414 Raleigh Road, Henderson, N.C. 27536
252-438-5132 252-673-7753
Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
www.rebuildinghopeinc.org
twille@rebuildinghopeinc.org

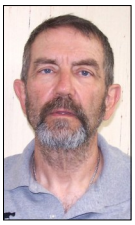
Newsletter

May 2026

Moms, Military and More, May Is A Month for Celebrations

The month of May – what a glorious time of the year. The flowers are up, the pine pollen has mostly moved on to its final resting places, we have celebrated Easter, had some grilled chicken and are currently looking ahead to all the celebrations afforded to us in May.

We must not forget many important days in May. On the 7th is the National Day of Prayer, a uniting day for the betterment of our country. Mother's Day, on the 10th, the day we as children should look to honor our mothers. Fathers (who automatically have a mom and live with a mother), you would do well to lead this time in your household!



Tom

Celebrate and Honor Military Heroes

Armed Forces Day when, since 1950, we have celebrated the current active-duty members of our military branches on the 3rd Saturday of May (16th). These are our current and future heroes.

This is followed closely by Memorial Day (25th) when we remember and honor the fallen heroes lost in service to our country, to whom we all owe much.

We should take our time and remember each of the above-mentioned days as a day that marks our history and touches our lives. There is one other day that we really need to stop and think about, however. As Christ followers it is a turning point of our faith. That occurs on the 14th of May and it is Ascension Day.

Ascension Day, Faith's Turing Point

Ascension Day commemorates the event recorded in Scripture wherein Jesus Christ physically ascended into heaven in the presence of His disciples. This observance typically falls on the 40th day after Resurrection Sunday (Easter). It highlights the moment Jesus was "taken up" and seated at the right hand of God, completing His earthly ministry and ushering in a new phase of intercession and sovereign rule.

See TOM, page 4

Mitch Smith, senior pastor at Sharon Baptist Church in Chinquapin, North Carolina, will be the guest speaker June 22-26 for SOS 2026. Also pictured, Mitch's wife, Kimberly.

Pastor from Chinquapin Speaker for SOS26

Mitch Smith, senior pastor at Sharon Baptist Church in Chinquapin, North Carolina, will be guest speaker for SOS 2026.

Born and raised in eastern North Carolina, he worked in his family business until he was called into full-time ministry in 2009. Mitch and his wife, Kimberly, have been married for 28 years and are dedicated to serving the Lord together in ministry.

"It is an honor and privilege to be invited back to preach during the week of SOS," Mitch says. "This ministry has always been very special to me and has fostered some of my lifelong friendships. I look forward to being in Henderson, North Carolina, soon and sharing the power of God's redeeming love and the strength He provides in Restoring Hope."

Mitch completed his undergraduate studies in Religion, with a minor in Christian Counseling, at Liberty University. He also earned his Master of Arts in Theology and Master of Divinity at the Liberty University School of Divinity.

See SOS, page 3

SOS Week — June 22-26; Registration Deadline Is May 1

To register, or for more information:
Information:
Visit our web site
Rebuildinghopeinc.org
Call or write
252-438-5132
twille@rebuildinghopeinc.org
Facebook
www.facebook.com/hendersonsos
Visit our office
414 Raleigh Road, Henderson
For scholarship information
info@rebuildinghopeinc.org

Equipment Available for Check-Out

RHI has equipment – like the game trailer pictured below – that churches and groups may check out for use in their projects. Call the office at 252-438-5132 or Randolph's cell at 252-425-5593. Available equipment:

Game trailer – Outfitted with all kinds of games to use in outreach.

Mobile kitchen – Snow cone, cotton candy and popcorn machines.

2 tool trailers – Equipped with all tools needed to build a wheelchair ramp.

Green Thumb Wanted

Have a green thumb and want to put it to good use? Rebuilding Hope needs a volunteer, a group of volunteers or club to maintain shrubbery and flower beds. We will furnish all materials and equipment. Call us at 252-438-5132 or 252-673-7753. Ask for Tom.

Appliances Accepted

RHI accepts some used appliances that are in good working order. The appliances include washers and dryers, refrigerators and electric stoves. Appliances that require repairs used furniture, household goods and clothing cannot be accepted.

