



# Carolina Connection

A quarterly publication connecting Baptist Secretaries across North Carolina

SUMMER 2020 Volume 37, Issue 3

Edited by Myra Phillips

You know what it feels like...those days when you are battling the effects of a poor night's sleep and everything seems to require too much effort. Today is one of those days. But I had determined that I would take care of my newsletter responsibilities today since I was not scheduled to work, so here I sit at my dining room table trying to write this article. I'm staring out the window, waiting for the inspiration to come...

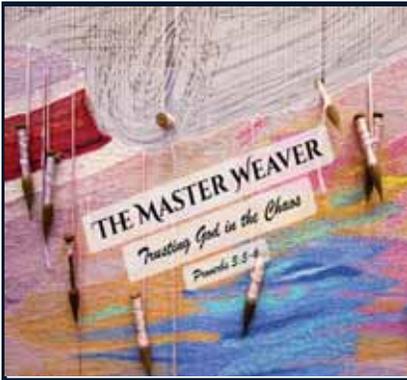
It is a cool, dreary day and it's now drizzling outside. Ordinarily I love days like this when I'm confined to being indoors, have no pressing housecleaning chores and can cross-stitch, but today it isn't the same. Today, I'm struggling; with family concerns and church concerns, not to mention concerns over the problems in our state, country and world. My mind is full and my heart is heavy. (Mind if I take some personal privilege and be transparent, please?)

Now, I'm a mature Christian and have learned that feelings come and go, and emotions aren't to be trusted. Tomorrow is a new day and I will most likely feel better. On days when I "feel" like I do today, I know from experience that, if I let myself, I'll head right down the path that Satan wants me to, having a nice little pity party along the way. Knowing myself like I do, I know just what I need, because I've been here before...many times! So I head into my sunroom, grab my bible and encouraging devotionals, and then turn up Christian radio nice and loud! Also, on days when I "feel" like I do today, I have trouble praying, if I can be honest, and rely on simply saying, "Father, you know how I'm feeling and that I need you; I need to feel you today!" Then I go for a walk, sometimes listening to a favorite bible teacher or just reciting memorized verses like Proverbs 3:5-6 and simply praying scripture. I have to say, this is one of my all-time favorites and I cannot think about it without seeing in my mind's eye my 2-year-old grandson reciting it: "Trust in the 'Ward' with all your heart and lean not on your understanding. In all thy ways "technology him" and he will all direct thy paths." That puts a smile on my face and everything in perspective!

We live in a world of uncertainty, maybe now more than ever, and it can be scary and daunting. And if your personality thrives on perfectionism – as mine does – and you have difficulty relinquishing control (more transparency), well, the struggle can be even harder. Yet if we have walked closely with the Lord any length of time, we know who holds all things. We can recall His faithfulness through past uncertainties and trust He is the same yesterday, today and forever and will not leave us now. When we tune our ears to the voice of the Lord and choose to take Him at His word, trusting His ways despite not understanding them, then we can let our minds relax, knowing He's in control no matter how it seems. When we consciously make the choice to give Him our trust and relax our grip on perceived control, the blessing we find on the other side is that He gives us peace. Perfect peace. Sweet peace. Thank you, Jesus!

Thank you for making it through what became more of my journal than a newsletter article! I feel better! Hopefully, I haven't discouraged you along the way. Before I wrap up though, I need to say one more thing. I'm sure most of you are seeing and hearing the same things I am: Covid numbers on the rise in N.C. and the potential threat for yet another round of the virus on the horizon. You've heard about Ridgecrest being for sale and wondering what this means for us. For now, I can tell you that my contact at Ridgecrest assures me they will honor all existing contracts, and for that, we are thankful, and looking forward with great anticipation to a wonderful reunion of old and new friends in the beautiful Western Carolina mountains. We are planning for speakers that will bless your hearts and encourage your spirits; make your sides hurt with laughter and send you back home with more knowledge and a renewed sense of purpose. All that said, we understand only the Lord knows what the future holds and, although we are expectant and excited, we are also realistic that, in these uncertain times, things may change. And if they do and we are forced to cancel the conference, we will all be disappointed, but we'll be able to rest in the knowledge that our God is sovereign, He is good, He can be trusted and, as I saw on a church sign just yesterday: "This too shall pass." God Bless and Keep You!

