

## **MINISTERS CONFERENCE**

For November, Doris Auton gave a great presentation on the Chemo Care Ministry that Newville does in coordination with some other churches. These bags, port shirts, and port pillows do a lot to make chemo patients feel the love of Christ. Our churches are invited to participate in this wonderful ministry.

On December 4 at 10:30 AM, Gilbert Nash is bringing our topic, and we look forward to his presentation. Gilbert is a Federal Bureau of Prisons Life Connections Chaplain specializing in faith based reentry. We look forward to having him share with us.

We are also looking forward to great topics next year, such as ministering to those with pornography addiction, establishing endowments, and more. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

In Christ,  
Mike

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Associational Ministries & Churches**  
**Camp Kehukee**  
**WMU Ministries**  
**Missionaries**  
**War torn Countries**  
**Storm Victims**



## **“Simple Interest” in Camp Kehukee**

This past year, the PBA made the necessary decision to undertake needed repairs and improvements at Camp Kehukee. To make this possible, we secured a simple interest 15-year loan for \$150,000 at a very low interest rate. But our goal was never to allow this loan to fully mature but rather to allow us to step up to do the work and then step out in faith to cover the cost.

As a Trustee for the PBA, and one of those who helped commit us to this loan, I’m also personally committed to being a part of retiring that debt as soon as possible. Now, I don’t know about you, but I don’t personally have \$150,000 squirreled away in my sock drawer to do this on my own, but I do have more than 15,000 fellow members of PBA churches to ask to join me in a simple solution for repaying this loan.

At the PBA Fall Annual Meeting, I asked a simple question – “Do you have \$1 a day to give?” Most of us don’t have a lot of excess in our monthly budgets, but we might be able to save a dollar a day for this project. And if we do, that means only a commitment of \$365 for the year. If just 3-4% of those 15,000 PBA members join me in this challenge – just 550 individuals – we will raise \$200,750 which will retire the loan AND replenish some of the reserves we had to use for this project. And that is just a one-year commitment!

So, who will join me? I just need 549 more friends with “simple interest” in Camp Kehukee and the ministry it provides to make this opportunity a reality. If you are willing to join in this effort at whatever level – as an individual, a family, or even a Bible study – thank you. Maybe this time next year we will be able to celebrate the “burning of the loan note” as a thanks offering to God.

Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Mark Hughes, Trustee PBA

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## HOPE

---IN CHRIST---

*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Rom 12:12)*

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>** is the **Week of Prayer for International Missions**, and the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**. Our sacrificial gifts make a difference around the world! Just like Lottie baked cookies to help children learn about Jesus, we, too, can use our creativity to bring awareness to international missions. Through the International Mission Study (IMS) and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (LMCO), we can learn about, pray for, and give to international missions. This year's IMS materials provide an in-depth look at how missionaries are sharing the gospel in Zambia. (Further information can be found at [IMB.org](http://IMB.org))

January is recognized as National Slavery & Human Trafficking Prevention Month. As disciples of Jesus who live on mission, we are commissioned to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, to use our voices for the voiceless, and to defend and fight for those who cannot fight for themselves (Prov. 31:8–9). Human trafficking is a global multibillion-dollar industry affecting women, men, and children around the world.

**January 11<sup>th</sup>** has been declared **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day**—a day of awareness and advocacy where people come together to shine a light on the issue of human trafficking. This day provides us with an excellent opportunity not only to learn about human trafficking but also to look for ways our churches can take action in the fight against it. Use this as a special time of emphasis, and help lead the way in sharing how your church can support and pray for victims and survivors of human trafficking.

Gather your missions groups (and everyone in your churches!) and plan to join us for our **Association Women on Mission** meeting on **Monday January 15<sup>th</sup>** at 10 am at the PBA Complex. All are invited and encouraged to come and hear Dr. Valerie Carter-Smith, Executive Director/Treasurer of the WMU of Virginia, as she addresses this important issue of Human Trafficking and Exploitation in our area. All are invited and encouraged to attend! Light refreshments will be provided.

**Children's Winter Missions Camp**, for boys and girls in kindergarten through 7<sup>th</sup> grade, will be held **Saturday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024** at **Camp Kehukee** from 10 am to 12 noon. The two-hour camp will consist of a Bible lesson, singing, a hands-on mission project, games, crafts, and snacks.

**RSVP** to Leslie Allin @ (804) 720-0061 or Tammie Frazier @ (804) 919-1812.

The next **PBA WMU Leadership Team** meeting is **Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024** at 10:00 am at the PBA Complex in Petersburg. Team Members, please join us in the planning and preparation for our annual meeting in April 2024.