Areas Where You Can Serve at RHI and Meet Needs in Our Communities

Painting Office Plumbing Electrical
AC/Heating Accounting
Carpentry/Framing & Finishing
Carpet/Vinyl Installation
Cleaning Computer Cooking
Drafting Drywall Doors
Welding/Sheet Metal
Evangelism Internet Organization
Ramps Reception Roofing
Siding Secretarial Telephone
Welding/Sheet Metal Windows Writing

Our Ongoing Needs

Prayer, Volunteers, Building Materials, Donations, Monthly Financial Support

Rebuilding Hope – Here to Help

To request help to build a wheelchair ramp or to make home repairs, visit our office where a volunteer will take your application. RHI does not take applications over the phone or make monetary awards. Depending on the type of work requested, RHI may require evidence of ownership of property. A landlord's permission for a wheelchair ramp is required.

While services are provided at no cost, donations from applicants are appreciated.

Donate Online to Rebuilding Hope

Rebuilding Hope has added a web site feature for supporters who prefer making tax-deductible donations online. Rebuilding Hope is a non-profit corporation and is 501c(3) approved.

Visit us at **www.rebuildinghopeinc.org.**

Online donations may be made to:

General Ministry for daily operations.

SOS (Students on Site) to pay registration fees or to contribute to the summer mission camp.

Memorial for a sympathy gift or a remembrance.

Our Monthly Newsletter

If you know someone who would enjoy our newsletter, let us know at **info@rebuildinghopeinc.org**.

We're online at **Rebuildinghopeinc.org**.

Follow us on **Facebook**.

Building Wheelchair Ramps: Answers to Your Questions

Churches, businesses and others, do you have groups like the one pictured above who can lend a hand and help us build wheelchair ramps? Your participation would help us all reach our communities for Christ

Here are answers to some questions you might have:

What preparations are made before work begins? Before work begins, an RHI volunteer will visit the job site and assess the owner's physical and spiritual needs. The volunteer will take measurements and draw a plan. Job sites are different and custom plans are necessary.

What about materials and tools? RHI will gather the materials and deliver them to the job site and provide tools, as needed.

Are building permits required? RHI will obtain the required permits.

Who will supervise and be responsible for the work? An experienced RHI crew leader.

How long does building a ramp take? Depending on the ramp (e.g., straight ramp or ramp with a landing) and the number of crew members, it's a day to a day-and-a-half job.

Where are job sites located? In all the communities we serve, but every effort will be made to assign work in the vicinity of your church.

Can work be scheduled on Saturdays? Yes.

For more information? Call 252-438-5132.

If you can help, we'll put you in touch with **Bill Overby** of West End Baptist Church, our team leader for Warren County. Or **Steve Timberlake** of Oxford Baptist Church, our team leader in Granville County. Or in Vance County, team leaders **Steve Lyles** of Raleigh Road Baptist Church, **Vann Wester** of New Bethel Baptist Church or **Morris Aycock** of Norlina Methodist Church. Or **Perry Faulkner** of Louisburg Baptist Church, our team leader in Franklin County. In Nash and Wilson counties, contact **Billy Layton** of Momeyer Baptist Church.

RHI's 2026 Calendar

Dates and events are subject to change.

May

1 – **SOS Registration Deadline**
Registration, with $50 deposit, Jan. 16-May 1, is $200 per participant.
10 — Mother's Day
25 — Memorial Day – RHI Closed

June

21 — Father's Day
22-26 — **SOS26**

July

3 — RHI Closed for Independence Day

August

3-5 — **Kids' Construction Camp**, 9 a.m.-Noon. For 3rd-6th graders. Call or email for more information.

September

7 — Labor Day — RHI Closed.
25 — **Fall Fundraiser**, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

October

No Events Scheduled

November

11 — Veteran's Day — RHI Closed
25-27 — RHI Closed for Thanksgiving
26 — Thanksgiving

December

7 — Volunteer Christmas Party
24-Jan. 1 — RHI Closed for Christmas & New Year's

Weekly Men's Prayer Group

You're invited to our weekly men's prayer group on Thursdays at 7 a.m. A light breakfast is served. A full breakfast is served on the first Thursday. Join us for prayer and Christian fellowship.

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.
Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)

SOS

From page 1

In 2019, Mitch strongly felt that the Lord was leading him to continue his education at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he is currently in the final writing stage of the Doctor of Ministry program in Church Revitalization.

Dedicated to his calling of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, he has a deep love for the local church and its potential when it embraces its biblical purpose of reaching the lost and equipping the saved to disciple others. His passion for the lost and commitment to the gospel is evident in his preaching, and Mitch firmly believes that the life-changing message of Jesus Christ is something to be excited about.

Happy 87th, Tom Hall

Fellow Rebuilding Hope volunteers help Tom Hall (seated) celebrate his birthday. Tom, a retired IBM system programmer and U.S. Navy veteran, turned 87 on March 29. A volunteer for about 10 years, he keeps the ministry's computers running. Ready to sample the cake along with Tom's wife Linda (also seated) are James Deans, Larry Leach, Cliff McClanahan, Robbie Parham, Brad Wetherington, James Bean, Dave Burns, Gail Wilson, Randolph Wilson and Walt Slaton.