*Karoline*



2020 NCBSA Conference

November 2-4, 2020

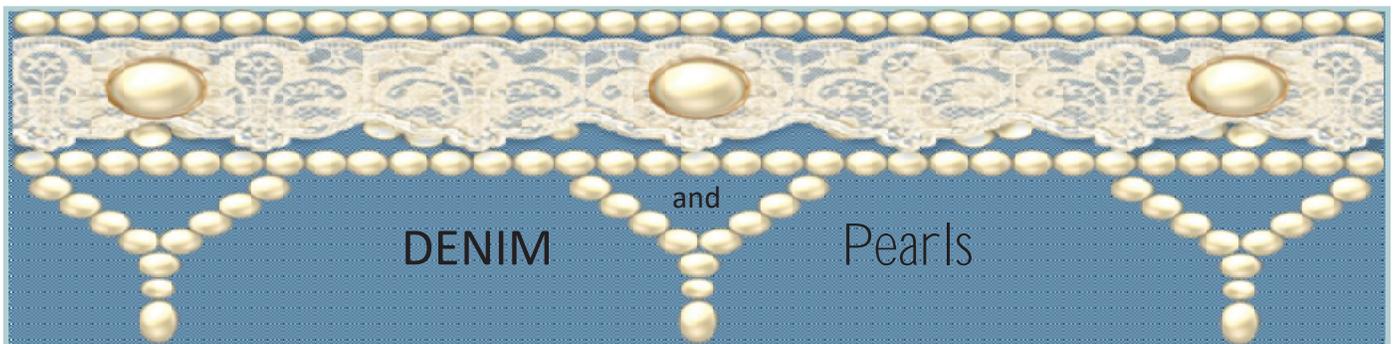
Ridgecrest Conference Center

1 Ridgecrest Drive

Black Mountain, NC 28711

*Proverbs 3:5-6*

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



**The great debate: Do I dress up for the “Banquet” or can I come casual?**

This year, your Executive Committee decided to take away some of your distress. For 2020, we are losing the “Banquet” name for our Tuesday evening meal gathering. Instead, we will be having a true Southern buffet with our favorite foods and are calling it “Denim and Pearls”. We will be reminded of many ‘pearls’ of wisdom found in God’s word and about the durability of ‘denim’-an example of how God’s love endures, and how we are called to persevere in our love for God and others. We’ll highlight the blessings and challenges of persevering, like ‘denim’, while seeking God’s ‘pearls’ of wisdom which He promises to all those who ask Him. In keeping with that theme, we would like for you gals to show up in what else but Denim! Maybe just a Denim Jacket, or Denim Jeans, or a Denim Skirt, or Denim Shirt or Dress...you get the idea!

**But don’t forget a southern girls favorite accessory, PEARLS!**

## One-on-One Time with Davis Blount

Davis Blount, our Compensation + Benefits Services Rep (BSCNC), will be available for one-on-one consultations during Tuesday afternoon free time from 2pm – 4pm. This time is being made available for Davis to answer questions regarding **individual** finances, retirement, and / or insurance, so breakout sessions can focus more on the needs of the church and / or pastors & staff. These sessions will be 20 minutes each and appointments will be made on a first come first serve basis, so sign up now to reserve your spot. To do so, please email Janette: [janette@burkemontbaptist.org](mailto:janette@burkemontbaptist.org)



Greetings, my sister friends!

I trust you are doing well amidst our “new normal,” as I’ve heard it called. I just wanted to take this opportunity to update and encourage you concerning the conference. We have been assured that, should Ridgecrest cancel large gatherings and therefore our conference, we will most certainly receive our deposit back. This will mean, of course, that we will refund your deposits, less the membership fee, unless we hear otherwise from you. Registrations are somewhat slow coming in and I hope this encourages you to submit yours as soon as possible so we can get a head count and also ensure we have adequate funds for the conference. The executive committee sincerely appreciates your prayers and support. God bless!

