

## Happy New Year!



### **Beaverdam Baptist Association 1887 - 2016**

The roots of the Beaverdam Baptist Association reach back into the 17<sup>th</sup> century in the Baptist associations in Georgia and South Carolina. The first records we have of Baptist churches in this area tie them with the Sarepta, Saluda (Anderson County), Twelve-Mile River (Pickens County), and Mountain United Baptist Associations. The Tugaloo (GA) Baptist Association was formed from the Sarepta Association in 1819, with churches located in Georgia and South Carolina. In 1851, the Fork Baptist Association was formed of churches located between the Seneca and Tugaloo Rivers in South Carolina. However, not all the Baptist Church churches in what is now Oconee County were affiliated with the Fork Association.

The New Bethel Baptist Association was formed in 1881 of churches in the southern part of Oconee County and below the border in Anderson County. They had been in the Tugaloo and Saluda Associations.

The 35th annual session of the Fork Baptist Association was held at the New Westminster Baptist Church September 29-October 1, 1886. The 7th annual session of the New Bethel Baptist Association was held at the Beaverdam Baptist Church at Fair Play, SC, October 8-10, 1886. It was agreed that they would meet as one body at the New Bethel Baptist Church at Oakway, SC, on Thursday-Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1887.

***The Beaverdam Baptist Association met for the first time on Thursday, October 6, 1887, at the New Bethel Baptist Church, Oakway, South Carolina with 26 charter members.***

The first BBA office was established in 1967 and was run by Mrs. Jack Leard one day per week. In 1970 Rev. Sam Pittman was called as the **first associational missionary** and began work February 2, 1970. Sometime that year, the BBA office moved to its first permanent location on Evelyn Drive in Seneca, SC. In 1971 the association approved a plan to buy two acres on Hwy 123 for \$4,000 to build an office building. The construction began in 1972 and the building was occupied on June 2, 1973. The dedication services were held on July 29, 1973. The Beaverdam Baptist Association office remained at this location over 40 years.



Since the first associational missionary was called, only five other men have served in that role, which is currently known as the Director of Missions (DOM). They are listed here in order of service: Rev. Dan Ray, Rev. John Dent, Rev. Randy Keasler, Rev. Fred Astin and Rev. David Shirley. Interestingly Rev. Pittman oversaw the construction of the facility on Hwy 123, and current DOM, David Shirley, has overseen the sale of the present building and the purchase/renovations of the new facility in downtown Seneca.



As we prepare to transition to the new facility on 215 North Townville Street, it our hope that BBA will be better able to serve our churches and be relevant for many years to come. BBA will be able to host meetings, conferences, seminars and a Church Planting Center in the Event Center located on the first floor. The administrative offices, historical room and a smaller conference room will be located on the second floor.

***The Beaverdam Baptist Association has thrived in Oconee County for 128 years. Let's make 2016 the best one yet!***

## DOM Thoughts,

Let me begin by saying "Happy New Year" to each of you from your Associational Staff! It is my prayer that 2016 is a year in which we witness God do some amazing things across our county, state and nation.

I want to take this opportunity to update everyone on where we are with our new facility. After the bank accepted our offer on November 4<sup>th</sup> to purchase the new building we were given thirty days to do extensive inspections on the facility. Over the next few weeks we had specialist come in and inspect the HVAC units, the plumbing, electrical, roof, sprinkler system and elevator. Everything checked out wonderfully and the building received great reviews. Following the inspections we closed on the sale of our present facility as well the purchase of our new facility on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Following the closing our contractor (J. Davis Construction) had an architect begin work on the renovations that we needed for our new home. As I write this article we anticipate those drawing being approved by the Codes Department and the contractor expects to begin work on the building around December 21<sup>st</sup>. The target completion date is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Once we get everything moved and situated in the new building our Executive Committee is planning to hold a Grand Opening/Open House type event where we celebrate what God has provided for us as an Association as well as give our churches an opportunity walk through the new Beaverdam Mission Center.

We are so excited about the new home of the Beaverdam Baptist Association. The building was originally constructed as a bank and in 2009 was converted into an event facility - The Vault. The building underwent extensive renovations in 2009 that included all new electrical, new plumbing, new interior finishes, new elevator and numerous cosmetic improvements. The building is 100% handicap accessible and 100% wet sprinkled. The building is a two-story, 7,998 square foot mixed-use building. We will be utilizing the first floor of the building as a Conference Center/Church Planting Center. We, as well as our churches, will be able to use the space to host meetings, conferences and seminars. Following the renovation the Beaverdam Baptist Association offices will be located on the second floor of the building.

