

We want to see the disciples and disciple-makers in your church flourish. That's why there are a wide variety of resources, events and trainings to ensure that members of your church are equipped to grow in their faith.

One key resource for churches across the state includes our annual Disciple-Making Conference, which reorients us to the priority of making disciples and replicating our faith. Additionally, there are various trainings, resources and ministries focused on women's discipleship, worship, pastoral health and more.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

FOCUS ON CHURCH HEALTH & REVITALIZATION

TRAINING CHURCHES

Studies have shown that the majority of churches are either plateaued or declining. For many churches, the call to make an impact for the gospel begins with a process of revitalization. We cannot focus on the mission effectively if our church is not flourishing.

With our focus on church health and revitalization, N.C. Baptists help church leaders assess their current reality, envision a future of disciple-making and build strategies to impact their communities with the gospel.



REVITALIZATION ASSESSMENT

SO THAT ALL GENERATIONS MAY KNOW HIM

TRAINING THE NEXT GEN

Taking the gospel to the nations means that we disciple the next generation. The church is strengthened when we invest in children, high school students and college-aged adults.

These efforts extend to high school students through the BeDoTell student ministry. Every year, thousands of students participate in summer camps. In 2023 around:

- 400 received Christ
- 700 recommitted to Christ
- 500 called to Christian ministry

Recent college graduates are challenged to live on mission through Go2, an initiative that invites them to give two years to missions in an international mission field or national church planting context.



BEDOTELL



GO2YEARS

SEND

Helping send church planters through the local church.

Jesus' words serve as a powerful reminder for the church today: "The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38). As God raises up workers to proclaim the gospel, reach the lost and plant new churches, N.C. Baptists are here to help.

CHURCHES PLANT CHURCHES

SENDING CHURCHES

Through SendNC, church planters are sent from their local church to a lost community. As church plants are established, the next step is for these churches to become sending churches of their own. N.C. Baptists help support that process.

SendNC is a church planting partnership between N.C. Baptists and the North American Mission Board's SEND network. SendNC assists churches to plant churches so that the gospel can spread throughout North Carolina.

Church planters endorsed through SendNC are offered a plethora of benefits, including coaching, training and financial support. In addition, SendNC works to mobilize sending churches through trainings, events and a variety of other resources.



SENDNC

SERVE

N.C. Baptists partner with churches to serve churches, communities, our nation & the world.

N.C. Baptists exist to be of service to churches so that churches can be in service to communities. Our churches are called to go to our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. We represent Christ, showing and sharing the same love that He shows to us.

THE HEALTH OF A PASTOR IS VITAL TO THE HEALTH OF A CHURCH

PASTORS & CHURCHES

N.C. Baptists assist pastors and churches by providing opportunities for pastors to deepen their spiritual, emotional and physical health; equipping churches during interim periods between pastors; providing support during times of conflict; and managing the N.C. Baptist JobBoard, an online resume resource for connecting churches with pastoral candidates.

In order to lead, care and shepherd well, pastors need to be aware of their overall health. To help pastors thrive in their ministry, N.C. Baptists offer a pastoral health assessment, as well as other resources for their well-being.



PASTORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

RELIEF & HOPE TO THOSE WHO ARE HURTING

COMPASSION MINISTRIES



N.C. Baptists work through various compassion ministries in partnership with Baptists on Mission. Communities see the light of the gospel through these acts of service.

N.C. Baptists are among the first to respond when disaster strikes. Every year, Baptists on Mission deploy thousands of volunteers to communities in our state and beyond. These volunteers are ordinary men and women who are on mission to serve in extraordinary ways.

Through our ServeNC initiative, we join together as a body of churches to show neighborhoods that we are prepared to love as Jesus loved. Through ServeNC, each church takes on different service projects at different times, ensuring each community is being loved the best way possible.



BAPTISTS ON MISSION

PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US

LIFE INITIATIVES

All people are made in God's image, worthy of dignity and protection. That is especially true for the most vulnerable among us. N.C. Baptists honor the sanctity of life through strategic initiatives that equip local churches to demonstrate and declare the love of Jesus.

