

SACA NEWS

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DYING FOR CHANGE

I'm going to let you in on a little secret... I'm not a big fan of change. There is something dependable and orderly about keeping things the same, especially when they suit our preferences. Case in point, my preferred deodorant and toothpaste have become exceedingly hard to find - near impossible! Was my response to adapt and find new personal items? Nope. I have exhaustively searched stores throughout the southeast and online sites to hoard these items. Seems reasonable, right? My precious wife shakes her head and wonders if science may someday find the cure for what is clearly wrong with me.

Jokes aside, here is our brand-spanking-new address for the Southern Advent Christian Association! Please record this and make all necessary changes to your personal address books.

SACA

PO Box 2135

Garner, NC 27529

To battle rising costs and in an effort toward better stewardship, SACA will now be renting office space from a local Advent Christian Church. I am truly grateful for this opportunity and see many mutual advantages. God has certainly provided, and I think his leading is clear. One sticking point, though... I do not like change. But change is sometimes essential and often exactly what the Lord desires of us. Judging by current trends in church health, I am not alone in my dislike of change, and the church is pay-

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Ministry Happenings ...

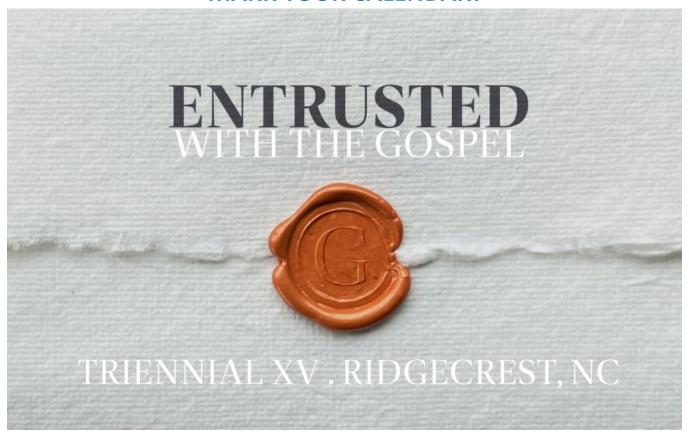
Lees Union AC Church, Four Oaks, NC, hosted a 5th Sunday Sing on October 30th. All Advent Christian Choirs/Groups/ Individuals were invited to sing and worship and praise God through song.

Lees Chapel AC Church, Four Oaks, NC, held a Trunk or Treat Event on Saturday, October 29th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Fun was had by all with games, candy, hayrides and a free hot dog meal.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Join us in the North Carolina mountains

To chart our future for tomorrow's Advent Christians

Triennial Convention: August 7-11, 2023

Ridgecrest Conference Center, Ridgecrest, NC

Lodging and meals available through Ridgecrest Conference Center

Who should attend the Triennial Convention?

AC Pastors, AC Church Delegates, AC Conference Delegates, AC Regional Delegates and AC Lay Leaders are strongly encouraged to attend. The voices of our leaders are vital to moving forward as a denomination. Please include your families in your plans as Ridge-crest joyfully accommodates all ages.

ing a tragic price for resisting new approaches to ministry.

According to churchanswers.com, one of the leading ministries addressing church growth and health in the United States, 56% of evangelical churches are in decline with another 9% plateaued. Only 35% of evangelical churches show growth. If you are curious to know why nearly two-thirds of churches show signs of being seriously sick and many are dying, the number one culprit is an unwillingness to change. When faced with the challenges of trying to reach an increasingly resistant generation with the message of the revolutionary gospel of life only in Christ, very nearly two-thirds of our evangelical churches stubbornly refuse to adapt their worship style or presentation of the unchanging truth. Please do not misunderstand. This is not a call to alter or water down the truth of the gospel, may God forbid! But as followers of Jesus Christ, the Jesus who found a way to adapt his message to engage every diverse group of people he encountered, we are most certainly called upon to do the same. When Jesus uttered the Great Commission to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations," (Matthew 28:19a), he gave us a mandate, a purpose, a reason for existence! As our congregations make efforts to reach this generation, just as Jesus said we must, please ponder why you resist changes in worship styles, service times, fresh outreach events, and budget realignment. If our reasons begin with the words, "I like...," "I prefer...," or "But we have always...," it is time to ask ourselves some essential questions about whether God is more interested in our preferences, or our commitment to our message and mission.

Rev. Joe Pritchett



New SACA Address:

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Garner, NC 27529

Ministry Happenings ... (continued)

Lees Chapel AC Church, Four Oaks, NC, also held its Annual Harvest Sale on Saturday, October 15th. They had Bar-B-Que pork and chicken plates with all the fixings. They also had an auction of crafts, quilts and baked goods.

Minton Chapel AC Church, Kite, GA, held a Under the Stars Movie Night Sunday, October 30th at 5:00pm. Hamburgers and hotdogs were served with chili and more. They also had a fire pit set up to make s'mores. The movie watched was Play the Flute!

Northside Community Church, Knightdale, NC,

serves their community by Adopting A Highway. The church picked up litter and debris along N. First Avenue on Saturday, November 12th.



Beachville AC Church, O'Brien,

FL, sponsored The Diane Osburn Memorial Gospel Music Fest on November 11-13 at Ellie Rays RV Resort, Branford, Florida. It was a great success.







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Coming Events...

November 20 World Hunger Offering

November 24 Thanksgiving

December 25 Christmas Day

Philippians 1:4-6

⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.