



BEAVERDAM
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

Golden Triangle News

VOLUME XLV

MAY 2023

NUMBER V

Men's Ministry Fellowship

At College Street Baptist Church
Tuesday, May 2 at 6:00 PM

Speaker: Rev. Jeremy Beauford
Meal: Salad and Baked Potatoes

\$4.00 donation at the door

Happy Mother's Day

May 14, 2023

From the DOM:

Dr. Thom Rainer is an author, researcher, speaker, and former president and CEO of LifeWay Christian Resources. Prior to LifeWay, he served at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for twelve years where he was the founding dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism. The following article was written by Dr. Rainer in June 2014.

“Dangers Of Denial in a Declining Church”

The word “declining” can have different connotations as it relates to churches. It can mean declining influence in the community, or decline in effective preaching, or decline in evangelistic impact. Most of the time, though not all the time, one of the symptoms of this decline is a numerical decline.

According to our best estimates, nearly nine out of ten churches are either declining, or they are growing less rapidly than the community in which they are located. In other words, the church is not keeping up with the community. Many of our congregations, plain and simple, are not in good health.

A few months ago, I wrote about my obesity, and my determination to do something about it. Do you know what one of my key problems was? Denial. I did not want to admit I was obese. I did not want to look in the mirror. I did not want to see photos or videos of me. I wanted to avoid thinking about my unhealthy state through denial. And that denial led me to continue down the path of doing nothing about it.

Many church leaders and members are in denial. They refuse to see the diminishing influence of their churches for the good of the Kingdom. So, they do like I did with my perpetual problem of bad health and obesity. They do nothing about it.

Denial is deadly. Denial means the problems are not addressed. Denial means more and more churches will be closing their doors. Though the manifestations are many, look at these ten key dangers of denial.

1. *The problems will only worsen*
2. *Future generations are forsaken*
3. *Leaders will have regrets*
4. *Churches will miss opportunities for solutions*

5. *There is no urgency for change*
6. *Maintenance ministries engender frustration and conflict*
7. *Churches in denial are usually disobedient*
8. *Many of these churches will tolerate open and flagrant sin*
9. *The church will eventually lose its best members*
10. *Comfort becomes an idol*

The need is great. The time is urgent. Denial and decline are a reality. But, in God’s power, there is always hope.

What Dr. Rainer wrote about on June 16, 2014 has become a sad reality across our nation. Dr. Rainer recently wrote, that today, estimates range from 5,000 to 10,000 church closings each year in America. As a result of these closings, some developing trends are now beginning to take place:

- More pastors than ever will be moving from full time to bi-vocational roles
- More churches will develop a foster relationship or merge with another church
- Some churches that cannot sustain their congregational health will be adopted by a stronger church
- Churches will start more churches, particularly “micro churches” (25-30 people)
- More churches will emphasize conversion growth (church growth has basically been transfer growth for the past 30 years).

The Beaverdam Baptist Association is committed to coming alongside churches and providing FREE church revitalization consultation. We have a trained team of pastors who are eager and willing to have conversations with your church offering recommendations that are designed to lead the church towards a healthier, more impactful future. If you would be interested in having a conversation about your church, I would love to hear from you. Churches may be in decline and closing all across the nation BUT as long as I have breath within me, I’ll trust in the One who designed the church and is also the Head of the church!

David

Church Contributions

	Jan-Mar 23	Jan-Mar 23
Beaverdam	138.88	502.33
Belmont	0.00	0.00
Bethel	276.00	425.00
Bethlehem	0.00	0.00
Calvary	63.32	217.90
Chauga	60.04	185.98
Cheohee	200.00	600.00
Clearmont	0.00	250.00
College Street	0.00	0.00
Coneross	75.00	225.00
Corinth - Seneca	0.00	0.00
Corinth - Westminster	0.00	0.00
Christ Fellowship*	0.00	0.00
Cross Roads - Seneca	480.56	680.22
Cross Roads - Westminster	100.00	300.00
Damascus	0.00	0.00
Earle's Grove	1,541.13	3,614.45
Ebenezer	883.96	1,883.48
Faith	0.00	192.40
Fants Grove	0.00	265.53
Golden Corner	0.00	1,500.00
Heart Land	139.00	341.00
Hepsibah	780.34	2,341.02
Holly Springs	638.45	1,674.92
Hopewell	574.08	2,326.04
Iglesia Bautista Bethel	0.00	0.00
Little River	0.00	0.00
Long Creek	174.00	522.00
Lydia	0.00	1,433.07
Maranatha	96.98	332.57
Monte Vista	25.00	75.00
Mountain Rest	836.12	2,804.15
Mountain View	100.00	300.00
Mt. Freedom	0.00	0.00
Mt. Pleasant	0.00	624.99
Mt. Tabor	191.85	612.60
New Hope	420.00	1,894.00
Old Liberty	219.65	701.99
Open Door	250.00	1,000.00
Pleasant Grove	169.64	443.26
Pleasant Hill	100.00	300.00
Pleasant Ridge	666.67	2,000.01
Poplar Springs	0.00	395.82
Puerta Abierta	0.00	0.00
Reedy Fork	325.07	944.81
Retreat	0.00	0.00
Return	878.39	2,790.07
Rock Hill	0.00	0.00
Rocky Knoll	397.19	1,304.42
Salem	0.00	1,249.97
Scenic Heights	0.00	3,600.00
Seneca	874.00	3,633.29
Shiloh	0.00	0.00
Snow Creek	0.00	1,382.96
Souls Harbor	145.00	435.00
South Union	192.04	461.24
Utica	1,273.15	5,154.77
Walhalla	0.00	150.00
Welcome	253.44	576.48
West Union	0.00	0.00
Westminster	1,000.00	1,500.00
Westminster First	200.00	600.00
Wolf Stake	0.00	292.00
Total	14,738.95	55,039.74
Total Income	14,738.95	55,039.74
*Watch care		