Karoline



### *Meet our Speaker.....Joy Earle*

This is me, Joy Earle and in my own words..... I have been sharing my life stories since I was a child. I consider laughter a life celebration, and offering that to an audience is a lifelong dream come true. I am a daughter, sister, wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother “Gaga,” and friend. I am deeply invested in every area of my life, and should you ever be part of this circle of love, you will hear a story or two about yourself, so be careful. My facial expressions put me in a lot of trouble growing up in Kentucky. I was asked by a teacher, “Are your eyes loose in your head? They keep rolling!” Yes, the “Joy Earle eye roll” should have been patented long ago; it is a trademark if I ever had one. Those facial expressions now grace platforms across the country, and as of yet no one has asked if my eyes were not attached! The truth, my truth, is that life has given me my best stories; you can’t make this stuff up! I will never tire of finding the funny in every bit of it and sharing it with the world. I hope we will meet in the near future to celebrate the funny together.

You’re welcome!

Joy is a big ray of sunshine packed into the disguise of a human being. I’ve known her for YEARS and her humor is authentic & universal. She loves Jesus & people. I know you’re gonna fall in love with her, too. *Anita Renfro*

Joy is drop-dead funny. You will start laughing the minute you see her. *Jeanne Robertson*

## DURING BONUS TIME...



we certainly encourage EVERYONE to have their picture taken! When you are photographed your name will be entered in a drawing for a very nice gift. (Last year, Angela Cockerham won a new Tablet!) Additionally, when you return home from a wonderful conference, it is a great help to be able to flip through and remember those that you met, and to put names with other ladies that you saw but did not meet. This is a free service that will again be provided by **Remember Church Directories.**

WOMEN  
mentoring  
WOMEN



## Be a Mentor!

We need several current members to prayerfully consider saying "YES" to mentoring our First Timers.

### Mentor Guidelines

- Call your First Timer before the conference to introduce yourself and give encouragement
- Exchange cell phone numbers, as well as email addresses
- Let your mentee know the officers will give her a map and other important information at check-in
- Plan and invite her to meet you at the First Timer's class before it starts to get acquainted
- Answer any questions she may have before, during and after the conference. If you don't know the answer, find out and get back to her.
- During the conference, be sure to check in with her to make sure all is well.
- Introduce her to others

# REGISTRATION

## "Thank you!"

... to everyone who has already registered for the conference! We look forward to seeing you in November. If you have not yet registered, there is still time. A \$50 deposit will hold your spot with final payment due by September 30. If you are unable to attend this year, please remember to still send in your annual membership dues of \$30. This helps cover administrative costs of the NCBSA.

First Timers



A special hello to all of our First Timers! We are so glad you will be joining us at Ridgecrest this year and can't wait to see how the Lord is going to work in and through each of your lives. We all remember how excited and nervous we were when we were First Timers. To help channel that excitement and calm those nerves, you will be assigned a mentor who will help you get acquainted with the facility and be on hand to answer any questions you may have. There will be a brief orientation class for all First Timers on Monday afternoon at 2pm. This class will give you a great overview of what to expect throughout the conference. We can't wait to see you there!

**NAME**

Please **CIRCLE** the sessions you plan to attend...Mail with registration form to:  
Janette Harris or send electronically to: [janette@burkemontbaptist.org](mailto:janette@burkemontbaptist.org)

