



BEAVERDAM  
BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION

# Golden Triangle News

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## Men's Ministry Fellowship

May 5 at 6:00 PM at Grace Baptist Church



**Guest Speaker:** Mike Kennedy, missionary in Peru and founder of New Life Children's Home ([perumissions.com](http://perumissions.com))

**Mission Project:** new or gently worn hats to be distributed in Peru. Groups or individuals can also sponsor a house building project, built by Grace Baptist mission team in June, contact Pastor Chuck Cook for more information about sponsorships (706-224-3990).

**Meal:** Cinco de Mayo theme, Mexican food

*\$4.00 donation at the door*

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

Romans 15:13



From the Associational Mission Strategist (AMS),

Last month I shared with you about the “Graying of the American Pastorate”. Since that time, I have had several conversations with people who, after reading the article, are burdened and saddened by this impending crisis. Our pastors are getting older (average age of a pastor today is 58 years old) and there is a severe shortage of young people answering the call to ministry today.

In last month’s article, I mentioned that one of the major reasons for the decline in younger people embracing the call to ministry today is financial. It is not because the younger generation embraces a materialistic mindset or that quite often ministry tends to pay modest wages, but the problem has to do with the cost of the education needed to prepare for ministry. They concluded that: “A generation ago, a young man could arrive at Bible college or enroll in seminary with nothing but change in his pocket, but with hard work and thrift he could still graduate debt free. Those days are gone. Tuition for some Christian colleges, universities, and seminaries is four or five times what it was thirty years ago. Without scholarships or benefactors, many young ministerial students graduate with student loan debt that leaves them incapable of accepting a call from a church that offers only limited compensation.” Sadly, our churches are potentially facing a future where there will be a massive leadership shortage in the coming decades, the decades that will directly impact our children and grandchildren!

Last month I suggested four things that we need to consider:

1. Churches have to become more attentive to those whom God may be calling.
2. Churches should consider establishing a pastoral residency program.
3. Older ministers should consider mentorship opportunities with those who might be considering ministry.
4. Associations should consider establishing Ministry Endowments that would provide financial assistance to those from within the association planning to attend a college or seminary in order to prepare for ministry.

I have had several conversations with people over the past few weeks regarding the idea of associations establishing endowments. An endowment would be a tremendous asset for an association enabling it to provide some financial assistance/scholarships for those within the association with a desire to prepare for ministry.

As my time serving as the Associational Mission Strategist for the Beaverdam Baptist Association draws to a close at the end of this year, I would love to see the establishment of a BBA Educational Endowment Fund become a reality. For this to happen would require a united effort involving our member churches, individuals, and even local Christian businesses and companies. If you, your church, or possibly your business would have an interest in learning more about this I’d love to have a conversation with you.

