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Purpose Statement: To Equip and Assist our member churches to accomplish their ministries.

Some Heralds from Harold

One of the most dreaded things I encountered as a boy growing up in the family store was the task of doing inventory. We started early in the morning on the day after Christmas and concluded the process late into the night. Everything in the store had to be counted and a value attached to it. I remember one of my many tasks was to count the nuts and bolts. When the process was complete, I heaved a sigh of relief and rejoiced that this once a year headache was over.

Taking inventory is not only a necessary part of the business world, it is also very important with regards to our spiritual lives. Lam. 3:40 says, "Let us examine and probe our ways, and let us return to the Lord." The writer of this passage was urging the people of his shattered country to look within their own lives, to recognize their sin, and to turn to God and seek his forgiveness. Unconfessed sin has a way of festering up in our souls and making us insensitive to the word of God. The sooner it is dealt with before the Lord, the sooner our joy and vigor will return.

There is still another inventory that needs to be taken – a church inventory. Stop and compare the numbers and other vital statistics from the last 10 years. This can be very painful, but it is necessary. We have to ask some key questions. Why have we declined? If we continue without some form of intervention, where are we headed? These are important conversations that need to take place as we enter the New Year. It is my prayer that our churches can catch a new vision. I look forward to working with you to see what our God can do!
 In Christ,
 Bro. Harold

**BUDGET RECEIPTS
December 2017**

Athena	\$719.00
Blue Creek	200.00
Calvary	578.73
Cornerstone	-0-
Crosspoint	440.31
Fellowship	215.00
First Baptist	562.50
Lakeside	448.56
Midway	-0-
Mt. Gilead	771.80
New Home	1,000.00
Oakland	-0-
Pisgah	80.26
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Salem	348.05
San Pedro	75.00
Shady Grove	133.37
Southside	256.88
Temple of God	-0-
Total Receipts	\$6,029.46

Thank you for your support!

Monthly Budget Needs = \$5,343.25
 Monthly Average Received to Date= \$4,952.57

Men's Ministry...

Men and boys, plan now to attend the meeting in January at Oakland Baptist. Mr. Eddie Salter, the Turkey Caller, will be the featured speaker. Supper starts at 5:30 pm.

Disaster Relief Trailer...

We have purchased a Disaster Relief cleanup and recovery unit for our association. Hallelujah!!! Now we need to stock it with tools and supplies that will be used to help those recovering from a disaster. In order to do that we will need the support of our churches and our community. There is an estimated cost of around \$10,000 to get the unit fully equipped for the next opportunity to spread the glory of our great God through disaster relief. Two of our men have been trained to be "Blue Hats" or crew leaders. On May 5, 2018 there will be a training at New Home Baptist. Mark your calendars and plan to get training in some area of service. There are several ways you can serve. Please pray for this ministry, that God would provide the funding and the personnel that are needed so it will be effective in spreading the hope of Jesus.

January Birthdays:

- 14 - Tommy Lundy, Pisgah
- 16 - Gary French, Southside
- 23 - Eddie Pridgeon, Crosspoint
- 31 - Jeff Stading, New Home

Prayer focus...

- Lakeside, Pastor search
- Mt. Gilead, Youth Pastor, part time
- Salem Baptist, Pastor search
- Midway Baptist, Pastor Search

Doing more together

CALENDAR

January 2018

- 1 - **New Year's Day**, Office closed
- 8 - Planning Committee, 11:00 AM
- 15 - **Martin Luther King Day**
- 15 - Men's Ministry, Oakland Baptist, 5:30
Eddie Salter (the Turkey Caller) speaking
- 21 - Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
- 22 - Executive Board, 11:00 AM
- 28 - Day of Payer for Baptist Colleges
- 29-30 - January Bible Study

February 2018

- 14 - **Valentine's Day**
- 19 - **President's Day**
- 22 - Sharper Conference, Thomasville Rd.
Bapt., Tallahassee

March 2018

- 1 - Sharper Conference, City Church, Tally.
- 10 - VBS Training,
Highland Park Bapt., Panama City
- 11 - **Daylight Savings Time begins**
- 11 - North American Missions Week of Prayer
and Annie Armstrong Offering
- 12 - Nominating Committee meets, 11:00
- 16 - Music Festival, New Home. 7:00 pm
- 25 - **Palm Sunday**
- 26 - Executive Board Meets, 11:00
- 30 - **Good Friday**

Food for Thought...

Be ye fishers of men,
You catch 'em - He'll clean em.

Just for fun...

Q: What do you call two fat people having a chat?
A: A heavy discussion.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!