<b>*** First Timer Orientation: Monday at 2:00 pm ***</b>				
<b>Breakout 1 Monday 4:30 – 5:30 pm</b>	<b>Breakout 2 Monday 6:45 – 7:45 pm</b>	<b>Breakout 3 Tuesday 10:00 – 10:55 am</b>	<b>Breakout 4 Tuesday 11:00 – 12:00 pm</b>	<b>Breakout 5 Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00 pm</b>
<b>Spiritual Enrichment</b>				
<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Trusting the Lord No Matter What</i>  Karen Scoggins	<i>Who Are You Acknowledging with Your Life?</i>  Karen Scoggins	<i>Reigniting Your Quiet Time</i>  Joel Stephens
<i>The Master Weaver's Desire</i> Phyllis Foy	<i>The Master Weaver's Desire</i> Phyllis Foy	<i>Gospel- Centered Grief</i> Nathan Brooks	<i>Gospel- Centered Grief</i> Nathan Brooks	<i>Anchored: The HOPE of Heaven</i> Nathan Brooks
<b>Professional Development</b>				
<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>  Russell Schwab	<i>Reducing the Risk</i>  Joel Stephens	<i>TBD</i>
<i>How Can My Church Help with Medical Insurance?</i>  Davis Blount	<i>Tax &amp; Law Changes that Affect Churches</i>  Davis Blount	<i>Is My Church Properly Insured?</i>  Davis Blount	<i>How Can My Church Help with Medical Insurance?</i>  Davis Blount	<i>How Can My Church Help with Medical Insurance?</i>  Davis Blount
<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>  Lai Salmonson	<i>Quickbooks</i>  Marlene Houk	<i>Quickbooks</i>  Marlene Houk
<b>Personal Effectiveness</b>				
<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Did You Just Eat That?</i>  Brian Sheldon	<i>Did You Just Eat That?</i>  Brian Sheldon	<i>Food Safety in the Kitchen</i>  Brian Sheldon
<i>There's an Addict in the Family</i>  Debbie Fisher	<i>There's an Addict in the Family</i>  Debbie Fisher	<i>Hurting People Hurt People</i>  Joel Stephens	<i>Health Maintenance for Women: What, When and Why?</i> Dr. Lara Pons	<i>Health Maintenance for Women: What, When and Why?</i> Dr. Lara Pons
<b>Bonus Time – Tuesday – 2:15 – 5:00 p.m.</b>				
<i>Let's Go Shopping!</i>	<b>2:15 pm - Yoga</b>  Karoline Overby	<i>One-on-One Consult</i> Davis Blount (By appointment only)	<i>Directory Photos</i>	

# NCBSA 2020 BREAKOUT DESCRIPTIONS

## *Spiritual Enrichment*

**Karen Scoggins**

**Speaker & Pastor's Wife, First Baptist Church of Hendersonville**

***"Trusting the Lord No Matter What"***

Are you trusting the Lord with the timing of events in your life? Do you worry or trust the Lord when you don't know what to do? Are you good at handing everything over to God and not holding back? Come, open the Word, and let's see how we can become woman who truly Trust God.

***"Who Are You Acknowledging with Your Life?"***

In our study we will look at how to have a life that acknowledges God, and what steps we can take to make sure that happens.

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**Joel Stephens**

**Associate Pastor of Discipleship, Hopewell Baptist Church**

***"Reignite Your Quiet Time"***

"Trusting God in the Chaos" is a difficult thing to do unless your relationship with Him is fresh and strong. Reignite a passion for your daily quiet time with God by learning to pray through the Scriptures.

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**Nathan Brooks**

**Lead Pastor, Glorieta Baptist Church**

***"Gospel-Centered Grief"***

Either suddenly or over time, everyone experiences it. In a world where "the wages of sin is death," grief is a given. How do we navigate grief, either unexpected or ongoing, through the lens of the gospel?

***"Anchored: The Hope of Heaven"***

Are you discouraged in your walk with Christ and His church? Join us as we look into Hebrews 6:19-20. We will learn what it means to have the hope of Heaven as an anchor for the soul.

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**Phyllis Foy**

**MSC Church Renewal Consultant, BSCNC**

***"The Master Weaver's Desire for You"***

A weaver wants the finest threads, the strongest cords; the fabric will be just what he can work with. Likewise, the Master Weaver has a plan to help us in our spiritual walk. With Colossians 2:1-5 as our guide, we will look at some ways we can grow in Christ as we allow Him to create the beautiful tapestry of our life.

## *Professional Development*

**Joel Stephens**

**Associate Pastor of Discipleship, Hopewell Baptist Church**

***"Reducing the Risk"***

The Church is (rightfully) under the microscope right now due to our failures to protect our children from predators. And in a world that has become engulfed in lawsuits, the Church needs to know how to protect Herself from false accusations of misconduct. Come get a comprehensive, industry-approved plan to help make yours a Safe Church.

