

January 2014

# Edgefield Baptist Association

Organized 1807

Making History with His Story

May God  
Bless Your  
New Year  
Richly!!

## Dr. Ben – from Kentucky to Red Hill Baptist Church

Dr. Eleazer Benenhaley, pastor at Red Hill Baptist Church, pictured with his wife, Nina, and their 3 sons, Clayton, Wilbur, and Timothy.

Their family includes 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. He and Nina were married on February 25, 1953.



When Dr. Benenhaley was called to preach at the age of 22, he was a 10<sup>th</sup> grade high school dropout and says that he was certainly not prepared educationally. But at the age of 24, God opened the door for him to enter the Clear Creek Baptist School in Pineville, Kentucky, where he graduated at the top of his class. He received a 4-year scholarship to the Cumberland College in Williamsburg, KY and went on to get his Master of Divinity at Southeastern Seminary and later the Doctor of Ministry at the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville.

He has pastored churches in Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. He retired in 2002 from Sweetwater Baptist Church after 21 years as pastor. The following Sunday he began pastoring at Silvercrest Baptist in Augusta, and 4 ½ years later went on to Red Hill where he has been for 7 great years.

Dr. Ben, as he is affectionately called, has been a Christian since he was 14, and he says that during his 55 years of ministry, so many people have touched his life, and have had a part in any work the Lord has allowed him to do. He has written four books as well as adult Lessons for Discipleship Training for the SCBC.

“.....I was in prison and you came to me.”



On December 8, following the Worship Service led by Rev. Steve Cartin at Trenton Correctional Institution, the inmates were treated to a home cooked Christmas Dinner. Barbara Langley, who coordinated the meal, said that 113 inmates were served and that 12 EBA churches provided the food.

The Prison Chaplain, Victor Thomas, provided the photo and sent a card of appreciation from the inmates. Eddy wrote, “Thank you for your gift of love that was given to us. God Bless You.” And from Walt, “Thank you and may our Lord and Savior Jesus comfort, bless and protect you, your families and your ministry.”

Photo Left to Right: Richard Moss, Jamie Moss, Carla Dorn, Christie Thomas, Alleen Miller, and Dan Robinson. Not pictured but also assisting were Barbara and Marvin Langley, Ronnie Reese, along with Wayne Miller and Ron Creswell, who coordinates the Prison Ministry of the EBA Men’s Ministry organization.

Edgefield Baptist Association  
985 Highway 25 North  
Edgefield, SC 29824  
803.637.3309  
<http://edgefieldbaptistassoc.org>

Director of Missions  
Dr. Robert A. Williamson, Jr.

Moderator  
Rev. Steve Cartin

Vice-Moderator  
Dr. Tommy Meador

Ministry Assistant  
Mrs. Jackie Ridings

Clerk  
Ms. Faye Usry

Treasurer  
Mrs. Terri Miller

Editor  
Dr. Robert A. Williamson, Jr.  
[robert@edgefieldbaptistassoc.org](mailto:robert@edgefieldbaptistassoc.org)

Designer  
Mrs. Jackie Ridings  
[jackie@edgefieldbaptistassoc.org](mailto:jackie@edgefieldbaptistassoc.org)

**Office Hours**  
**Monday-Tuesday**  
8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.  
**Wednesday**  
8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

**Office Closed**  
**December 23-31**  
**January 1-3**

**Meetings at the  
Association Office:**

**Nominating Committee**  
**Tuesday, January 7**  
**5:00 P.M.**

**WMU Leadership Team**  
**Thursday, February 6**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Missions Development**  
**Monday, February 10**  
**9:00 A.M.**

**January 21**  
**Deadline for February**  
**Newsletter**

**IMB Missions Celebration**  
**Big Stevens Creek**  
**January 12-15, 2014**  
**Focus: East Asia**  
**Sunday, January 12: 6:00 P.M.**  
**Monday-Wednesday: 7:00 P.M.**

Two missionaries from the International Mission Board who are actively serving in East Asia will share their stories each evening. This is a heavily persecuted area, and it will be interesting to hear what God is doing in this part of the world. This conference is open to anyone who wishes to attend. For more information, please contact BSCBC at 803.278.5217.