In partnership with the Psalm 139 Project, N.C. Baptists are part of an ongoing effort to fund the placement of ultrasound machines in pregnancy resource centers across the state. Pregnancy resource centers are often the front lines in the fight against abortion, and ultrasound technology is a strategic tool toward that end. In addition, we connect churches with curriculum and other resources to help them understand how to make an impact for life within their local communities.



LIFE INITIATIVES

KINGDOM IMPACT



REACH the lost near & far

Over \$15M given to Lottie Moon from N.C. in 2023
522 missionaries from N.C., out of 3,505 worldwide
728,589 people heard the gospel
178,177 new believers internationally
67 new people groups engaged

TRAIN disciples, churches & the next generation

1,200+ equipped at Disciple-Making conference
527 committed to ministry at BeDoTell summer camp
500+ leaders equipped at Worship Expo
33 Fruitland graduates in 2023
11 Hispanic certificates
238 enrolled in Winter '23-'24
537 graduates commissioned by SEBTS in '23
Call Conference equipped 200 college students

SEND church planters through the local church

\$7.1M+ given to Annie Armstrong from N.C. in 2023
38 churches planted in N.C.
36 planters sent from N.C. Baptist churches
22 cultures represented

SERVE churches, communities, our nation & the world

42 new churches partnered with N.C. Baptists
184 N.C. churches in revitalization process in 2023
46 fostered or replanted
80% + showing growth
3 ultrasound machines for resource centers
Disaster Relief volunteers responded to 12 disasters
served at 112 dental clinics
hosted 25 health screening clinics

*Data is taken from 2023-24 and was last updated in April of 2024.

BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES OF NORTH CAROLINA





Since 1885, the heart of Baptist Children's Homes (BCH) has beat with a rhythm of hope that now extends throughout N.C., S.C. and Guatemala. Today, BCH reaches out to people of all ages including abused and neglected children, many who are in the N.C. foster care system; single mothers, teen mothers, expectant mothers, birth mothers who have chosen adoption for their babies, intellectually/developmentally disabled adults, community families, college students, impoverished and abandoned children in Guatemala, and aging adults. By being on mission together with N.C. Baptists, we are able to minister to a variety of needs and share God's love with those BCH is privileged to serve. We are many ministries beating with one heart — the heartbeat of Jesus. Learn more at bchfamily.org.

OVERVIEW

- Lives impacted and professions in 2023: BCH impacted 117,502 lives in 2023
- Professions in 2023: 316 professions of faith were made in 2023 and 844 professions in the past five years. 80% of those we serve come to us unchurched and unreached for Jesus.
- EVERY CHILD Foster & Adopt numbers: The total number of foster homes licensed to date: 464 - an increase of 110 from last year. The total number of foster children served in BCH foster homes: 1,039.
- Associate pastor's family adopts brothers, baptizes his foster son - annual offering focus: Through the prayers and Annual Offering support of N.C. Baptists, the story of this EVERY CHILD foster-to-adopt family was made possible. Week of Prayer: Nov. 3-10 | Resources: bchoffering.org
- Birth mothers retreat yields 17 professions: Christian Adoption Services, a BCH ministry, offers the annual retreat to encourage mothers who have chosen adoption for their babies and share the good news of the gospel.
- Ride to Clyde celebrates four professions, reaches \$1 million mark: The ninth annual motorcycle ride, benefiting BCH and organized in partnership with N.C. Baptists, passed \$1 million in funds raised. Bikers led four people to Christ as they shared the gospel throughout the statewide ride.
- Three new family foster homes dedicated in Cleveland County: The dedication of River Hill Refuge sees nearly 600 friends and dignitaries attend the ceremony on April 27.

- N.C. Baptists collect \$500,000+ in supplies for food foundup: Through the leadership of Associational Missionaries and churches, N.C. Baptists collected enough food, gift cards and supplies to feed BCH children for a year.

ANNUAL OFFERING FOCUS HIGHLIGHTS FOSTER-TO-ADOPT SON PROCLAIMING CHRIST:

Tyler, age 17, and Liam, age two, were among the 10,000+ children in the N.C. foster care system until N.C. Baptists stepped into their lives. The two brothers found their forever family with Chris and Lindsay Ciufu (pronounced Chee-fo) and their four biological children because churches faithfully support the Baptist Children's Homes (BCH) Annual Offering.

