love others as well.

That is why we do missions!

The Shepherd Loves the Sheep,
Bro. Mike

MISSION: POSSIBLE

It’s here!!! In less than a month we once again come together at our annual Global Impact Celebration! Plans are coming together now as we give praise to God for all He has done through our mission efforts this past year and then consider how we will serve in 2017. I hope you’ll mark your calendars now for the dates – OCTOBER 27-30 – to join in the celebration of “HERE AM I... SEND ME!”

You’ll be seeing specific information in the coming days as to how you can be involved in this year’s event. It’s going to be an awesome time of celebration – a couple of hints – several of our missionary partners are already planning to be with us to share what God is doing in their ministries and how our partnership is working in Kingdom work. We are planning a HUGE Sunday morning worship time on October 30 and details will be forthcoming!

One of the most exciting things we will do this year during GIC is to receive a special offering for a very special need at the Center of Hope. As you know, the church owns the land and buildings where this great ministry takes place every day. As a result of a generous gift several years ago, we assumed ownership of these facilities, remodeled the interior of the buildings to serve our needs, and now maintain and participate in daily ministry to literally thousands of our neighbors each year. Medical needs are being met for those who cannot afford doctors; clothing and food are provided for those who are in need; counseling for young moms is provided through our Sheltering Tree ministry; and most importantly, God’s Word is being shared each and every day to folks who need to hear it! What blessings God has bestowed on us!

Along with these blessings come responsibility. We must maintain the investment of property God has given us in order to continue ministry. Specifically, the parking area at the Center of Hope is in dire need of repair. We have analyzed the best course of action and that is to remove all of the concrete parking area that is in such disrepair and replace with a new paved parking lot. Obviously, this does not come without expense. We are asking our partners in ministry throughout Bay County to help us raise $74,287.50 to cover the expense of this project. And you, as a partner in ministry of SABC and the Center of Hope, will have an opportunity to share in what we are calling “PAVING THE WAY.” It is our hope that we can raise the entire amount needed throughout the month of October, with a special offering being taken during our GIC worship service on Sunday, October 30.

I hope you’ll be faithful to pray and seek God’s direction for you and your family – not only regarding this special time of giving, but in the celebration of the missions ministry at SABC. What a blessing and opportunity God has given us.

Bro. Lynn
Isaiah 6:8
With school back in session, we have the opportunity to pick up where we left off last year in our mentoring program with St. Andrew School and we could use you. So, what is Mentoring?

Mentoring is RELATIONAL
People often learn how to better follow Christ in the context of focused friendship.

Mentoring is PERSONAL
The process begins with the opening and sharing of our lives with others.

Mentoring is INTENTIONAL
It is a relationship established for a specific purpose.

Mentoring is TRANSFORMATIONAL
Through the power of God, it has the ability to change lives.

Mentoring is also BIBLICALLY GROUNDED – to list a few… Moses mentored Joshua, Naomi mentored Ruth, Ezra mentored Nehemiah, Elijah mentored Elisha, Barnabas mentored Paul, Paul mentored Timothy, Jesus mentored the Twelve!

So why partner with local schools?
Partnering with local schools through a mentoring program gives us the opportunity to share the love of Christ to students, parents, teachers, and administrators. Mentoring within the schools has the ability to build a bridge back to God and the ministries offered through the local body of Christ here at St. Andrew Baptist Church!

Partner with us as we seek to show the love of Christ to our community through mentoring the children of St. Andrew School. If you are interested in knowing more, join us Tuesday evening, October 18th, from 6-7pm for an informational meeting in Conference Room #1.

God bless,
Bro. Jeremy

Legacy. Today I’ve learned that one of my childhood heroes has died. He appeared to be a gentleman in all that he did. He jealously guarded his name and didn’t allow it to be associated with anything that would bring dishonor to his reputation. By definition, legacy is a “thing handed down by a predecessor.” That has me thinking about that thing I wish to hand down to my biological family, as well as my church family.