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**Davis Blount, BSCNC**

**Guidestone Financial Resource Senior Consultant**

***"How Can My Church Help with Medical Insurance?"***

In this session, we will review the various tax savings arrangements that help small employers provide benefits to its employees, how to compare traditional medicals insurance plans, and the value insurance companies offer.

***"Tax and Law Changes that Affect N. C. Churches"***

In 2020, Congress has passed some major tax legislation, the SECURES and CARES Acts, that influenced many US small employers including churches. What are some of the end-of-the-year accounting and tax tasks financial administrators should consider?

***"Is My Church Properly Insured?"***

What is Property and Casualty Insurance, and is my church properly insured? This workshop will help you understand different types of insurances available to our local churches. We will review questions to ask when evaluating insurances, define terms used in the industry, and help determine if your church is properly covered.

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**Marlene Houk**

**Accountant, Quickbooks Software Consultant**

***"Quickbooks"***

Marlene will cover two areas in the class:

1. Discuss typical challenges of the church financial administrator in the areas of:
  - reconciling the bank statement
  - creating a new process in QuickBooks
  - understanding the accounting process
2. Answer specific questions about the church's QuickBooks Desktop or QuickBooks Online situations

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**Lai Salmonson**

**BSCNC, Webmaster & IT Services**

***TBD***

## Professional Development—cont'd.

Russell Schwab

BSCNC, IT & Services Systems Administrator

TBD

## Personal Effectiveness

Joel Stephens

Associate Pastor of Discipleship, Hopewell Baptist Church

*"Hurting People Hurt People"*

"Friendly fire" is one of the most hurtful and harmful things that can happen in a church; and it happens most often to the staff. You can't prevent it. You can't "fix" them either. But if you could understand them better, you might shield your heart against bitterness. "See to it ... that no 'root of bitterness springs up" (Hebrews 12:15).

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Debbie Fisher

Facilitator for Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PALS)

*"There's an Addict in the Family"*

There is hope for families struggling with the addiction of a loved one. In this session, Debbie will discuss family dynamics when there is an addict in the family, healthy ways for families and individuals to respond, practical steps to take and resources available to families.

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Dr. Lara Pons, MD, FAACP

*"Health Maintenance for Women: What When and Why??"*

Dr. Pons knows Jesus is the Great Physician and she wants to be His hands and feet. She will explore the types of laboratory and diagnostic tests women need for health maintenance and how often we need them. Do you have a nagging medical question? Come, ask Dr. Pons.

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Brian Sheldon

Ph.D., Professor Emeritus North Carolina State University;  
Departments of Food Science and Poultry Science

*"Food Safety in the Kitchen: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"*

Did you know that, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), foodborne disease is a problem? The focus of presentation will be on the five most important consumer practices and behaviors that have contributed to most foodborne illness outbreaks: poor personal hygiene, inadequate cooking, improper holding, contaminated equipment and cross-contamination. There is a solution to the food safety problem, and we as consumers can greatly reduce our risk by following some general rules to prevent foodborne illness in the home.

*"Did You Just Eat That?"*

If, like me, you've always been suspicious of hand dryers in restrooms, or worried about the transfer of germs when you pick up a menu in a restaurant, then this breakout session is for you. As one of the two co-authors of the recently published book "Did You Just Eat That", I will be presenting in a fun and entertaining way the findings of several years of research studies that explored the safety risks of some common food myths and fickle human behaviors. Before I examine these little morsels I want to first bring you up to speed on the mysterious microbial world by presenting some interesting facts on their diversity, populations and habitats, and benefits versus risks that they impose on us humans. With COVID-19 fresh on our minds, these tidbits of information might come in handy.

## Bonus Time

Tuesday, 2:15-5:00

*Let's Go Shopping!* – Teresa Almond will, once again, have plenty of items available for purchase on site. A portion of the proceeds will go toward our mission offering. And, of course, Black Mountain is just a short drive away!