As members of Cowee Baptist Church in Franklin, where Chris is associate pastor, the couple knew about BCH and its many ministries, including foster care and adoption. They also see the ministry first hand because boys and their cottage parents living at BCH's Drake Cottage in Franklin attend services and activities at Cowee.

When Chris and Lindsay made the decision to add to their family, they turned to BCH and its EVERY CHILD Foster & Adopt partnership with N.C. Baptists. BCH team members trained and licensed the Ciufos, and other couples at their church, to be foster families.

At the end of 2021, Chris and Lindsay began fostering Liam, a three-month-old infant who, for his well-being, had been removed from his mother's care by the N.C. social services. Just one month later, Liam's teenage brother, Tyler, was also placed in the foster care system. Both brothers have the same biological mother but two different fathers. Tyler came to live with the Welch family, a couple from Cowee Baptist who had also been licensed by BCH. Through their mutual church community, Tyler and Liam, who barely knew each other, were able to begin to form a bond.

As time passed, Tyler moved from the Welches to the Ciufos. The two families worked together so the brothers could live with one another.

During a church service in 2023, Chris and Cowee Senior Pastor Jason Smith were standing at the front of the room for the closing invitation. Suddenly, Tyler rose from his seat and came to Chris telling him he wanted to follow Jesus. They kneeled at the altar and, at that moment, Tyler accepted Christ. Immediately afterward, Tyler, Chris and Jason entered the baptismal. An emotional Chris said these words as he prepared to baptize his foster-to-adopt son: "It has been our prayers since the moment we received him into our family that he would be our son but also our brother in Christ."

Today, Chris and Lindsay have completed their family by adopting Tyler and Liam. Their story is the focus of the Annual Offering for Baptist Children's Homes. Their video, along with resources to help your church collect an offering, are available at bchoffering.org. The Week of Prayer is Nov. 3-11.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION OF NC





WMU N.C. is a missions organization that challenges, prepares, and equips Christian believers to be radically involved in the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Through missions education, leadership development, and compassion ministries, WMU N.C. offers opportunities to learn about, pray for, give to, and do missions.

This year's highlights included:

- Supporting missionaries and missionary families.
- Missions education and leadership development opportunities for all age groups.
- Partnering with Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (SEBTS) to create a new GO Certificate in Women's Missions Leadership.
- Continued ministry to incarcerated women.
- Multiple successes for our ministry partners.

WMU N.C. operates through generous gifts to the Heck-Jones® Offering. WMU N.C. staff: Amy Boone, executive director/treasurer; Cheryl Daniel, contracted accountant; Kimberly Stauffacher, office manager and human relations catalyst; Ashley Abernathy, Administrative assistant; Sara Lamkin, mission and student catalyst; Rebecca Lindhout, adult and children's ministry catalyst; Amanda Martinsen, leadership development catalyst; and Allison Markwood, contracted marketing.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

WMU loves supporting missionaries. This year, representatives from WMU N.C. traveled to Richmond, Va. to celebrate and pray for newly appointed IMB Missionaries. As always, WMU N.C. publicized and provided materials to churches statewide for the Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong Missions Offerings. In May 2024, WMU N.C. reestablished the Missionary Parent Fellowship to provide ongoing support for missionaries' families while their loved ones are on the field.

MISSIONS AND EDUCATION

In October, WMU N.C. hosted a Youth Missions Retreat at Ridgecrest. Youth also had a special track at the Ignite Missions Conference which focused on faith issues and ministry opportunities relevant to today's teens.

In June, WMU N.C. partnered with North Raleigh International Baptist Church for the seventh time to host a camp for over 50 international children and youth from multiple countries and religious backgrounds. We pray the seeds planted during this week will transform lives.

