



**April 27, 2020**

*Serving and equipping our churches to fulfill the Great Commission.*

## **Greetings from Noel Williamson**



With the Coronavirus virus impacting our lives so much, our greatest need right now as pastors, church leaders, and church members is wisdom. How do we know how we are to respond in these times that we have never seen before? The key is to seek God for this wisdom. He is the one that grants it.

**Proverbs 9:10**

**10 "The fear of the Lord *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.**

God wants us to ask for wisdom.

**James 1:5**

**5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.**

Let's look at Proverbs 3:1-12 and learn more about the benefits of Godly Wisdom.

Proverbs 3:1-2

**1 My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands;  
2 For length of days and long life And peace they will add to you.**

The first benefit of Godly Wisdom is a long life. Most of us are staying at home these days and we have a lot of free time. How are you spending your time? Are you using this time to reach out to others, build family relationships, and spend time with God or are you just wishing time away? Use your time wisely. It is a gift from God.

**Proverbs 3:3-4**

**3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck,  
Write them on the tablet of your heart, 4 And so find favor and high esteem  
In the sight of God and man.**

The second benefit of Godly Wisdom is a good reputation. How does your fellow man

see you and how does God see you. Remember, nothing is hidden from God.

### **Proverbs 3:5-6**

**5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;  
6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.**

The third benefit of Godly Wisdom is that God will direct your path. So, who is in the driver's seat? You or God?

### **Proverbs 3:7-8**

**7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil.  
8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.**

The fourth benefit of Godly Wisdom is your health. Are you taking care of your body and mind? Sin makes you sick. Being lazy makes you weak. Spend some time exercising. It will make you feel so much better.

### **Proverbs 3:9-10**

**9 Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the first fruits of all your increase;  
10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.**

The fifth benefit of Godly Wisdom is financial provision. It is one thing to honor God with our lips. We can say all kinds of things. It is another to honor God with our wealth. How are you spending your money? Whose money is it? Yours or God's?

### **Proverbs 3:11-12**

**11 My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor detest His correction;  
12 For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son *in whom* he delights.**

The sixth benefit of Godly wisdom is God's discipline.

God disciplines His children because He loves them. Are you one of His children?

In these times it is imperative for us to seek wise counsel, but more important for us to seek God for wisdom!

## **Encouragement**

### **Announcing Winners of Church Administrators Lunch!**

SYBA Is encouraging church administrators!

Church staff and members nominated their church administrative professionals to receive special recognition - many were nominated and three winners were randomly drawn:

Amber Ward of Troutman Baptist Church



Robin McDonald of Beulah Baptist Church  
Angela Clontz of New Hope Baptist Church Statesville

SYBA will be treating these winners to lunch to recognize them for their hard work!  
Thank you to all our administrators for all you do!!

## Mobilize to share Christ's love

### SYBA Updates

**SYBA Food Pantry at 1431 Front Street** is currently making appointments for drive thru only for food assistance. Open Wednesdays beginning at 10 am. *Food & hygiene item donations also accepted during this time.*

**SYBA Food Pantry on Amity Hill Road.** Food is available by appointment.



**SYBA food pantry at 1431 Front Street, Statesville is providing food assistance by drive thru appointment Wednesdays 10 am - Noon.**

### Be Part of a Network of Churches Ministering to Isolated People in Their Community



Would you be a part of a network of churches who are ministering to isolated people in their community?

Baptists on Mission is working to connect local churches to isolated people in their community so that we can minister to them. We are getting requests from people who are COVID-19 high risk, for the following type needs: Meals and shopping delivery; Wellness checks, Prescription pick-ups; and Food for Pets. Most of the time the isolated person can pay for groceries or medicines, they just need someone to pick them up and leave them on the door step. Most of these requests are one time requests and you can choose to accept or not accept the request that come to you.

If you or your church is willing to help, please complete the form by [clicking this link](#).

If your church is already involved in Coronavirus ministry, we would like to know about this as well so that we can share your story and encourage you by providing helpful resources and best practices. Use the same link above to register your church.

## Resources

### Special Project Grants

Applications will open on May 1st. The deadline for submission is August 15th. All NC Baptist Churches, Associations and Institutions may apply. Please [click here](#) to view

information about the grants and to access the application.

As a reminder: an organization may submit only ONE application per year. If more than one request is received from an organization, only the first request will be considered by the committee.

Contact Robert E. Simons, Central Area Manager, Development & Trustor Services, The NC Baptist Foundation for more information.  
336-504-3929 (cell) \* [rsimons@ncbaptistfoundation.org](mailto:rsimons@ncbaptistfoundation.org)

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## Free Webinar: Ministry During & After a Crisis

*By RightNow Media*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020 1:00P TO 2:00P  
EST

With ministry leaders J.D. Greear, Andy Crouch, and Rob Peabody



What does it look like to lead like Jesus during this uncharted cultural moment? The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on our world like nothing before. As we're in the midst of an unprecedented crisis, church leaders are asking many questions: How should we as Christian leaders be thinking about this pandemic? How can we lead our people well during this time? How can churches come together as the body of Christ in local communities? What can we be doing now to position our communities for recovery?