Daddy told me that “my name” and my integrity were important. My name was how I was to build upon the name that he gave me. My integrity or my reputation was my own and he cautioned me that while it might take decades to build a solid reputation that it would only take a few minutes or a hastily made poor decision to ruin my reputation. I love this verse, Ezra 7:10, Now Ezra had determined in his heart to study the law of the LORD, obey it and teach its statutes and ordinances in Israel. I desire to leave that kind of legacy to my children, their children, and their grandchildren. I desire to invest in studying God’s Word and knowing what it says and making application to my life. I also desire to take the results of that investment and reinvest that wealth back into the lives of others. That kind of reputation would build upon the name daddy gave me and build personal integrity based upon the truth of God’s Word.

I want to encourage you to build your legacy by determining to study the statutes and ordinances found in God’s Word so that application in your personal life and the lives of others will reap spiritual riches for generations. I also want to encourage you to invest your earthly treasures in supporting the ministries of St. Andrew Baptist Church. Like many other non-profit organizations, SABC normally receives almost 40% of her budget receipts in the last three months of the year. Your investment in the legacy of SABC now is especially needed and will set the stage for our continuing legacy in Panama City and around the world. Your sacrificial investment in this important time will ensure that we continue to teach truth as we exalt Christ, meet needs, and reach the world. Leaving a lasting legacy for the ones who will come behind you requires taking action in the present. Faithful SABC saints have done this in the past and their legacy inspires us to do the same today! Invest your earthly treasures in things that will bring you heavenly rewards.

From Rick’s Desk

Now Ezra had determined in his heart to study the law of the LORD, obey it and teach its statutes and ordinances in Israel. I desire to leave that kind of legacy to my children, their children, and their grandchildren. I desire to invest in studying God’s Word and knowing what it says and making application to my life. I also desire to take the results of that investment and reinvest that wealth back into the lives of others. That kind of reputation would build upon the name daddy gave me and build personal integrity based upon the truth of God’s Word.

I want to encourage you to build your legacy by determining to study the statutes and ordinances found in God’s Word so that application in your personal life and the lives of others will reap spiritual riches for generations. I also want to encourage you to invest your earthly treasures in supporting the ministries of St. Andrew Baptist Church. Like many other non-profit organizations, SABC normally receives almost 40% of her budget receipts in the last three months of the year. Your investment in the legacy of SABC now is especially needed and will set the stage for our continuing legacy in Panama City and around the world. Your sacrificial investment in this important time will ensure that we continue to teach truth as we exalt Christ, meet needs, and reach the world. Leaving a lasting legacy for the ones who will come behind you requires taking action in the present. Faithful SABC saints have done this in the past and their legacy inspires us to do the same today! Invest your earthly treasures in things that will bring you heavenly rewards.
I love the **passion**... **the energy**... **the faithfulness** of the Sunday Morning Kid Zone teachers!

Last Sunday we pulled aside to evaluate how things are going in the Kid Zone and to ask the Lord to give us wisdom for the future.

**WE LAUGHED!**

**WE PRAYED!**

**WE GREW AS TEACHERS/LEADERS!**

Who teaches in the Kid Zone? People who understand:

- Kids need to grow like Jesus did... in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and man.
- Kids are not only the church of tomorrow; they are a vital part of the church today!
- We live in difficult times and most kids today spend 1080 hours a year being trained in a secular setting where prayer is not allowed and the name of Jesus is prohibited.
- Kids of this generation need to know more than ever how to stand alone for the cause of Christ.

Last Sunday we got up to speed on this generation known as Generation Z. We learned we are facing new challenges. For example:

- We used to say kids have a short attention span, but with technology exposure we now realize they have 8 second filters!
- Kids today are not only digital natives, they are actually “cloud” natives.
- Though God’s definition of family has not changed, our culture has chosen to redefine family in many ways. Consequently kids are growing up in a world where homosexual marriage is embraced as normal.
- Projections are that only 45% of Gen Z will believe in God by the time they reach adulthood.

