

# The Gleam

Newsletter of The Petersburg Baptist Association

Volume 64 No. 12 December 2021

#### **MINISTERS' CONFERENCE**

We appreciate Robert Shehane addressing the group for the November conference. The December conference will be Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM at the Association Complex. We will have a discussion on "Sabbath Practices for Pastors." If you have practices that would be helpful for others, please be prepared to share those with the group.

On January 3, Stephen Stamp will bring the topic of Youth Ministry. On February 7, David Roberts will discuss, *Are We Really Family: Rethinking Church/Minister Relations*. Please add these to your calendar so you don't miss out.

The Ministers' Conference exists to educate, equip, and encourage you in your role as pastor or ministerial staff of a PBA church. We are always looking for topics of interest to our pastors, as well as engaging guest speakers. If you have a topic or guest speaker request, please contact Mike (<a href="mike@sappony1773.org">mike@sappony1773.org</a>) and we will make every effort to schedule the topic or presenter.

The November resource recommendation is *Always* On: Practicing Faith in a New Media Landscape by Angela Williams Gorrell (2019, Baker). In this relatively short read, Gorrell discusses the "glorious possibilities and profound brokenness" of new media. New media includes, "blogs, the internet, podcasts, social networks, streaming services, e-books, computers, cell phones, e-readers, and so on." This book is available for \$13.99 on Amazon.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

In Christ,

Mike

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Associational Ministries & Churches WMU Ministries Church Plant Initiative Those fighting Covid and their families Missionaries

From the Staff and Volunteers of the Petersburg Baptist Association...

We wish you and your family a very....



### **MISSION COUNCIL**

Our thanks to all who participated in the Missions
Week offering. We collected \$4,335.00 to use
toward missions. May GOD BLESS all of you!!

Our thanks to the PBA churches who participated in Operation Christmas Child. May THE LORD BLESS all of our outreach efforts.

A reminder to those churches participating in Appalachian Christmas, we will be wrapping presents at Kehukee on the 13th and 14th at 9.00 am

A BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS to all our members and churches!

In CHRIST, Tom



# RELENTLESS

"But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved." Hebrews 10:39 (NIV)

Our emphasis theme passage, Hebrews 10:32-39, pushes us to be unyielding (relentless) in our prayer for God to work. "*Pray without ceasing*", Paul wrote as he finished his first letter to the church at Thessalonica (5:17). Paul knew that relentless prayer was the secret to successful ministry and abundant life in Christ. Prayer is the river in the garden of life, the underlying life source of our growth in the Lord. Without prayer, we have no power. Jesus knew this reality and displayed the depths of its importance as He spent the final night of His life in prayer (Matt 26:36-46). Relentless prayer is a repeated experience, a meeting with the Gardener of our souls that we must continually seek. Through this cycle of watering, tending, and growing our hearts, we are refreshed with God's presence, invigorated with passion for His work, and drawn into abundant life. This beautiful cycle bears magnificent fruit of the Spirit, and that kind of fruit is what changes the world. We are stronger and more effective ministers when we bloom through intimate, relentless prayer.

Take time to pause and be still with God today. Take time to remember who He is and the promises He has made to you. Remember: God is good and He will work all things together for your good (Rom. 8:28); • He has a plan and purpose for your life (Jer. 29:11); • He will help you overcome whatever obstacle you are facing because He has overcome the world (John 16:33)

The Week of Prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering – November 28 through December 5. Please promote and support Global and International missions in your missions groups and churches, and through your personal prayers and gifts.

**December 13 & 14 -** packing items for Appalachian Christmas at Camp Kehukee.

**January 2022** – National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

**January 11, 2022** – National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

**Association Women on Mission Meeting** – **Monday, January 17, 2022** at the PBA Complex at 10am. \*\*Please note, there will NOT be a meal following this meeting.

Associational Kids Winter Missions Day Camp – Saturday January 22, 2022 at Camp Kehukee, 10am to noon. Children in Kindergarten through Grade 6 are welcome to come out for a great morning of missions education and fun!

**February 2nd, 2022 - WMU Leadership Team Meeting** – 10am – PBA Complex.

**February 20, 2022** – **Focus on WMU Sunday** – This day is not about celebrating national WMU! It's about celebrating what God is doing through WMU in your church to reach the world with the good news of Jesus Christ! However WMU helps you make disciples of Jesus who live on mission, celebrate with your church family February 20<sup>th</sup>, all week, or anytime convenient for you.

Wishing you all a safe and blessed Christmas!

