



BEAVERDAM  
BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION

# Golden Triangle News

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## WMU BRUNCH



February 10 at 9:30 am

College Street Baptist Church  
407 S College St, Walhalla

Special Guest Speakers from Foothills Care Center  
*An offering will be taken for Foothills Care Center.*

\$5.00 per person

Please register no later than Wednesday, February 7.  
Payment due to Beaverdam Baptist Association.



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## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING



February 12 at 7:00 PM



Beaverdam Mission Center  
215 N Townville St, Seneca

All pastors plus two church members make up the Executive Board.  
Each church is encouraged to participate.

From the AMS/DOM,

Next month, I will celebrate my 14th year of serving as the Director of Missions/ Associational Mission Strategists for the Beaverdam Baptist Association. Without a doubt, my time here has been one of the highlights of my 35 years in full-time Christian ministry. I remember the thoughts that I experienced in early 2010 when I was praying about leaving my position as Pastor of Mountain Creek Baptist Church in Greenville to become the director of missions of the Beaverdam Baptist Association. There were many questions. Was it God's will for my life? Would I still have opportunities to preach? Would I be able to help and encourage pastors who were facing challenging times? Was I qualified to consult and advise churches that were also facing challenging times? The questions were many and the prayers were genuine as I sought God's guidance and His will for my life and ministry.

I remember one phone call that I received from a friend in the ministry after it was announced that I had been called as the new director of missions for the Beaverdam Association. My friend told me "lovingly" that he would have never left the pastorate to become a DOM because most associations were dying and many others were mostly irrelevant. It was not the most encouraging conversation. Recently, I ran across an article written by Jason Lowe, who serves as the associational missions strategist for the Pike Baptist Association in southeastern Kentucky. He wrote the article for *SBC Life* and in the article, he addresses the perceptions that some have regarding the association today. Below is an excerpt from his article in *SBC Life*.

*The earliest Baptist associations were formed in 1707—that's 138 years prior to the formation of the SBC. In more recent years, Southern Baptists have questioned whether associations are still relevant to churches in the twenty-first century. The results of a 2017 study on the perceived value of Baptist associations were not encouraging:*

*When asked to describe the most exciting aspect of their association, the most popular answer among Southern Baptist church leaders was, "Nothing." When asked to describe the most frustrating aspect of their local Baptist association, two of the three most popular answers among church leaders were, "The association is irrelevant" and "Lack of association strategy, vision, or purpose." Only 58.5 percent of church leaders indicated that their church would be negatively affected if their local Baptist association ceased to exist.*

*However, I believe the perception of associations has been slowly but steadily improving in recent years. Why have churches suddenly become more receptive to their association?*

- 1. Associations are nimble. In other words, associations should be able to adapt to changing circumstances quickly.*
- 2. Associations are local. Every community has its own unique context. Associations can provide immense value to churches because they are a part of the same community and they understand the territory. There is great value in knowing that other churches in the area are facing similar circumstances.*
- 3. Associations are built on relationships. Because of the proximity to the churches in my association, I'm able to know many of their members by name. Pastors are able to get to know other pastors as well. Their wives get to know one another. Over the years, we've been able to develop a significant level of mutual trust. When a crisis hits, you often turn first to those you know and trust. This is one of the biggest reasons that the first call that many church leaders made was to their local association office and other churches within the local association.*
- 4. Associations can share resources easily. In the early days of the pandemic, churches responded in some creative ways. One of the most creative was to conduct drive-in services. As more and more churches began to explore this option, it became difficult to purchase short-range radio transmitters to broadcast worship services. Several churches in my association began to offer to share their transmitter with other churches who had not yet been able to purchase one. Again, this is much easier to do in a local association.*
- 5. Associations can help in a variety of ways. Associations provide assistance to their churches in a greater variety of ways than any other SBC entity.*

*Southern Baptists firmly believe that we can accomplish more for the Kingdom of God when we work together. The local association is one of the oldest examples of this belief in action. Associations have been around for more than three hundred years in North America, and I'm so thankful that they are still here for such a time as this.*

As we enter 2024, I want to thank you for the privilege of serving as the AMS/DOM for this association. I also want to challenge every pastor, every church staff minister, and every church to support the association as we strive to be an effective, relevant, and impactful example demonstrating what a group of committed leaders and churches can do together.

David

### **Executive Board Meeting**

Monday, February 12 at 7:00 PM  
Beaverdam Mission Center  
215 N. Townville St. Seneca, SC 29678

The Beaverdam Baptist Association Executive Board is made up of the senior pastor and two members-at-large from each church.