**Church Planting Workshop**  
**First Bethany**  
**Saturday, January 18, 2014**  
**9:00-11:30 A.M.**  
**Lunch Provided**

A guest speaker from the North American Mission Board will share about church planting and how anyone may either become a church planter or partner with one as an individual or as a church effort. Please RSVP to Pastor Brian Rackley by January 12 at 864.993.5599.

**Power Packs: A Mission  
of Edgefield First Baptist**  
**Begins January 10**

Power Packs is a weekend backpack food program designed to help fulfill the weekend nutritional needs of elementary school children who do not have adequate food over the weekends. The Power Pack will include an encouraging scripture and a prayer of love, as well as food and snack items. EFBC is serving as the sponsor church, but funding will come from the community.

If you would like to participate, please contact the church office at 637.6139 or one of the following volunteers: Rhonda Herlong (637.9203), Susan Jolly (637.9971), or Gina Kowalewski (637.9371).

**Men's Ministry Supper/Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 14**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**Antioch Baptist Church**

**Special Days**  
**January**

**Birthdays**

08 Brantley Bryan.....Rehoboth  
10 Jon Maish.....Big Stevens Creek  
13 Tom Rogers.....Mount Zion  
15 Bobbi Noe.....Sweetwater  
23 AnnaBelle Nicholson.....EBA Retired  
25 Kathy McDaniel.....Parksville  
27 Nina Benenhaley.....Red Hill  
28 Gabriela Negrete.....Hispanic Baptist  
31 Teresa Patton.....Modoc

**Pastoral Anniversaries**

Lance Thomas (9 years).....Republican

**Church Events**

**Mountain Creek:** Hosts the Joint Community Worship Service on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 P.M. Special guests are Larry Freeland and "The Believers" from Greenwood. Come join the members of Berea, Gilgal, Little Stevens Creek, and McKendree Methodist at Mountain Creek.

**The History Committee**  
**Seeks Historical Materials**

The History Committee is trying to fill in the gaps for EBA Annuals and other historical materials. If you have annuals prior to 1980, newsletters prior to 2009, or church histories, please consider donating them to the EBA. Also needed is a copy of Hortense Woodsen's Edgefield Baptist History, as well as other books on Southern Baptist or South Carolina Baptist History. Faye Usry is willing to pick up materials, just give her a call at 637.4620.



The Edgefield Baptist Association in partnership with the Lexington Baptist Association are inviting all churches to attend the EPIC Leadership Conference on Saturday, April 5, 2014. The half-day conference, from 8:30 A.M. – Noon, is for pastors and lay leaders. More information will be available soon, so go ahead and mark the dates on your church calendar.

**Financial Report  
October/November 2013**

<b>Church Contributions</b>	<b>MTD OCT</b>	<b>MTD NOV</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Antioch	267.00	376.00	2872.00
Berea	75.00	75.00	730.00
Big Stevens Creek	0.00	187.50	1875.00
Ebenezer	0.00	0.00	2000.00
Edgefield First	0.00	0.00	6500.00
First Bethany-McCormick	0.00	850.00	3457.00
Gilgal	0.00	0.00	3320.00
Little Stevens Creek	0.00	0.00	2425.00
Modoc	319.34	0.00	1378.54
Mountain Creek	163.89	61.59	970.21
Mt. Zion	0.00	0.00	600.00
Parksville	222.39	163.47	1726.81
Peace Haven	283.10	0.00	1213.56
Plum Branch	0.00	0.00	1595.05
Providence	0.00	0.00	1770.00
Red Hill	414.24	313.70	4774.25
Red Oak Grove	0.00	0.00	3550.00
Rehoboth	0.00	0.00	1000.00
Republican	3071.85	0.00	11427.85
Sweetwater	202.31	160.52	1747.57
SCBC	0.00	832.50	3330.00
Various Donations	400.00	100.00	2526.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5419.12</b>	<b>3120.28</b>	<b>60788.84</b>

<b>Designated Accounts</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Revenues</b>		<b>Expenses</b>		<b>Ending Balance</b>
		<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>	
Missions						
---AAA	184.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	184.55
---CCC	1939.16	0.00	25.00	0.00	343.97	1620.19
---IMB	160.00	66.00	0.00	204.00	22.00	0.00
---NAMB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
---Hispanic	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Disaster Relief	5777.79	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5877.79
Men's Ministries	1336.19	24.55	1500.00	0.00	0.00	2860.74
WMU	0.00	49.99	0.00	0.00	49.99	0.00
EBAMO	4168.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	137.89	4030.90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13616.48</b>	<b>240.54</b>	<b>1525.00</b>	<b>204.00</b>	<b>553.85</b>	<b>14618.17</b>

<b>Balances</b>	<b>MTD OCT</b>	<b>MTD NOV</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>39111.87</b>	<b>40022.37</b>	
Receipts	5419.12	3120.28	60788.84
Expenses	4545.16	5744.61	65074.21
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>39985.83</b>	<b>37404.04</b>	(4285.37)
Designated Revenues	240.54	1525.00	
Designated Expenses	204.00	553.85	
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>40022.37</b>	<b>38369.19</b>	

<b>Investments</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>
Money Market	13316.57	13316.57
Money Market	10335.99	10335.99
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23652.56</b>	<b>23652.56</b>
Baptist Foundation	11566.88	11608.14

**Envelopes are available for designated contributions and for honor and memorial gifts.**



Changes. Some people don't like change. In fact, they are very adamant that things remain the same. Yet, change is all around us, a change that cannot be stopped outside of God's power. Take the weather, for example. It wasn't that long ago that people were replacing a roof during CCC and wondering if it would get any hotter. I'll bet they are wearing coats right now. Take the calendar; it wasn't that long ago when many of us contemplated another time, another place, at a younger age. Look at us now as the calendar reminds us that we are further and further from that place and time.

So it is spiritually; change is present here as well. Christian, remember back when we lived in sin, apart from God. And that moment when we called on the name of the Lord, repenting of our sin, He answered our prayers and brought change into our lives. Even now, for most Christians, there is a

**Without a change that comes from God, there is no life!**

We are reminded in Scripture that **"if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come"** (2 Cor. 5:17, ESV). For those who don't want change in their life, just remember this: Without a change that comes from God, there is no life! God brings life in the changes we experience.

May you have a blessed year in the midst of the changes God is bringing to you.



In His Love,  
**Robert**  
Your DOM



# For All Ages-Looking Ahead

Event	Date	Location
Women's Leadership Retreat	Jan 10-11	White Oak
Regional Tax Seminars Register: <a href="mailto:karenbray@scbaptist.org">karenbray@scbaptist.org</a>	Feb 12 9 AM – 3 PM	SCBC
Evangelism Conference	Feb 18-20	Rock Springs Easley
Dinner with The Akins Dinner Theater	April 14 6:45 PM	White Oak
EPIC Leadership Conference Edgefield & Lexington Associations	April 5 8:30-Noon	TBA

More information on all events is available at the Association Office (803.637.3309 or <http://edgefieldbaptistassoc.org>), the SC Baptist Convention (1.800.723.7242 or [www.scbaptist.org](http://www.scbaptist.org)).

The data base program that has been used for the mailing of the newsletter was corrupted last month. With the help of Randy Jackson an older list was retrieved. There are probably address changes and names that should be added or deleted on this file. Please help by letting me know of corrections that should be made to the list.

My apologies, Jackie

If you would like to be added to the email list, just let me know at [jackie@edgefieldbaptistassoc.org](mailto:jackie@edgefieldbaptistassoc.org)

**“We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”**

**2 Corinthians 5:20b, ESV**

**Edgefield Baptist Association  
985 Highway 25 North  
Edgefield, SC 29824**

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## Nine EBA Churches contributed 443 handmade watch caps for the Seafarer's Ministry based at the Port of Charleston.

Vickie Allen and Randy Jackson delivered shoeboxes from Antioch to Donna Parker. A total of 519 were collected at the EBA to be sent to children all over the world through Operation Christmas Child.



## The Story Lives On

Celebrate • Connect • Commit

**Focus on WMU**

**Monday, February 10 — Sunday, February 16, 2014**

**Celebrate WMU in Your Church!**

18 EBA churches contributed 493 Christmas Prisoner Packets, which were delivered to Columbia, where volunteers checked them, and added Christmas cards and Gospel booklet. 25,000 packets were distributed to all SC inmates on December 3.

Helping in Columbia were Bubba and Jean Wells, Kristen Lawrence, Gladys McNeil and Carol Bryan.