This February, celebrate what God is doing through WMU both in your church and in your association. **February 18<sup>th</sup>** is **Focus on WMU Sunday**. Consider sharing testimonies of God's work throughout your church and community with your congregation. Highlight the various ministries and projects your missions group is actively participating in. Your association WMU Leadership Team supports and appreciates your many efforts!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

Tammie Frazier  
Association WMU Director

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

Some years ago, I wrote a collection of stories about my family and growing up in South Carolina. I titled the collection, *Keep the Fire Burning*. One of those stories was about one particular Christmas in Columbia. A tradition in the family was that on Christmas morning dad would get up early and start a fire in the fireplace. It was a warmer than usual December, but the tradition had to continue. So, dad got up, turned the Air Conditioner on and down low...and then started the fire.

In Scripture, fire is often used as a symbol of the presence of God. The fire on the altar of sacrifice was never to go out. God gave specific instructions for feeding the fire every day and how to prepare it for the night so that it would have hot coals ready to begin a new day.

Our lives should be like that. If the fire is to stay lit, the presence of God must remain a part of our lives. And that may take some work, but it is worth it.

This Christmas may the fire in you continue to burn bright and may it warm you from the inside out. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior let's not forget the **Reason for the Season**.

From all of us in the Petersburg Baptist Association staff and volunteers, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year.

Thanks Dad, for making sure we kept warm and safe all year long.

Keeping the Fire Burning,

Pastor Fred

## **MISSION COUNCIL**

**A BLEST Christmas and New Year to you all!**

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. Please pray for us as we seek new mission opportunities for the Association. Thanks to all who supported Appalachia Christmas for West Virginia and Operation Christmas Child.

May GOD'S Richest BLESSINGS be with you in this season and throughout the coming year!

In CHRIST, Tom

## **Kehukee Council**

Kehukee is in need of four loads of stone, asphalt millings or shale for the Halifax Road end of Camp Kehukee, from the gate to the bathhouse/pavilion area. As more and more camping groups continue to utilize this camp area, we must make sure that access has a solid road in all types of weather conditions, especially when rain occurs before or during booked dates.

Do you have stone, millings or shale that you are willing to donate? Do you know someone that can donate this? Please notify the PBA Office if you can handle this request/need, or call me at 804-731-6095. The value donated can be substantiated by the PBA as an IRS tax deductible.

The PBA Harvest Fest and BBQ chicken fundraisers were both successful events, each helping provide needed funds for the Kehukee pool upgrades/repairs. Between donated only funds for the two events, amounting to \$3500, and the Harvest Fest participants and BBQ chicken ticket sales separately, we gained about \$6500 in total for pool use.

Already being planned is a fish/oyster fundraiser meal in April 2024. A possible date is April 6, once inclement weather is less an issue. You will hear more about this, and pre-sales tickets in coming months. Jimmy Tomko and Newville Baptist Church will be heading this up.....all profits going to pool upgrades/repairs.

Continue your support of our Camp Kehukee through private donations, "Friends of Kehukee", Prayer Garden bricks, and fundraising events.

We very much appreciate you and your love for our most beautiful Camp Kehukee, which continues to be a mission in itself, and a wonderful way to participate in and enjoy God's world.

Hugh G Mumford - Kehukee Financial Support Team Leader - (804)-731-6095



ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR DECEMBER 2023—JANUARY 2024

Dec 3 – 10		Lottie Moon/Week of Prayer for International Missions
Dec 4	10:30 AM	Ministers’ Conference – PBA Complex
Dec 13	9:30 AM	Budget & Finance Meeting – PBA Complex
Dec 21 – Jan 1		Christmas - Association Office Closed
Jan 1		Office Closed
Jan 8	10:30 AM	Minister’s Conference – <b>Oakland Baptist Church</b>
Jan 9	11:45 AM	Kehukee Leader’s Team Meeting – PBA Complex
Jan 9	6:30 PM	Missions Council – PBA Complex
Jan 10	9:30 AM	Budget & Finance Meeting – PBA Complex
Jan 11	7:00 PM	Kehukee Council – PBA Complex
Jan 15	7:00 PM	<b>Associational Executive Council Meeting – Second Baptist Church</b>
Jan 21		Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
Jan 27	10:00—Noon	<b>Associational Children’s Mission Day Camp - Camp Kehukee</b>

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