*"Core Strength and Flexibility"* – Yoga is the perfect way to stretch and strengthen your entire body; improve balance, posture and range of motion; and, increase overall health and wellness. This is a 34-minute floor routine to strengthen the core and create supple flexible spine and hips. The routine is effective, yet gentle and easy enough for beginners. Please bring a yoga mat or towel, as this is a floor routine.

*One-on-One Consults* – By appointment with Davis Blount.

*Directory Photos* – Numbers were a little low at Caswell last year, so we're doing another directory. This will be the only opportunity to have your pic taken. There is no charge, and with a photo sitting, you will receive a free directory.

**Everyone loves getting a gift!** Be sure to bring a gift of your choosing to share!

We will be having drawings all during the sessions times, some at the beginning, some at the end, and

**You'll need to be present to win! So make sure you're there when your name is called!**



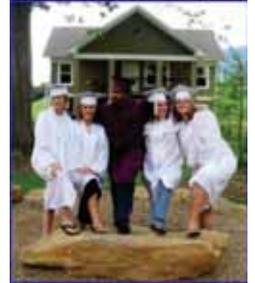
## Mission Emphasis



Our mission emphasis this year is Black Mountain Home *for Children, Youth and Families*, a private 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in Black Mountain, North Carolina.

The Home's mission is to glorify God by caring for children and families. They do this by seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit; seeing each child as a child of God who deserves to feel love, strength, and peace; and by bringing God's healing to these children.

Black Mountain Home serves children from birth through college graduation who have been abused, abandoned, orphaned or neglected. Most of these children have been removed from their homes by the court system because it is unsafe or unhealthy for them. Some stay for a short time, while others spend a considerable part of their growing up years at the Home. Last year Black Mountain Home served 156 children from 16 counties in Western North Carolina.



We will be receiving an offering at the conference as well as collecting the following items: diapers (varying sizes) and toiletries (shampoos, lotions, stick deodorant, toothpaste, etc.).

Please pray for this ministry and let God direct what you can do to support our Mission Emphasis collection for **Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth and Families**.

*Angela Cockerham*

### *Fellowship Time on Monday Evening*



We're not sure exactly how things will 'look' but the officers are planning to have a rotation of ice-breaker games for everyone to participate in. This is always a fun time to get to know some of the other ladies in a casual and relaxed atmosphere.

## 2020 Executive Committee



Karoline Overby  
*President*  
karolineoverby62@gmail.com  
336-407-8864

Myra Phillips  
*Second Vice President*  
mytphillips@gmail.com  
336-846-5631



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Janette Harris  
*Secretary/Treasurer*  
janette@burkemontbaptist.org  
828-437-2357



## 2020 NCBSA Conference November 2-4 at Ridgecrest

Name:

**TOTAL COST: \$225.00** (includes membership and conference fee, room at conference center, and meals).

Place of Employment:

**PRIVATE ROOM - additional \$109** (If you do not have a roommate in mind and do not want a private room, a roommate can be assigned to you.)

Mailing Address (work):

**COMMUTERS: \$160.00** (includes membership and conference fee, Monday dinner, Tuesday breakfast, lunch and dinner, Wednesday breakfast and lunch).

City, Zip

Work Phone:

**We encourage you to register early!**

Position:

A \$50.00 deposit, along with the completed registration form, reserves your spot.

E-Mail Address: (Required):

**Amount enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Installments are acceptable.**

**Final payment due September 30.**

Association:

**Make checks payable to NCBSA.**

**Mail to:**

Room mate(s):

**Janette Harris**

**c/o Burkemont Baptist Church**

Private Room (Enclose additional \$109):

**4668 Burkemont Road**

**Morganton, NC 28655**

Physical Needs:

Refunds for Cancellations

(excludes \$30 membership fee)

Food Allergies:

**Before July 31: 100% refund**

**August 1–September 30: 60% refund**

**After September 30: No refunds**

Is this your first time attending? \_\_\_\_\_

How many years attended? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you serve as a mentor to a First Timer?

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[NCBaptistSecretaries@gmail.com](mailto:NCBaptistSecretaries@gmail.com)

