

JUNE 10, 2021

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<u>A Message from the New</u> Associational Mission Strategist

As I sit down to write my first article to an amazing group of pastors, leaders and members of the SBA, I have just finished a long day of packing my office at Ridgecrest. While I have one Sunday left to worship with and preach a concluding message, my office is emptied. Many people have asked if it has been a difficult process. My response is simply, "There is no doubt it is hard to leave a church family which I love dearly. However, when God calls, we must go obediently, knowing that He will supply a new faith family and develop new relationships." That truly excites me. I love meeting new people and look forward to serving you and alongside you each.

As I shared with the messengers at the called session for the Search Team's presentation of me for Shelby Baptist AMS position, there is no greater time than now for us to unite and be of one mind, one heart, and one purpose. The need is great in our own communities for seeing the love of God demonstrated and shared. We must be united in the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Over the next several weeks, I will intentionally be making contact with each of our pastors and churches. My desire is to learn your stories so I may come alongside you to help you in whatever way you desire and need. In this initial time of getting to know each of you, I want you to feel free to call on me. I am here to serve you in whatever way possible.

There are four words which you will hear me use often in the days ahead. Those words are Encourage, Empower, Equip, and Engage. This is what the staff at the SBA and I will be looking to do in the days to come. We want to encourage our churches and their pastors. We are living in a challenging time, when there is much division, discord and discouragement. However, we need to be encouraging one another to stay faithful, be strong and courageous in the ministry to which God has called us. We want to empower the SBA churches to fulfill their ministry objectives. In empowering each church, we will do all we can to help you with necessary recourses, tools, networking, and assistance to be impacting your community for Christ. We want to equip you in how to effectively be the church in a non-church friendly society. We want to help you learn how to engage in Gospel Conversations, Intentional Evangelism, Benevolent Ministries which lead to Gospel Centered Conversa-

tions, and Engaging a post-pandemic world with the ever-powerful message of Christ. Finally, we want to engage you with mission and ministry opportunities, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally, fulfilling a Biblical and balanced Acts 1:8 strategy. We must never see missions and ministry as an either/or but as an all-encompassing and daily endeavor.

As you can see, there is much to do in Shelby County and beyond for Kingdom Impact. That is why it is essential that we are unified in mind, heart and purpose! I am excited to walk alongside each of you in the days and months to come and can't wait to see how God uses His churches of Shelby Baptist Association. To borrow a phrase from Home Depot, "Let's Do This!"

Ric Dr. Rickey (Ric) E. Camp, D.Ed. Min. Associational Mission Strategist, SBA



July 14-17, 2021

Local missions mini-camp in Shelby County, Alabama for Grades 6-12.

Costs:

\$75 per person BEFORE June 15 // \$85 per person AFTER June 15

Important Dates:

Church Registration Deadline & Deposit Due: May 15, 2021 Final Numbers, Forms & Half of Camp Deposit Due: June 15, 2021 Remaining Balance Due: July 8, 2021

For more information check out our website or contact:

https://uniteshelby.com/

Rebekah Parr, rebekah@shelbybaptist.org Keith Brown, kbrown@shelbybaptist.org

Ministers Conference: September 7, 2021



Active and retired ministers—join the Ministers Conference Tuesday, September 7th at Siluria Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy guest speaker, Dr. John Killian, Director of Missions of the Fayette County Baptist Association.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 am compliments of the Shelby Baptist Association. Reservations are a

must. Register at www.shelbybaptist.org or call 205-669-7858 by Thursday, September 2, 2021 to make individual and group reservations.

Upcoming Events

June 15 Unite Final Numbers, Forms, & Half of Camp Balance Due.

July 8 Unite Balances Due

July 14-17 Unite Local Missions Camp—Go to https://uniteshelby.com/

for more information.

GO TO ... https://shelbybaptist.org

TO SEE CURRENT EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AND CHURCH & COMMUNITY MINISTRIES.

GO TO ... https://shelbybaptist.org/job-opportunities
TO SEE CURRENT JOB OPENINGS AT OUR ORGANIZATION AND FOR OTHER