Impacting Oconee & Beyond,

David

Mark Your Calendars

## 2026 BBA Annual Associational Meeting



Sunday, October 25, 2026

Return Baptist Church

Pre-Session Music 5:45 | Call To Order 6:00

## Church Contributions

	Mar 26	Jan-Mar 26
Beaverdam	0.00	352.10
Belmont	0.00	0.00
Bethel	331.95	1,358.98
Bethlehem	0.00	0.00
Calvary	99.70	252.58
Chauga	91.52	147.63
Cheohee	200.00	600.00
Christ Fellowship	0.00	0.00
Clearmont	400.13	1,189.47
College Street	0.00	0.00
Coneross	225.00	225.00
Corinth	0.00	900.00
Cross Hill Fellowship	0.00	3,000.00
Cross Roads – Seneca	160.38	408.74
Cross Roads – Westminster	100.00	300.00
Damascus	0.00	0.00
Earle's Grove	853.86	6,496.61
Ebenezer	849.94	2,411.90
Faith	0.00	276.00
Fants Grove	0.00	328.09
Golden Corner	0.00	0.00
Grace	0.00	854.49
Heart Land	0.00	169.00
Hepsibah	780.34	2,341.02
Holly Springs	379.15	1,160.35
Hopewell	374.41	1,097.47
Iglesia Bautista Bethel	0.00	0.00
La Roca Oconee	0.00	50.00
Little River	0.00	0.00
Long Creek	166.00	498.00
Lydia	306.24	790.68
Maranatha	103.28	304.70
Monte Vista	25.00	75.00
Mountain Rest	252.78	778.44
Mountain View	100.00	300.00
Mt. Freedom	0.00	2,500.00
Mt. Pleasant	624.99	1,458.31
Mt. Tabor	381.05	1,111.85
New Hope	564.00	1,969.00
Old Liberty	362.04	712.44
Open Door	250.00	750.00
Pleasant Grove	234.20	680.12
Pleasant Hill	100.00	300.00
Pleasant Ridge	500.00	1,500.00
Poplar Springs	0.00	0.00
Puerta Abierta	0.00	0.00
Reedy Fork	0.00	1,122.21
Retreat	0.00	0.00
Return	515.28	2,301.46
Rock Hill	0.00	0.00
Rocky Knoll	0.00	0.00
Salem	0.00	5,000.00
Scenic Heights	0.00	3,600.00
Seneca	141.16	2,201.79
Shiloh	0.00	0.00
Snow Creek	0.00	1,382.96
Souls Harbor	230.00	690.00
South Union	194.52	849.32
Toxaway	50.00	50.00
Utica	1,360.25	6,180.89
Walhalla	300.00	900.00
Welcome	263.00	822.00
West Union	0.00	0.00
Westminster	0.00	1,000.00
Westminster First	200.00	600.00
Wolf Stake	340.00	340.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,410.17</b>	<b>64,688.60</b>

## Church News

### Staff Needs:

**Coneross Baptist Church**, in Westminster, SC, is prayerfully seeking a dedicated, Bible believing leader to join us as our bi-vocational pastor, guiding our congregation in spiritual growth and community outreach. Interested candidates should contact Beaverdam Baptist Association by calling 864-882-7070.

**South Union Baptist Church**, Westminster, SC is prayerfully seeking a pastor to lead our church. We are a rural Christ-centered church committed to Biblical teaching and preaching of the gospel and serving our community with love. We desire a pastor who has a heart for pastoral care and outreach. If you feel called by the Lord to serve within our church, we invite you to submit a resume to Joan Short, Pastor Search Committee, joanshort1954@gmail.com.



Seneca Baptist **Child Development Center** is hiring part-time and full-time positions. Send resumes to [llong@senecabaptist.org](mailto:llong@senecabaptist.org).

## Upstate Preaching Lab

**May 21 at**  
**First Baptist Church**  
**Spartanburg**

### Preaching the Epistles

The SCBaptist preaching lab is designed to equip pastors to preach and lead biblically. This event will include refreshing times of worship, expository sermons, and discussions on the expository method to help pastors refine their calling in the preparation and delivery of God's Word. This year, we will focus on the book of Ephesians.

#### Preachers:

Trell Ross (Pioneer Church, Rock Hill), DJ Horton (Church at the Mill, Moore), and Mike Harder (First Baptist, Spartanburg)

**Register by May 14 at [scbaptist.org](http://scbaptist.org)**  
**\$20.00 registration fee.**

## Associational Bible Drill



Special thanks to all leaders and participants from Earle's Grove and Mountain Rest for taking part in the Associational Bible Drill, hosted by Earle's Grove on April 12, 2026.

Joanna Cashin (Mountain Rest) has advanced to the State Bible Drill.

# Beaverdam Baptist Association



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- 4 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BBA, 9:00 AM
- 5 – Men's Ministry Fellowship, Grace, 6:00 PM
- 7 – National Day of Prayer
- 10 – Mothers's Day
- 11 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BBA, 9:00 AM
- 18 – Pastors' Prayer Time, BBA, 9:00 AM
- 19 – Next Steps, BBA, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- 25 – Memorial Day – Office Closed

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays:

- 5 – Mark Nelson, Old Liberty
- 5 – Steve Roberts, retired
- 20 – Mark Tannery, Westminster First
- 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
- 14 – Harley Bates, Little River, 2023
- 19 – Andrew Smith, Bethel, 2024
- 24 – Scott Lee, Return, 2020
- 26 – Greg Marcus, Long Creek, 2008

### Wedding Anniversaries:

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