WMU N.C. offered Missions Journey Kids Days, themed "Bold in Brazil," as part of the Ignite Missions Conference and at Nobles Chapel Baptist Church in Sims, N.C. Missionary

Kristin Trick and staff member Rebecca Lindhout immersed children into Brazilian culture and showed them what life as a missionary is like in the rainforests.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

WMU N.C. hosted multiple leadership luncheons, conferences, and training opportunities. The 133rd Annual Meeting and Ignite Missions Conference was April 19-20 at Parkwood Baptist in Concord. Participants worked with One More Child to pack over 15,000 meals for Human Trafficking victims. Women were challenged to find hope in Jesus as the light of the world, and prepared and equipped to BE the light of the world by sharing the Gospel.

Eight missions-minded teens comprised WMU N.C.'s second, co-ed Youth Advisory Council. These students helped host the Youth Retreat at Ridgecrest, participated in their own retreat, and hosted a panel discussion at the Ignite Missions Conference about what teens think about the church today. Ignite attendees said this one session was worth the price of admission for the entire conference.

Since January, Leadership Development Catalyst Amanda Martinsen has partnered with SEBTS to create a new GO Certificate in Women's Missions Leadership. This will be available in August and will combine SEBTS courses with WMU N.C.'s Leadership Cohort.

Blending leadership development with compassion ministry, WMU N.C. hosted its third Mom Camp at Camp Mundo Vista in November, with a special track for Military Wives. The purpose of the retreat each year is to minister to the specific needs of moms and military wives while guiding them to make their homes discipleship centers for their families.

COMPASSION MINISTRIES

In September 2023, WMU N.C. hosted a spiritual retreat for incarcerated women. Church WMU groups provided materials for over 3,000 Red Box Christmas gifts delivered to prisons in December.

WMU N.C. also celebrates the many successes of our Ministry Partners. Baptist Nursing Fellowship's annual meeting was in March at Camp Caraway. They celebrated the start of two new chapters: Little River and Triad.

WMU partnered with Baptist Ministers' Wives to host their annual retreat at Caraway in July.

La Union Feminil Misionera (UFM), the Hispanic WMU, is NC's fastest-growing branch of WMU. In August 2023, UFM hosted almost 300 women at their Hispanic Women's Retreat at Camp Mundo Vista. In January, UFM sent a team to Costa Rica to teach Vacation Bible Schools and evangelize.

Sisters Who Care, the WMU chapter for Black American women and other women of color, continues to grow through its online community, multiple conferences, Bible studies, and retreats. In May, more than 50 women attended the Annual Spring Retreat at Caraway Conference Center.

Last November, Cara Lynn Vogel, NC State Coordinator for Christian Women's Job Corps, traveled to Kampala, Uganda to provide Level I Training for Amani Sasa, a ministry to refugees. CWJC N.C. is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2024. Their goal this year has been

to “prepare the jars” for God to expand the number of sites and the reach of this awesome ministry in the future.

FUTURE GOALS AND INITIATIVES

In July 2024, WMU N.C. received a financial gift designated for taking youth on mission trips. Mission and Student Catalyst Sara Lamkin is excited to make a short-term mission trip part of the Youth Advisory Council experience. She is already researching and planning for a trip in 2025.

WMU N.C. desires to increase communication and reach broader audiences. In August, WMU NC will unveil a newly redesigned website featuring a streamlined look and improved functionality. This will make it easier than ever to navigate and access resources.

WMU N.C. is also transitioning its magazine, Tarheel Talk, to an online publication after the Winter 2024/2025 issue.

WMU NC continues to seek out and create opportunities for student involvement, build a greater audience for the Beyond the Moment podcast, and develop relationships with young adult women through Mom Camp, the Military Wives Retreat, and involvement with our Ministry Partners.

The 134th Annual Meeting and Ignite Missions Conference will be on April 25-26, 2025 at Trinity Baptist Church in Raleigh.

CONCLUSION

God is working through WMU “holding the rope” for missionary families, youth learning to lead in missions, international children praising Jesus’ name, and the many other missions and ministries of WMU N.C. We pray for the day when all have heard the Gospel, and we commit to continue challenging, preparing, and equipping Christian believers to spread the good news wherever God calls them.

GET INVOLVED TODAY by checking out all our ministries and opportunities at www.wmunc.org.

PROVISION FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF NC BAPTISTS, INC.