Church News

Staff Needs:

Cross Hill Fellowship is launching very soon in Westminster, SC. We are a Southern Baptist Church that firmly upholds the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. Currently we have a great need for the right man to lead our worship on Sunday mornings and for other special events. We are looking for a man called to Christian ministry through worship. A personal relationship with Jesus is absolutely required. The ability to play guitar and/or piano and sing is necessary. Our congregation loves a blended worship style. This is a building opportunity for the right man to build a God-honoring worship ministry from the ground up under the direction and leadership of the pastor. Anyone interested should contact Pastor Christopher Moss at 864-710-2760 or pastorclmoss@gmail.com.



DEEPEST SYMPATHY

The association sends Christian sympathy to Rev. David Kelley and daughter, Breanna, on the passing of David's wife, Jackie Kelley. Jackie passed away on March 31, 2023.

“Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord,
all the earth!
Sing to the Lord,
bless his name;
tell of his salvation from
day to day.
Declare his glory among
the nations,
his marvelous works
among all the peoples!
For great is the Lord, and
greatly to be praised!”

Psalm 96:1-4

National Day of Prayer

May 4 at Shaver Recreation Complex in Seneca

12:00-12:30 pm

South Carolina Baptist Ministry Assistants Association

May 5 at Camden First Baptist Church

Main Speaker: Lynn Cowell,
Proverbs 31 Ministries

\$50.00 / person

For more information and registration, visit scbmaa.org.

Beaverdam Baptist Association

Staff

David Shirley, Director of Missions,

bbadavid@bellsouth.net

Emily Anderson, Ministry Assistant,

bbaemily@bellsouth.net

Jackie Spearman, Custodian

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Phone: (864) 882-7070

Website: WWW.BEAVERDAMASSOC.COM

Golden Triangle News, USPS 383-610

Publication Office, Seneca, SC 29678

Published Monthly By

BEAVERDAM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

215 North Townville Street, Seneca, SC 29678-3227

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT SENECA, SC 29678

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Golden Triangle News,
215 North Townville Street, Seneca, SC 29678-3227



- 1 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM
- 2 – Men's Ministry Fellowship, College Street, 6:00 PM
- 8 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM
- 14 – Mother's Day
- 15 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM
- 22 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM
- 29 – Memorial Day – Office Closed

BMC = Beaverdam Mission Center
215 N Townville St, Seneca, SC

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- 5 – Mark Nelson, Old Liberty
- 5 – Steve Roberts, Pleasant Hill
- 20 – Mark Tannery, Westminster First
- 27 – Troy Nicholson, Pleasant Ridge
- 28 – Beverly Bowen, Corinth-Seneca
- 30 – Dillon Bolt, Return

Staff Anniversaries:

- 1 – Ryan Perry, Seneca, 2016
- 4 – Ronnie Wald, Snow Creek, 1997
- 7 – Rod Lyda, Cross Roads-Westminster, 2006
- 7 – Jerry Lyles, Welcome, 1989
- 24 – Scott Lee, Return, 2020
- 26 – Greg Marcus, Long Creek, 2008

Wedding Anniversaries:

- 10 – Gerald & Karen Towe, Ebenezer
- 18 – Todd & Deana Grant, Corinth-Seneca
- 21 – Ryan & Liz Perry, Seneca
- 21 – Tim & Michelle Sheriff, Poplar Springs
- 25 – Jimmy & Barbara Boggs, Ebenezer

Registration for Camp
La Vida and Camp
McCall is now available.



camplavida.org

campmccall.org