How to Bring a Group to Rebuilding Hope

RHI has a number of volunteer opportunities throughout the year and will work with you or your group (youth or adult) to not only meet the needs of homeowners, but also to meet the needs of your group in its effort to put its faith into action serving others. We provide job locations and materials for hands-on experience and will arrange for one-day projects or projects for more than one day. Overnight accommodations can be arranged. E-mail us at rwilson@rebuildinghopeinc.org or call 252-438-5132 for more information or registration.

Volunteers Needed for Small Repair Projects

While teams of Rebuilding Hope volunteers build wheelchair ramps and replace roofs, requests for smaller and simpler repairs can't be immediately answered. The solution is teams that can spend a few hours repairing a ramp, a stoop, stairs or a door.

The projects are perfect for a men's group or a youth group. Groups can provide a much needed service. A group need not be church-affiliated to help.

The goal is to provide two projects each month to groups in the four counties served by Rebuilding Hope, Vance, Granville, Franklin and Warren.

Rebuilding Hope will provide the tools and materials for each job.

Call 252-438-5132 or 252-425-5593 and let us answer your questions and get you started.

Tom

From page 1

According to Acts 1:9-11, as His followers watched, "He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight," and two angels announced He would one day return in the same manner.

The Ascension declares Jesus' exaltation to a position of supreme authority at the right hand of God. In Mark 16:19, He "sat down at the right hand of God," symbolizing honor, power, and the fulfillment of messianic prophecy (cf. Psalm 110:1).

Following His Ascension, Christ's ministry continues through intercession for believers. Hebrews 7:25 and Romans 8:34 describe Him as the One who lives to make intercession, solidifying His role as both Savior and High Priest. Recognizing Jesus as the ascended High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-16) inspires confidence in prayer. Believers approach God with assurance of His understanding and eternal intercession.

Before ascending, Jesus instructed His disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit's outpouring (cf. Acts 1:4-5), an event ultimately fulfilled on Pentecost (Acts 2). The Ascension, therefore, sets the stage for the coming of the Spirit, empowering believers to proclaim the gospel worldwide. The Ascension underscores our mandate to carry on Jesus' work. Just as the disciples awaited the Holy Spirit and then spread the gospel, believers today are likewise commissioned to share the good news of Christ worldwide.

Ascension Day affirms a forward-looking expectancy: just as He went up, He will come again. This anchors our hope amid life's challenges and trials, fueling perseverance and joyful expectation.

Ascension Day stands as a pivotal celebration within the Christian faith. It not only marks the historical moment Jesus ascended to the Father's right hand but also symbolizes the climax of His earthly ministry, the inauguration of His heavenly reign, and the promise of His ultimate return. The records of this event in the Gospels and Acts, bolstered by reliable manuscript evidence and early church writings, confirm its central importance in Christian belief and practice.

For believers, the Ascension is a continuous reminder that Jesus, having conquered death and commissioned His followers, now reigns in glory, intercedes on our behalf, and will one day come again in the same manner in which He ascended.

In Christ Alone!

Tom

Appreciation

Thanks to all the churches, businesses and individuals who have supported and continue to support the Rebuilding Hope ministry. Without your support, meeting the needs of our communities would be impossible. Continue to pray for us as we reach our communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Scenes from the Spring Barbecue Chicken Dinner Fundraiser

Our spring fundraiser brought volunteers and friends together once again. We are thankful for all your support. Without your support, meeting the needs of our communities would be impossible. Continue to pray for us as we reach our communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ. "Rebuilding Homes, Lives and Hearts" is the mission to which God has called us. With humble hearts, we strive daily to be faithful to that calling.

Mark your calendars — Fall BBQ Chicken Fundraiser Friday, Sept. 25 — 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Volunteers (clockwise from top left) make the fundraiser-happen. Brad Wetherington, Charlie Flowe and Jason Abbott bag bread for the chicken plate orders; Roger Bibee stirs up a pot of his famous barbecue sauce; plates are filled with chicken, beans, potatoes, bread and dessert; Morris Aycock and Jason Abbot keep the beans coming; Terry Fain tends the main course; and cups of sauce for the dinner are filled.

Ketchup. Vinegar. Mustard. Worcestershire Sauce. Texas Pete. Red pepper. Sugar. For more than 15 years, Roger Bibee has swirled together those ingredients into a barbecue sauce for Rebuilding Hope's spring and fall fundraisers. The recipe remains a secret.