The good news is when this generation finds something worthy of their attention they will solidly commit to it. Though their world is ever changing, they still need a relationship with the One who never changes. Kid Zone teachers are “On Mission” to lead kids to Jesus!

**THANK YOU LORD FOR OUR AMAZING KID ZONE TEACHERS!**

*Friend, do you have a passion for making a lasting impact in the world?*

Teaching kids is one certain way of doing that. Let’s talk! Call me @ 258-1859 or email me: karenclaunch@sabc.org
Church Family,

“My church is the friendliest church in town!” is a statement that is probably said at 90% of churches. I’m so glad that I am a part of a church family where this statement is actually true. Now, I have no data to back this up, only the testimonies of myself and countless others who have attested to the kindness and love of our church family. I believe that we are loving because we mean to be loving. It’s that simple!

In sports, the best players are who they are because they are not satisfied with their level of play. I believe this is true in every aspect of life. When it comes to our love for others, let’s not be satisfied with how kind we are to others, but look for new ways to love and serve our community!

This past week I read about something called the “6+1 dilemma” that referred to the kindness of church members to guests and to one another. The dilemma is that many people have a difficult time being purposefully welcoming, friendly, and loving on Sunday mornings because they do not spend time being purposefully welcoming, friendly, and loving Monday through Saturday. The problem with this is that if we put on a fake friendly face on Sunday, people can tell it is not the real us. We can all spot a fake.

One of the things we need to be reminded of when thinking about this is that church is not Sunday. In fact, Church is not any particular day. We, as a Family of Faith, exist every day of the week all over our county. I, and you, represent St. Andrew Baptist Church everywhere we go. More than that, we are representatives of Christ. Because of that, we need to remember that we have a responsibility to be purposefully friendly, welcoming, and loving everywhere we go because we take the banner of Christ with us. However, we must also remember that we won’t get away with faking it.

Paul encouraged the Church in Rome by saying, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Rom.15:13 ESV). Let us go forward and live with the joy our Savior has placed on our hearts!

Grace and Peace,
Thomas

Fall Retreat is coming fast! We have a great weekend planned for all of our youth! October 8-10, at Camp Vineyard in Ariton, Alabama.

Our theme will revolve around our mission statement. The SABC Youth Mission is to Reflect Christ, Relate to Others, Reach the World! We are “Empowered” to change the world through God’s Word.

This is a very important event where youth can get to know other youth and grow in their faith! This event is pivotal because we don’t have another big retreat until D-Now in February 2017. I have seen God use Fall Retreat to lead youth to a deeper faith and build a strong unity in the youth group. That is why Fall Retreat is so important. Yes, we have many events to choose from. Sometimes the list can seem endless. However, I can promise you that there is nothing quite like Fall Retreat. So with that in mind, I would like you to join me in praying for our Youth Fall Retreat Oct. 8th thru the 10th.

Here are a few requests. 1. Prayer for the leadership and adults who will be teaching, driving, cooking, and everything else that ends with an “ing.” Fall Retreat would not happen without them. They are here not just to help, but to pour their life into our students. 2. Pray for the youth who will be on the retreat. God has placed them on this trip for a reason. Many youth have invited their friends who have not come to faith in Jesus and they are praying their friends meet Him there. A weekend can change everything! Do you believe that? Will you pray like that?

Bro. Mark
Volume 130, Issue 9
St. Andrew Baptist Church glorifies God as we worship, equip, minister, fellowship, and share Christ at home and around the world.
The Lighthouse is published every month by St. Andrew Baptist Church to keep members informed on news and events of the church. The deadline to submit information for the next issue is Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2016.
Information & Change of Address:
St. Andrew Baptist Church
3010 West 15th Street
Panama City, FL 32401-1327
Office: (850) 785-8596
Fax: (850) 215-8579
www.sabc.org
@sabc_pc
Join our group on Facebook