As I shared in last month's article I truly believe that with the Association making the decision to relocate to this new facility, the Beaverdam Baptist Association has

boldly proclaimed that we desire to be impactful and relevant for many years to come!

Finally, as we enter 2016, I want to remind everyone that registration is now underway for the **2016 Associational Pastors/Wives Weekend of Encouragement Retreat**. The retreat will take place on March 11-12 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Greenville. We are thrilled that **Dr. Richard Blackaby** will be our guest speaker. Those interested are encouraged to call the Beaverdam Mission Center (882-7070) ASAP to reserve your spot. The Hyatt has only given us a limited number of rooms. **February 17<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to register.**

Happy New Year,

*David*



### **Beaverdam Baptist Association**

**Serving (Churches)**

**Starting (Something New)**

**Strengthening (Revitalization)**

**Sending (Missions Partnerships)**

**Scattering (Making Disciples)**



**2016 Ministers/Wives Retreat  
"Weekend of Encouragement"  
March 11-12, 2016**

**Hyatt Regency, Downtown Greenville**

**Speaker: Dr. Richard Blackaby**

**Cost: \$250.00 per couple**

**If you have yet to register, please call 882-7070.**

**Deadline to Register is: February 17, 2016**



### **Ministers' Prayer Time**

All ministers are invited and encouraged to join prayer time at the Beaverdam Baptist Association at 8:30 AM every Monday morning.

## Beaverdam Mission Dollars at Work

	Nov 15	Jan - Nov 15
Beaverdam	210.00	3,620.86
Belmont	0.00	0.00
Bethel	179.00	2,131.00
Bethlehem	0.00	0.00
Bounty Land	407.74	5,187.10
Calvary	99.34	1,000.86
Chauga	64.91	699.67
Cheohee	200.00	2,200.00
Church at the Well *	0.00	550.00
Clearmont	255.68	3,417.58
College Street	691.52	9,053.38
Coneross	75.00	825.00
Corinth Seneca	0.00	1,200.00
Corinth Westminster	166.63	1,999.56
Cross Roads Seneca	226.00	1,243.00
Cross Roads Westminster	100.00	1,021.00
Damascus	0.00	391.51
Davis Creek	66.10	916.22
Earle's Grove	1,200.00	13,200.00
Ebenezer	0.00	1,000.00
Faith	146.00	1,477.91
Fants Grove	0.00	1,551.46
Golden Corner	0.00	0.00
Heart Land	112.00	1,523.00
Hepsibah	780.34	8,583.74
Holly Springs	332.00	5,230.79
Hopewell	209.46	2,510.43
Iglesia Bautista Bethel	0.00	0.00
Little River	0.00	0.00
Long Creek	139.00	1,574.00
Lydia	384.32	3,725.69
Maranatha	298.48	3,554.69
Monte Vista	25.00	275.00
Mountain Rest	523.57	7,339.25
Mountain View	0.00	875.00
Mt Freedom	100.00	1,000.00
Mt Pleasant	0.00	1,199.97
Mt Tabor	244.38	2,607.49
New Hope	0.00	3,982.24
Old Liberty	251.31	2,089.77
Open Door	208.33	1,874.97
Parkway	59.97	691.76
Pleasant Grove	0.00	1,346.85
Pleasant Hill	100.00	1,100.00
Pleasant Ridge	417.00	4,434.00
Poplar Springs	421.11	5,494.59
Puerta Abierta	0.00	0.00
Reedy Fork	223.96	2,202.81
Retreat	0.00	0.00
Return	626.65	5,883.93
Rock Hill	0.00	100.00
Rocky Knoll	591.20	7,348.80
Salem	0.00	5,000.00
Scenic Heights	278.31	3,307.49
Seneca	1,278.27	13,128.67
Shiloh	0.00	0.00
Snow Creek	0.00	1,092.42
Souls Harbor	125.00	1,375.00
South Union	125.24	1,828.20
Trinity	0.00	0.00
Utica	1,125.00	12,375.00
Walhalla	50.00	550.00
Welcome	0.00	1,941.28
West Union	72.17	352.00
Westminster	500.00	5,000.00
Westminster First	125.00	1,375.00
Wolf Stake	70.00	745.00
Total	13,884.99	177,304.94
General Fund		
Brought Forward		65,503.78
Receipts		13,884.99
Expense		12,143.39
Balance 11-30-15		67,245.38



### Staff Changes

**Calvary** has called Fred Astin as Interim Pastor effective December 13, 2015.



### Women's Bible Study Announced

Dixie Meeks will be leading "The Vision of His Glory" Bible Study by Anne Graham Lotz at the Beaverdam Mission Center. The study begins on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 and runs through Wednesday, March 2.

