

## **Announcements July 1, 2023**

### **FOI PROJECT – RALEIGH AND HICKORY**

For our next FOI project, we are asking for participation in a food and personal care item donation drive for Interact, a charitable organization that provides shelter and aid to victims of domestic violence. Interact is "dedicated to ending the cycle of domestic and sexual violence in Wake County North Carolina" by providing 24 hr crisis lines, emergency shelter, court advocacy, counseling, children's services, as well as other services. Among some of the most needed items are:

- Toilet paper (small packages of 2 - 4 rolls)
- Paper towels (small packages of 2 - 4 rolls)
- Ready to eat meals (such as Hormel compleats, ramen noodles, etc)
- Healthy individually wrapped snacks
- Canned fruit
- Cereal
- Jelly

They say they do not need canned vegetables. We were told they prefer the donations to come in plastic shopping bags, since they are able to put these bags to good use as well.

More details on Interact are provided on the information table at the back.

If you want to participate, Kathleen and Veronica Taylor will be collecting donations in Raleigh through July 8, and Amanda Shaver and Diane O'Brien will be handling this in Hickory. If you have any questions, please ask your local FOI Coordinators. Thank you so much in advance!

### **HILLTOP PROJECT – GREENSBORO**

Our FOI Coordinators, Karen Dolby and Brandy Brinkley, are looking for volunteers who would like to help with a new "Hilltop" FOI project.

The plan is for us to submit an application to FOI for a Hilltop Assistance Grant in the amount of \$500.00 to help the Randolph County Crisis Center.

This is an organization that helps women, abused children, and other groups.

The grant money from FOI would be used to help with the purchase and assembling of school supply kits, as well as household item kits.

In order to apply for a Hilltop Grant, we need 5 or more volunteers to agree to assist with this project.

Karen says this organization helps many people every year and that it is a worthy cause.

If you would be interested, or would like more information before you decide, please contact Karen and Brandy letting them know.

### **WHITEWATER RAFTING TRIP**

**Campout and Rafting the Ocoee** - Announcing the 2023 Ocoee White Water Rafting Trip. Ready for adventure and adrenaline? The Atlanta and Gainesville congregations are hosting a white-water rafting trip on July 30<sup>th</sup>. We will be rafting the Ocoee River through a beautiful gorge in the Tennessee National Forest. This river is famous for waves and beautiful scenery. We will be doing a half day trip with a cost of approximately \$50/person. No experience is necessary and is open to everyone age 12 and up. There is also camping Friday – Sunday with a bible study on Saturday before the Sunday rafting for those interested. A flyer with additional details is available. RSVP to Jeff Yost now ([jeff.w.yost@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.w.yost@gmail.com) or 503-329-6751) to reserve your spot or if you have any questions. Hope to see you on the river on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **JAMAICA FEAST?**

The Feast site in Jamaica is still open and able to accommodate many more members from outside the island. Those interested can go to the Feast website for Jamaica and follow the instructions there.

## **FESTIVAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Please announce as needed, beginning on June 10, 2023:**

Each year many faithful brethren donate extra funds from their Festival tithe so that other needy members can receive the financial assistance they need to attend the Feast of Tabernacles. Last year these generous contributions enabled nearly 135 people to attend the Feast who would have been unable to attend otherwise. The Church recognizes its responsibility to see that those contributions are distributed fairly and equitably.

If you have faithfully saved your Festival tithe and will still not have sufficient funds to attend the Feast this year, we will be happy to help where we can. If you think you will need additional funds to be able to attend the Feast this fall, please contact our local Festival adviser, \_\_\_\_\_, or your pastor to get a Festival Assistance Member Information form. Complete the form and return it to your pastor or Festival adviser as soon as possible. (All information on the form will be treated as confidential.)

Ministerial Services has asked us to have all assistance applications turned in by July 10, so please pick up the form and return it to your congregation's Festival adviser or your pastor as quickly as possible.

Again, Festival financial assistance is available for those who do not have adequate funds to attend the Feast even though they have faithfully saved their Festival tithe.

## **As a reminder...YOUR 2023 FESTIVAL ADVISORS**

Raleigh – Wesley Wood

Greensboro – Roger Robertson

Hickory – Mike Dial

If you have any questions or problems with any Festival issue including housing or transportation, please don't hesitate to contact your local Festival advisor.

## **TRIP TO ISRAEL IN 2024?**

### **FI Exploring Possible 2024 Israel Trip**

Foundation Institute is currently exploring the possibility of a travel education tour to Israel in the spring of 2024. The trip would take place from May 28 to June 4, 2024.

The trip would follow an itinerary similar to those of our past Israel trips, starting in the northern part of Israel and ending in the city of Jerusalem.

We would tour on an air-conditioned coach with a professional Israeli guide and historian. Sabbath services would be held in the city of Jerusalem. At this point, we are planning for a group of 45-50 participants, depending on interest.

The group would likely fly out of New York City on Tuesday, May 28, and return on Wednesday, June 5.

We cannot yet lock in airfares for 2024, so we can't announce an exact cost of the trip, but we expect that the double-occupancy price would be around **\$3,500** per person (to include airfare, hotels, two meals a day, site entrance fees and other costs associated with the trip). We estimate the single-occupancy price would be around **\$4,500**.

If you are seriously interested in participating, please fill out this form within the next two weeks: [2024 Israel Trip Interest Form](#). This is *not* a registration form. It is only to help us determine the level of interest for planning purposes. Once we verify the costs and determine if there's sufficient interest to move forward, we'll provide more details and make an official registration form available.

We hope you will consider this exciting opportunity!

### CHECK INFO TABLE

Please don't forget to check the information table for print-outs of various announcements and the weekly blog. **Also remember we have cards to sign for those who are on the prayer request list.**

### RALEIGH PHONE HOOKUP:

**Raleigh Phone Hookup** – If you ever have to miss Sabbath services you can call in to a central number and connect to the live phone hookup via FreeConferencing.com. At 1:30 pm you need to dial the conference number and then enter the participant access code, and that should connect you. The dial-in number is: **(667-770-1428)** The participant access code is: **539955#**. If you have any questions please contact Julius AungMin.

### RALEIGH ZOOM VIDEO CONNECTION

Meeting ID: 862 858 5810

Passcode: cogwanc (all lower case)

Link to join is below:

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#) or

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8628585810#success>

### ACCESSING OUR LOCAL MEMBERS WEBSITE

The website is:

<http://greensboro.cogwa.org/>

Then you will see a small place in the upper right hand corner of the page to enter in a user name and password:

Login: (see Mr. Kelley).