Equipping Staff:
Michael Claunch, Senior Pastor
mikeclaunch@sabc.org, (850) 596-3646
Rick Mitchell, Administration
rickmitchell@sabc.org, (850) 381-2969
Doug White, Music & Worship
dougwhite@sabc.org, (850) 527-8149
Jeremy Johnson, Adults & Evangelism
jeremyjohnson@sabc.org, (850) 381-0041
Mark Bateman, Students
markbateman@sabc.org (850) 258-0812
Karen Claunch, Children
karenclaunch@sabc.org, (850) 258-1859
Sharon Urquhart, Preschool
sharonurquhart@sabc.org, (850) 596-1791
Lynn Briley, Missions
lynnbriley@sabc.org, (850) 258-3897
Thomas Gamble, College
thomasgamble@sabc.org, (850) 630-5386
Morris Denman, Shut-ins
morrisdenman@sabc.org, (850) 866-2474

Coming for Membership
By Baptism: Angelina Grant, Wyatt Mooney, Jonathan Richard, Dreaux Zeller
By Statement: Michael and Rita Grasa
By Letter: Richard Cox

Sympathy Is Extended To
Dorothy Walsingham, family, and friends, in the passing of her brother-in-law, Lamar Farris, on August 25, in Milton, FL.
Bobbie Lamb, family, and friends, in the passing of her husband, Dick, on August 27, in Tyrone, GA.
Family and friends of Fred Salmons, who passed away on August 27, in Panama City.
Family and friends of Ruth Heyne, who passed away on August 28, in Virginia.
Kwang Hwa Lee, family, and friends, in the passing of his mother, Kim Kauk ja, on August 30, in Korea.
Jana Manuel and Jill Chester, family, and friends, in the passing of their mother, Madaline McFatter, on August 31, in Bonifay, FL.
Donald Fountain, family, and friends, in the passing of his mother, Dorene, on Sept. 1, in Bonifay, FL.
Rosemary Roper, Heather Skinner, and Holly Lemasters, family, and friends, in the passing of husband and father, Wesley Roper, on Sept. 5, in Panama City.

Announcements
Congratulations to Ernie and Christin Knight on the birth of their daughter, Kylie Lynn. She was born on Sept. 17, weighing 8.3 lbs and was 20 inches long. Siblings Brileigh, Kinsley, and Baylee welcomed Kylie home.

Lee Sasser, family, and friends, in the passing of her father, Hershell Culbreth, on Sept. 10, in Panama City Beach.
Jim Colvin, family, and friends, in the passing of his grandfather on Sept. 20, in Bishopville, SC.

Thank You Notes were received from: Ginny Singletary and family

Martha Lloyd Media Center
BECAUSE OF BETHLEHEM by Max Lucado was donated to the Media Center by The Gleaners LCG in memory of Dorene Fountain. These books have also been added to the library for your reading enjoyment: THE INHERITANCE by Michael Phillips, BRUSH OF WINGS by Karen Kingsbury, and THE FIRST HOSTAGE by Joel Rosenberg. Homeschool books are also available for check out. See you in the library!

Budget Information
As of September 29:
YTD Budget Goal: $1,663,012.65
YTD Received: $1,483,968.95
Global Outreach Budget:
YTD Budget Goal: $264,450.03
YTD Received: $160,856.36

Thank You Notes were received from: Ginny Singletary and family

Martha Lloyd Media Center
BECAUSE OF BETHLEHEM by Max Lucado was donated to the Media Center by The Gleaners LCG in memory of Dorene Fountain. These books have also been added to the library for your reading enjoyment: THE INHERITANCE by Michael Phillips, BRUSH OF WINGS by Karen Kingsbury, and THE FIRST HOSTAGE by Joel Rosenberg. Homeschool books are also available for check out. See you in the library!

Budget Information
As of September 29:
YTD Budget Goal: $1,663,012.65
YTD Received: $1,483,968.95
Global Outreach Budget:
YTD Budget Goal: $264,450.03
YTD Received: $160,856.36

Announcements
Congratulations to Ernie and Christin Knight on the birth of their daughter, Kylie Lynn. She was born on Sept. 17, weighing 8.3 lbs and was 20 inches long. Siblings Brileigh, Kinsley, and Baylee welcomed Kylie home.