All ladies are invited to attend this study but you are asked to pre-register. There is a cost of \$10.50 for the workbook. Please call Dixie at 864-324-9010 or email to:

[Dixie.meeks@yahoo.com](mailto:Dixie.meeks@yahoo.com) to pre-register. Payment will be accepted for the workbook at the first class.



### Sanctity of Human Life Sunday Observed on January 17, 2016

The Southern Baptist Convention observes Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on the third Sunday in January. This date was chosen to both mourn the children lost to abortion since the Supreme Court handed down Roe v. Wade in January 1973 and remind us that there is much work to be done before all human life will once again be cherished in America. Host a pro-life speaker on that Sunday and allow local pro-life organizations to promote their work. A free bulletin insert can be downloaded at [www.ilivevalues.com/life](http://www.ilivevalues.com/life).



## 2015 Prisoner Pack Report

**Thank you to the 30 churches** of Beaverdam Baptist Association who participated in the 2015 Prisoner Packet Project. A total of 951 packets were collected. However; only 889 were taken to Columbia for the SC Department of Corrections distribution due to improper sizes of toothpaste and soap in the packages. This left us 111 short of our Association goal of 1000.

The remaining packets were delivered to the Oconee Law Enforcement Center for distribution.

Thanks to Ruby Roach and her team of Andrea Lyda, Kathy Swinney, Judy Cobb, Lisa Beebe, Gracie Beebe, Karen Gibson, Kayla Sanders and Charlie Ward for the time and effort they spent going through each packet by hand.

Special thanks go to Charlie Ward for transporting the majority of packets to Columbia and to Buddy Byars for taking packets to the Oconee Law Enforcement Center.

As you prepare for Prisoner Pack collections next year, please make sure ALL sizes meet the regulations of the State Department of Corrections so they may be used.



### Report from GA Fall Event

The GA's enjoyed bowling and fellowship on November 21. There were seven people in attendance from Mountain Rest Baptist Church. The girls were able to 'shop' in the Samaritan's Purse catalog to purchase clean water for people who do not have clean water to drink. They raised \$160 selling cookies at their church! Way to go girls!



## Beaverdam Baptist Association

### Staff

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January 2016

### Date

- 1 – New Year's Day - BMC Closed
- 4 – Ministers Prayer Time, BMC – 8:30 AM
- 6 – *Golden Triangle News* articles due
- 11 – Ministers Prayer Time, BMC – 8:30 AM  
– BBA Executive Board Meeting, BMC – 7:00 PM
- 17 – SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY
- 18 – Ministers Prayer Time, BMC – 8:30 AM
- 25 – Ministers Prayer Time, BMC – 8:30 AM

BMC = Beaverdam Mission Center, 1659 Sandifer Blvd

### Special Days in January

#### Staff Anniversaries:

- 1 – Randy Keasler, Westminster, 1994
- 1 – Laura Owens, Westminster, 2007
- 1 – Jimmie Rholetter, Souls Harbor, 2002
- 4 – James Webb, Heart Land, 2015
- 5 – Marty McKee, Coneross, 2003
- 8 – David Kelley, West Union, 2012
- 17 – Bart Kelley, Bethel, 2011
- 20 – Brian Buckner, New Hope, 2013
- 22 – Alan Adams, Parkway, 2012
- 22 – Shannon Owens, Rock Hill, 2014
- 26 – Mike Foster, Damascus, 2014
- 26 – Scott Lee, Golden Corner, 2015

#### Birthdays:

- 2 – David Shirley, DOM
- 3 – Ray Conway, College Street
- 9 – Kenny Owens, Westminster First
- 10 – David Wald, Mt Freedom
- 18 – Kenneth Hood, Walhalla First
- 23 – Palmer Keaton, Bethlehem
- 24 – Josh Farmer, Bounty Land
- 26 – Maurice Alexander, retired
- 31 – Shannon Owens, Rock Hill

#### Wedding Anniversaries:

- 11 – Greg & Debbie Marcus, Long Creek
- 16 – Rolando & Elizabeth Garcia, Iglesia Bautista Bethel
- 30 – David & Jackie Kelley, West Union

## Executive Board Meeting Monday, January 11, 2016 - 7:00 PM Beaverdam Mission Center

The Executive Board conducts the business of the association in the time between the annual meetings. It is important for every church to have a voice in decisions that are made.

If you have not already done so, please elect two people to represent your church and encourage them, along with the pastor, to attend the quarterly meetings.

Scheduled meetings for 2016 will be January 12, April 11, July 11, and October 3.