Provision Financial Resources of N.C. Baptists (formerly the North Carolina Baptist Foundation) exists to encourage and enable faithful and wise financial stewardship for the glory of God and the good of the world. Provision provides a range of services to individuals including free estate planning, investment opportunities, scholarships, and charitable giving. Provision has a strong partnership with churches. Through our partnerships, we help foster stewardship through



stewardship education, ministry grants, and fund management. Provision also offers investment in Impact Certificates and loans to churches for upcoming building projects.

HIGHLIGHTS

- In August 2023, Provision began exploring a redemptive investing strategy that promotes human flourishing around the world.
- In September 2023, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to rebrand the North Carolina Baptist Foundation into Provision Financial Resources of N.C. Baptists, Inc.
- In December 2023, Dr. Clay Warf retired as President after serving in the role for 25 years. Harry Nelson, who was announced as president-elect in May, took over the role as President & CEO of Provision.
- Provision hosted the annual North Carolina Baptist Development Officers Conference Meeting in February.
- In March, Erich Hamm joined the Provision team as SVP, Chief Trust & Planned Giving Officer.
- In April, Provision awarded the 2024 N.C. Baptist Heritage Award to Bill and Carolyn Daniel for their dedication and contributions to N.C. Baptists and their commitment to promoting faithful and wise financial stewardship.
- In July, Provision began offering free will and estate planning services through an online platform to all N.C. Baptists.
- In 2023, Provision distributed \$7,423,699 to N.C. Baptists.
- In 2023, Provision awarded 123 scholarships to North Carolina Baptist students totaling \$199,950.
- In 2023, the Foundation awarded 50 special ministry grants to North Carolina Baptist churches and associations totaling \$103,823.

FUTURE GOALS AND INITIATIVES

- Implementation of redemptive investing: Provision will continue to implement Redemptive Investing, including the Render Capital Initiative which seeks to invest in companies positioned strategically to advance the gospel.
- Development team training: Going forward, the development team will participate in financial planning and trust training so that our team may be a more valuable partner to individuals, churches and ministries.
- Increase online access: Increase the availability of online access for donors and provide easy access to statements and records.
- Internal efficiency: Provision will evaluate, create, and improve many of its processes to simplify and optimize overall performance.

BIBLICAL RECORDER





Since its founding in 1833, the *Biblical Recorder* (BR) has sought to serve as a trusted news outlet for N.C. Baptists. While technology has changed the way news is gathered, presented and consumed, our commitment to being a trusted source of news and information for N.C. Baptists remains the same.

Following is a report of significant activities and ministry highlights for the *Biblical Recorder* from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. During that time, the BR has:

- Entered into a long-term management agreement with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina that went into effect Jan. 1, 2024.
- Published daily content online at BRnow.org and through social media, while also producing a bimonthly printed magazine and a weekly email newsletter.
- Strengthened relationships with other entities to garner more national coverage for N.C. Baptists through Baptist Press.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

On Jan. 1, 2024, the *Biblical Recorder* and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina entered into a long-term management agreement based upon recommendations made by a special study committee. The recommendations were unanimously endorsed by both the BR's and state convention's respective boards in September 2023 and also endorsed by messengers at the 2023 N.C. Baptist annual meeting in Greensboro in November.

The new management agreement extends a temporary agreement that had been in place between the BR and the state convention since July 2022. Under terms of the new agreement, the BR retains its own board of directors, as well as its autonomous status as a separate, but related entity to the state convention. The agreement also acknowledges the BR's role as an independent, news-gathering and reporting organization that maintains its editorial freedom.

The boards and leaders of both the BR and state convention believe this new long-term management agreement will help preserve the Recorder's long-standing ministry to N.C. Baptists going forward. Readers can still expect a steady stream of timely coverage of news, events and happenings in N.C. Baptist life, along with feature stories on people and ministries from across North Carolina that illustrate how God is at work in our state.

FUTURE GOALS AND INITIATIVES

The BR has set its sights on the future of its ministry to N.C. Baptists. As we continue to embrace, explore and anticipate the ongoing impact of technology on news gathering and reporting, we are examining ways to enhance the presentation and delivery of content across all of our platforms — print, online, digital, social media and more. No matter what the future holds,