## Church Contributions

	Dec 23	Jan-Dec 23
Beaverdam	168.29	1,975.88
Belmont	0.00	0.00
Bethel	211.04	2,223.04
Bethlehem	0.00	0.00
Calvary	79.32	957.18
Chauga	48.63	788.80
Cheohee	200.00	2,400.00
Christ Fellowship	0.00	1,200.00
Clearmont	0.00	2,750.00
College Street	0.00	7,913.81
Coneross	75.00	900.00
Corinth	900.00	1,800.00
Cross Hill Fellowship	0.00	2,000.00
Cross Roads – Seneca	0.00	2,130.40
Cross Roads – Westminster	100.00	1,200.00
Damascus	0.00	0.00
Earle's Grove	1,080.05	13,037.68
Ebenezer	770.70	14,220.72
Faith	0.00	874.40
Fants Grove	0.00	1,056.27
Golden Corner	0.00	1,500.00
Grace	0.00	0.00
Heart Land	74.00	1,427.00
Hepsibah	780.34	9,364.08
Holly Springs	825.13	5,901.76
Hopewell	526.85	7,863.09
Iglesia Bautista Bethel	0.00	0.00
La Roca Oconee	0.00	0.00
Little River	500.00	1,000.00
Long Creek	165.00	2,061.00
Lydia	0.00	3,856.29
Maranatha	100.09	1,184.32
Monte Vista	25.00	300.00
Mountain Rest	1,901.57	11,235.85
Mountain View	200.00	1,200.00
Mt. Freedom	57.50	1,880.00
Mt. Pleasant	624.99	2,708.79
Mt. Tabor	396.63	2,987.97
New Hope	882.00	5,929.00
Old Liberty	204.06	2,526.35
Open Door	500.00	3,000.00
Pleasant Grove	93.00	2,027.18
Pleasant Hill	200.00	1,500.00
Pleasant Ridge	0.00	6,666.70
Poplar Springs	300.00	3,700.80
Puerta Abierta	0.00	0.00
Reedy Fork	0.00	3,691.72
Retreat	0.00	708.13
Return	690.96	9,498.55
Rock Hill	0.00	800.00
Rocky Knoll	664.16	5,648.25
Salem	0.00	5,000.00
Scenic Heights	0.00	3,600.00
Seneca	1,550.46	16,030.75
Shiloh	0.00	0.00
Snow Creek	0.00	1,382.96
Souls Harbor	145.00	1,740.00
South Union	179.38	1,797.97
Utica	4,772.69	21,000.10
Walhalla	0.00	150.00
Welcome	0.00	2,074.90
West Union	0.00	0.00
Westminster	1,000.00	6,000.00
Westminster First	200.00	2,400.00
Wolf Stake	0.00	1,333.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,191.84</b>	<b>220,104.70</b>
Other Contributions		
The Well		1,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>21,191.84</b>	<b>221,104.70</b>

## Church News

Jason Nalley resigned as family minister at **Bethel Baptist Church**.

**Cross Roads Baptist Church** (Seneca) called Kline Matthews as pastor.



The association sends Christian sympathy to the family of Marilyn Jones, who passed away on December 28, 2023.

Marilyn served in WMU for thirty years. Along with serving on the state WMU Executive Board, she served many roles in the association's WMU program, including WMU Director and Mission Involvement Director.



**Focus on WMU  
Sunday**

*February 18*

## Senior Adult Trip -Billy Graham Library-

Tuesday, March 12

*We will be traveling in a chartered bus provided by Ionosphere Tours*

### Cost

\$30 for individual

\$50 for married couple

### Itinerary

7:30 .... Meet at Seneca Baptist church parking lot

(rest area stop on the way)

11:00 .... Arrive at Billy Graham Library

2:30 .... Depart Billy Graham Library

3:30 .... Eat at Jackson's Cafeteria in Gastonia, NC

(meals are not included in the trip cost)

4:30 .... Depart Jackson's Cafeteria

6:30 .... Estimated arrival home

To register call the Beaverdam Mission Center at 882-7070.  
Payment is required at the time of registration. Cut-off date to register is February 5, 2024.

We have a second bus on stand-by, should we exceed the 56-passenger limit on the tour bus.

## Beaverdam Baptist Association

### Staff

**David Shirley** - bbadavid@bellsouth.net

**Emily Anderson** - bbaemily@bellsouth.net

**Jackie Spearman**

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

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# FEBRUARY



- 5 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM
- 10 – WMU Brunch, College Street, 9:30 AM
- 12 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM
- 12 – Executive Board Meeting, BMC, 7:00 PM
- 18 – Focus on WMU Sunday
- 19 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM
- 26 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BMC, 9:00 AM

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

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays:

- 6 – Bobby Holcombe, Return
- 9 – Marty McKee, Coneross
- 12 – David Walker, Westminster
- 15 – Tim Rackley, Mt. Pleasant
- 16 – Greg Marcus, Long Creek
- 21 – Christopher Hulsey, Seneca
- 22 – Jose Pedrotti, Puerta Abierta
- 23 – Grady Long, retired
- 25 – Jimmie Rholetter, retired

### Staff Anniversaries:

- 7 – Ron Potts, Mt. Tabor, 2016
- 9 – Joey Hawkins, New Hope, 2014
- 20 – Kenny Owen, Westminster First, 2011
- 25 – Steve Black, Scenic Heights, 2001

### Wedding Anniversaries:

- 13 – Carl & Teri Krezdorn, retired
- 14 – Mike & Janice Adams, retired
- 14 – John & Lenette McKnight, Hepsibah



“Now faith is the assurance of  
things hoped for, the  
conviction of things not seen.”

*Hebrews 11:1*