Tammie Frazier

Association WMU Director

### FROM THE DESK OF... INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

I can't believe we are weeks away from ending 2021 and beginning 2022. It has certainly been an interesting year. But we have been truly blessed with God's presence through it all.

Most of us have heard the Christmas message for years and years and maybe we long to hear something new or different. But the fact is there is nothing new about our Savior's birth. What happened over 2000 years ago is still true and very much applies to us today.

Jesus came to this earth to light our way, to guide us through our lives and give to us eternal salvation. What was true then is true now. Jesus is very much our GPS. He is there to direct our paths and to lead us around the trouble spots. It doesn't mean we don't have issues, 'cause we do, but when we are paying attention to Him, it is good to know He is in control

Some time ago, I was introduced to a new app for help with directions called WAZE. When I first began using it I didn't trust it nor listened to it. I knew how to get from "point A" to "point B" and didn't need anybody telling me otherwise. And I must admit at times I did not listen to it and found myself stuck in traffic or an accident scene where I sat in my truck and went nowhere.

With the hustle and bustle of Christmas, we will certainly find ourselves stuck in traffic. It may be on a highway or in a Department Store (for those of you who order everything online, Department Stores still exist).

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

This Christmas may we all remember why He came! He is the WAZE, the TRUTH, and the LIFE.

From all of us and our families...to ALL of you and yours,

Merry Christmas.

Pastor Fred

### **KEHUKEE COUNCIL**

As of this writing, the "Special Committee" approved by the PBA Executive Council, to review and implement Camp Kehukee 2022 "Usage Fees", has nearly completed it's work. Fee changes will be fair and equitable, considering church sizes and ability to pay the required fees.

We have had an excellent cross section of PBA pastors, the present and former moderators, and other leaders involved in the process. It is hoped to have decided information forwarded to every PBA church within the next ten days.....definitely before January 1, 2022.

The Kehukee Council, DOM Fred Adkins, and Kehukee Team Leaders continue to explore ways to promote the use of our camp by PBA churches and Outside Christian Groups as well. When only about 40% of PBA churches utilized Kehukee in the past two years, that alone tells us a great deal, quickly identifying why the large gap between expenses and income. Although we had made great strides, bringing in additional income through a variety of ways, Covid-19 very much reduced our progress. How, what, when, and why are all thoughts and questions that we MUST ADDRESS. Do you have suggestions? Better yet, why not consider joining the Kehukee Council, either as an at large member/participant, or as part of one of the four teams. Teams areas follows: Facilities, Reservations, Financial and Development. Each team has a leader (except Development...still need a person), and has a separate and distinct function/purpose. Pastors and PBA leaders, why not share the names of potential members from your church. Call the PBA Complex at 804-733-2010 and provide Administrative Assistant Rachel Branch with name and contact information.

Our next **Kehukee Council Meeting** will be on *Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 7 PM* in the PBA Complex on 460 East in Petersburg. PBA Kehukee Council Church Representatives.....**YOU ARE NEEDED AND EXPECTED TO ATTEND**. You are the lifeline between the Council and your church. Your participation is vitally important to the future of OUR CAMP!

In closing, have you considered a Thanksgiving or Christmas gift to Camp Kehukee?

There are a multiple of ways to do so, including wills, trusts (one already exists which can be added to), "Friends of Kehukee", and outright monetary designations. It costs us about \$40,000 a year to keep Kehukee alive and going.

Thank you for the continued support,

Hugh Mumford Bob Streetz

Camp Kehukee Coordinator Assistant Coordinator

## ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2021—JANUARY 2022

Nov 28 - Dec 5		Lottie Moon/Week of Prayer For International Missions
Dec 6	10:30 AM	Ministers' Conference – PBA Complex
Dec 8	9:30 AM	Budget & Finance Meeting – PBA Complex
Dec 24 – Jan 2		Christmas - Association Office Closed
Jan 3	10:30 AM	Ministers' Conference – PBA Complex
Jan 4	7:00 PM	Leadership Meeting - PBA Complex
Jan 10	1:00 PM	Annual Program Team Meeting - PBA Complex
Jan 11	11:45 AM	Kehukee Team Leader's Meeting - PBA Complex
Jan 11	1:00 PM	Personnel Committee Meeting - PBA Complex
Jan 12	9:30 AM	Budget & Finance Meeting - PBA Complex
Jan 12	6:30 PM	Mission Council - PBA Complex
Jan 16		Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
Jan 17	7:00 PM	Executive Council - PBA Complex
Jan 22	10:00 AM – Noon	Children's Mission Camp

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