Hear from a panel of ministry leaders as they discuss these questions and the lasting impact COVID-19 could have on our world, our relationships, and the church.

Can't make the live event? All registrants will receive a link to the recorded webinar via email after the live event ends.

[Click here to register.](#)

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## What will Worship Look Like as COVID-19 Restrictions Reduce?

*Kenny Lamm*

As government restrictions on public gatherings begin to lessen, we need to plan for what our corporate worship services will look like. The suggestions below will help you strategize within those guidelines what will work best for your congregation.



[Read More...](#)

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## Re-Opening Your Church

## North Carolina Baptists

As North Carolina officials consider a phased-in approach to reopening, N.C. Baptist churches are anxious to gather in person for worship. Below is a helpful guide of ideas to assist you in making the most of this reengagement.



[Read More...](#)

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## Additional Resources

[BSCNC COVID-19 Resources](#)[NCDHHS Coronavirus Info](#)

[Baptists on Mission Resources](#)[CDC Resources for Faith-Based Leaders](#)

## Partner in Prayer

*"What a glorious thing it would be if millions of us would avail ourselves of the greatest privilege and the greatest power this side of heaven—the privilege and power of prayer!"*

- Billy Graham

(source: Daniel Darling, SBC)

Heavenly Father, we acknowledge our dependence upon you. This virus has reminded us of our frailty. We have subdued much of the earth with our innovation and creative acts, but we are reminded in this moment how frail and powerless we really are. So we repent of our self-sufficiency and hubris.

Lord, we lament the fallen nature of our world, which mars the beauty of your created order. COVID-19 comes to steal and destroy, to worm its way through human bodies and spread its vile sickness across communities and nations and the world. We, like your Son, weep and rage at sickness and death. And yet we know that it was Jesus whose death and resurrection defeated this final foe. We long for the day you resurrect our bodies and restore the world.

As we endure this new normal in our lives, we pray earnestly for the heroic medical doctors, nurses, and health care professionals who are putting their lives on the line for their neighbors. May you give them strength and physical immunity during this time, so they can help push back against this ravaging virus.

We pray for the scientists, disease experts, and epidemiologists who are working feverishly on vaccines and testing mechanisms. Lord, we thank you for gifting them with knowledge and wisdom we don't have. We pray for their endurance, for breakthroughs, and for resources.



Lord, you are the Great Physician, so we pray for healing for the victims of COVID-19. Lord, you are the Creator, with power over the creation, so we pray for COVID-19 to be destroyed. Spirit of God, you are the Comforter, so please comfort our troubled souls.

Dear God, move in the hearts of our public officials. As you have instructed us in your Word, we earnestly beseech you on behalf of our president, Congress, governors, mayors, and local officials. We pray you guide them with wisdom and strength and discernment.

We also pray for the people in our nation and the nations of the world to be humbled and turn to you in repentance and faith. We know you are the Prince of peace, Lord of lords, the King of kings. We praise you for your goodness and your mercy. And we ask this all in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

## You are SYBA!

### **Our Mission**

Our Mission is to Serve & Equip Our Churches to Fulfill the Great Commission.

### **Our Vision**

Our vision is to serve our South Yadkin Baptist Association churches so they fulfill the Great Commission. We aspire to design services and tools specific to their needs to equip them to serve Christ effectively, fulfill their calling to disciple and reach those unchurched in our community. We aspire to bring value to our churches and help them to be a do all that God has called of them for His kingdom.

### **Our Values**

Our five values of the South Yadkin Baptist Association define the way we do ministry together as a network of churches. The drive behind our values is a solid faith in the Lord Jesus Christ to fulfill our calling to serve, equip, encourage and care for our churches, pastors and their staff.

### **Partner in Prayer**

We encourage and pray for our pastors, churches and unchurched friends through planned events and systems to pray corporately, in small groups and through our prayer network.

### **Encourage Pastors**

We appreciate our pastors and will give care, personal visits and consistent contact with associational leaders to affirm their ministry in the local church.

### **Do More Together**

We engage our churches in relationship with each other to network on initiatives to build the body of Christ and proclaim the name of Christ in our community and wherever God leads.

### **Help Fulfill Ministry Needs**

We help, provide and assist churches with resources to fulfill their mission and help them minister to needs.

### **Mobilize to Share Christ's Love**

We mobilize churches to share the gospel with unchurched friends in our community, some of whom will accept Christ as Savior.

STAY CONNECTED:

