Petersburg Baptist ASSOCIATION
MISSIONS Pray·Support·Go

The Gleam

Newsletter of The Petersburg Baptist Association

Volume 62 No. 3 March 2019

WELCOME STAFF MEMBERS

Second Baptist welcomes Betty Clements as their Minister of Music.
Lakemont Baptist has called Rev. Larry Taylor as their pastor.

PRAYER CONCERNS

5 Churches without Pastors
All Association Ministries & our member churches
Romania Partnership

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

We would like to thank Rev. Lee Woodcock from Oakland for hosting our February conference, and we especially appreciate the ladies of the church who served us a fantastic lunch! A great time of fellowship was had by all.

On March 4 at 10:30AM, we will meet at the YMCA at 120 N. Madison Street, Petersburg. Rev. Tom Williams has arranged for us to have a discussion on health and wellness. Learn how to be a better steward of your body, which will enable you to be a more effective minister. This is not an exercise session; you may dress as normal.

On April 1st at 10:30AM, Rev. Fred Adkins is hosting the conference at the Association Office. Dr. Robert Breckenridge (formerly the pastor of Powers Memorial Baptist Church), is our guest. Dr. Breckenridge is a hospice chaplain and will come to address the group.

On May 6th at 10:30 AM, Dr. Joe Lewis will host the meeting at PBA Office, 3018 County Drive, Petersburg. Abigail Schreiner of HopeTree Family Services will address the subject of Foster Care ministry and the impact churches are having on the lives of children and youth in foster care. Recent changes in state law are putting more and more children in foster care, increasing the need for ministries like HopeTree to help place children and youth in healthy settings.

As we plan the conferences for 2019-20, now is the time to get on our calendar if you have a topic that you would like to address at one of our conferences. If you have a request for a topic, this is also the time to get your request in so that we can start working on it.

If you miss the conference, you not only miss interesting topics and speakers, but you also miss a great time of fellowship with your fellow laborers in Christ. We share our concerns, we pray and encourage each other, and we learn from each other. As always, Youth Pastors, Associate Pastors, Music Ministers, and other staff ministers that you may have are invited as well. If you have any questions you can email me at mike@sappony1773.org or call me at 804-896-2859. We look forward to seeing you soon!

In Christ,
Mike

SUMMER MISSIONARY

The Executive Committee approved the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to seek and employ a Summer Missionary this year. We are interested in a young adult with at least one year of college, who has a heart for ministry, working especially with children and youth in the Association. The Summer Missionary would be available to assist in Vacation Bible Schools of member churches on a first-call, first-served basis. He or she would also be available to assist with activities at Kehukee involving children or youth sponsored by the PBA or member churches. Other duties are listed in the job description that is located on the insert of your Gleam. The Missionary must be available to work about 30 hours/week for at least 10 weeks during the summer, and have their own transportation. The pay would either be $15/hour, or a salary of up to $4500. Contact the PBA office for more information. A candidate may email a resume to info@petersburgbaptist.org or mail to the address listed below by March 23 if interested. We would like to present a candidate at the April 15 Executive Committee Meeting.

Dr. Steve Felker, Chairman, PBA Personnel Committee

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UNSHAKABLE PURSUIT

"My dear friends, stand firm and don't be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for him is worthwhile." *1 Corinthians 15:58 (CEV)*

We have an opportunity to bring help and hope to missionaries and the communities they serve through our support of the Week of Prayer for North American Missions **(March 3rd - 10th)**, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, and the Global Missions efforts in your churches.

WMU leaders can be some of the greatest advocates for this special observance as we encourage the people of our churches to pray more fervently and give more abundantly to these offerings, so that more individuals living in the U.S., Canada, and throughout the world can hear the good news of Jesus Christ!

April 7th is designated as Cooperative Program Sunday in Southern Baptist Churches. It is a day to celebrate how we do missions together around the world. Please take this opportunity to inform and inspire your church for missions giving.

The PBA Women On Mission meeting was held Monday February 11th at Immanuel Baptist Church in Colonial Heights. Cindy Melvin shared about her (and her husband, Tom's) service as IMB Missionaries to Botswana, South Africa. Cindy presented inspiring information on how we can pray specifically and intentionally for missionaries, which she further illustrated through leading the group in a time of prayer.

WMU of Virginia is offering a "**Come to the Table**" event at Ephesus Baptist Church, South Hill on **March 30th**. These meetings are an excellent opportunity for church and/or associational leaders who are involved in missions to learn what's fresh and new in WMU and spend time with other missional women. Another event is planned for **April 27th** at First Baptist Church, Winchester. For more information and to register for one of these events, visit wmuv.org or call the WMUV office at 800-255-2428.

Also, information and registration are available through the WMUV office or website for the annual **MOM & ME** Event to be held **April 26th – 28th** at Eagle Eyrie. This event helps grade school girls and moms to focus on their personal relationship with God, and inspires and equips them to plug into missions through Bible Study, crafts, games, dance and interaction with a missionary. Check it out!

Our PBA **WMU Annual Meeting** is set for Tuesday **April 9th at Sappony Baptist Church**, Stony Creek. Mrs. Lucianne Warren, Vice-President and Secretary of WMU of Virginia will be our featured speaker. The meeting will begin at 9:45 a.m., and lunch will be provided afterward. Hope to see you there!

Blessed to serve with you,

Tammie Frazier
Association WMU Director

FROM THE DESK OF...

THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

Exercising our Faith

Well, it's March and I'm still working out at the gym. I hope to continue but it did get me thinking. What do most people think about exercising? And what does it mean to exercise our faith? There are a lot of folks, unfortunately, many are Christians, who exercise by doing the following:

Jumping…to conclusions
Running…our mouths
Jogging…our memories

Why can't we do a better job of exercising our faith? How do we build our Spiritual muscles? I read an article recently that suggested three things we should incorporate.

First, Wait On God. Sounds counter-productive, doesn't it? How am I exercising my faith or building spiritual muscles by waiting? Scripture that teaches us this can be found in Isaiah 40: 31 which says, **"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."** We see from this verse that waiting invigorates and rejuvenates us.

Secondly, Draw your strength from God and not on your own self-reliance. Most of us just want to jump right in thinking we can do a better job. Ephesians 6:10 tells us to be **"strong in the Lord and in His mighty power."**

Thirdly, Focus exclusively on God. Don't focus on the doctor's report, or the DOW, or any number of controlling issues. I'm not saying those things aren't important to you. After all, what's important to you is important to God, but don't take your eyes off of Him. Hebrews 12:2 reminds us, **"fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith."** So while we are waiting…we are gaining strength.

The Petersburg Baptist Association desires your attention. We are stronger…together. We may not agree on the best way to "get fit", but we can encourage each other to exercise. Let's tone our muscles for the purpose of winning the lost.

Muscles Atoned…by the blood of the LAMB,

Pastor Fred

March 24, 2019 is Jim McMillen Day

Most of you know that Jim has been very ill lately. In fact, he has been in and out of hospitals and rehab centers for four months with no end in sight. Jim has been the treasurer of the PBA for over 10 years and has served us faithfully.

For those who wish to do so, we are asking the churches of the PBA to set aside Sunday, March 24th for a "LOVE OFFERING" to assist Jim and Leah with their medical expenses. Once we have received your donation, we will send one check from the PBA to them. Thank You for your prayers and support for the McMillen Family.

HAPPENINGS AT CAMP KEHUKEE

Please mark your calendars for the Kehukee Work Day. We are asking your church to provide individuals and tools to help in the upkeep and maintenance on Saturday, March 23 from *8:00 AM—1:00 PM*.

Grief Support Group

Your journey from mourning to joy….

GriefShare helps and encourages after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

Immanuel Baptist Church will host GriefShare every Tuesday, March 5—May 28, 2019, 6:30 pm—8:00 pm. You can register at www. grief-share.org or call the church at: 804-526-3276. The cost is $20.00.

ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR MARCH—APRIL 2019

Mar 3 – 10		Week of Prayer-North American & Global Missions
Mar 4	10:30 AM	Ministers' Conference- Petersburg YMCA 120 N Madison Street
Mar 10		Daylight Savings Time Begins/Spring Forward
Mar 12	7:00 PM	Mission & Evangelism Meeting - Associational Office
Mar 13	9:30 AM	Budget & Finance Meeting – Associational Office
Mar 23	8:00 AM-1:00 PM	Kehukee Work Day – Camp Kehukee (Rain Date: March 30th)
Apr 1	10:30 AM	Ministers Conference – Associational Office
Apr 7		Cooperative Program Sunday
Apr 8	11:45 AM	Kehukee Team Leader's Meeting – Associational Office
Apr 9	9:45 AM	WMU Annual Meeting- Sappony Baptist Church
Apr 10	9:30 AM	Budget & Finance Meeting – Associational Office
Apr 10	1:00 PM	Nominating Committee Meeting – Associational Office
Apr 11	7:00 PM	Kehukee Council Meeting – ***Smyrna Baptist Church***
Apr 14		Palm Sunday
Apr 15	7:00 PM	Association Executive Council- TBA
Apr 21		Easter
Apr 22		Easter Monday – Office Closed
Apr 29		Deadline for all **Councils** to reserve Kehukee for 2020

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