

April 2014

Edgefield Baptist Association

Organized 1807

Making History with His Story

Director of Missions Announces Retirement

Dr. Robert Williamson announced his retirement as Director of Missions at the Executive Committee Meeting on March 3rd. His retirement is effective the end of June; however he does plan to work CCC through its conclusion.

Following a recommendation by the Personnel Committee, the Executive Committee voted to give the Moderator authority to appoint a five-person DOM Search Committee by March 17.

Please look on page 2 for more information on both these topics.



EBA Semi-annual Spring Meeting

April 6, 2014 at 3:00 P. M.

Sermon by Dr. Eleazer Benenhaley

Mountain Creek Baptist Church

108 Mountain Creek Road
Kirksey Community

Hispanic Ministry: Worship Services, English Classes, and Health Kits

Ministry Health Kits will be delivered to the Migrant Camps on **Tuesday, May 20**. Please meet at the association office at 6 P.M. to form teams to visit the camps. Please call the office at 637.3309 if you have questions or need more information.

Below: Pastor Cris Negrete visiting with workers last year at one of the camps.



Volunteers are needed to help with English Classes. Please contact Faye Usry at 637.4620.

Hispanic Worship Services

May 25 – September 14

6:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Providence Baptist Church

Worship led by Pastor Cris Negrete

Church volunteers are needed to help with meals and transportation. Please call Margaret Ann Thompson to schedule dates at 803.278.2000, 803.637.3248 or email at mat2825@hughes.net.

Churches Changing Communities: July 13-18

Volunteers are needed to provide breakfasts and dinners Monday-Friday for the CCC participants. If you or your church can help, please contact Lynn Rearden at 637.1180, 804.614.8059, or 637.9899.

Donations of the following may be brought to the EBA office: 18 oz. plastic cups, 10" plastic plates, plastic wrap, sandwich bags, plastic forks, and quart size storage bags.

"We hope everyone is already praying over our upcoming CCC July 13th - 18th, the workers, safety, and most importantly, the precious souls we hope to touch in Jesus' name."



Donna Williamson
& Helen Garvin
Association Prayer Leaders

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

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Mrs. Jackie Ridings
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Office Hours
Monday-Tuesday
8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Wednesday
8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

**Meetings at the
Association Office:**

Dolls on Mission Workshop
Tuesday, April 1
Tuesday, April 15
9:30 A.M.

DOM Search Committee
Thursday, April 3
1:00 P.M.

WMU Leadership Team
Thursday, April 3
7:00 P.M.

**CCC Construction &
Ministry Coordinators**
Monday, April 21
Monday, May 5
9:00 A.M.

VBS Clinic
Tuesday, April 29
6:00-8:00 P.M.

April 14
Deadline for May Newsletter

To the Edgefield Baptist Association,

Life is an adventure. I find myself moving in one direction, sometimes not knowing why, and all the while feeling as though an unexplainable force is present. Then I look back and see God's handprint where He was guiding me through each and every step of the way. What I thought confusing and odd at first is then peacefully revealed as I look at the different situations through God's eyes. It's then that I tend to see the clearest and understand more fully His will in my life.

I've been fortunate to see God lead me from a military career with different duties and exciting moments into a ministry career with endless opportunities to touch people's lives. Amid the joys and sorrows, the laughs and the tears, I found another one of those adventures. God has brought me to a ministry I have enjoyed like no other, working alongside people I dearly love and highly respect. And like before, God has revealed His will to me.

I feel assured that my time has come to retire from active ministry. With your permission, I'd like to retire at the end of June. I will remain active to work Churches Changing Communities in July and ask that the only pay I receive in July is for reimbursement of ministry related expenses. At some point in the near future beyond that date, Donna and I will move back to Texas where we can watch after her mom.

As for you, I'd like to share a few thoughts best expressed at this time. In coming here, I found a people willing, ready, and excited to join together in ministry. God led you to a new horizon and with a new mindset for mission work that begins right here at home and extends to the very ends of the earth. I saw people stepping forward and leading in new and exciting ways. You showed leadership qualities that before had lain dormant, but now are freed to be used for God's glory. There was a day you stood outside your comfort zone, but now you can't see doing any less for God as you reach out to people He loves. That is why I can say with certainty; you are a people on fire for God with a fire that will not soon go out.

I feel assured that a day will come when we all will look back, see God's handprint, and rejoice in His direction in allowing our paths to cross. I feel certain that God has the right man already in mind to come here and lead you as your Director of Missions. And I feel certain that the fire that drives this association to glorify God in active mission work will continue to burn brightly. And in looking back, I pray that you, too, will have peace knowing that we each played a part in fulfilling God's design to reach out to people in His love.

In His Love,
Robert

Dr. Robert A. Williamson, Jr.
Your DOM

Director of Missions Search Committee Appointed

Moderator Steve Cartin announces that the following have been appointed to the DOM Search Committee and have agreed to serve:

Ron Creswell (Red Oak Grove), Aileen Miller (Red Hill), John Noblin (Plum Branch), Margaret Ann Thompson (Republican), and Stacy Williams (Edgefield First).

"Their first order of business was delegated to be a recommendation as to whether we should search for an Interim or Permanent DOM. This committee and the Personnel Committee will be meeting soon for an initial orientation and review of the work ahead.

"Please feel free to speak to me or call at 803.624.6599 if you have any thoughts or concerns you would like to share with me. Thank you to all who have and who will continue to have this important matter on your hearts and in your prayers."

Yours in Christ, Steve Cartin, EBA Moderator

**Financial Report
February 2014**

Church Contributions	MTD	YTD		
Antioch	560.00	560.00		
Berea	75.00	75.00		
Big Stevens Creek	300.00	487.50		
Ebenezer	0.00	0.00		
Edgefield First	0.00	6200.00		
First Bethany-McCormick	0.00	1075.00		
Gilgal	0.00	0.00		
Little Stevens Creek	0.00	0.00		
Modoc	0.00	242.99		
Mountain Creek	151.25	151.25		
Mt. Zion	0.00	0.00		
Parksville	118.67	118.67		
Peace Haven	0.00	0.00		
Plum Branch	0.00	0.00		
Providence	0.00	0.00		
Red Hill	333.02	333.02		
Red Oak Grove	0.00	4400.00		
Rehoboth	0.00	300.00		
Republican	0.00	0.00		
Sweetwater	186.38	186.38		
SCBC	0.00	0.00		
Various Donations	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL	1724.32	14129.81		
Designated Accounts	Beginning Balance	MTD Revenues	MTD Expenses	Ending Balance
Missions				
---AAA	184.55	0.00	0.00	184.55
---CCC	1620.19	10.00	311.65	1313.54
---IMB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
---NAMB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
---Hispanic	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Disaster Relief	6271.67	100.00	137.31	6234.36
Men's Ministries	2860.74	100.00	1266.85	1693.89
WMU	400.00	0.00	53.34	346.66
EBAMO	4030.90	0.00	0.00	4030.90
TOTAL	15418.05	210.00	1769.15	13858.90
	MTD	YTD		
Beginning Balance	50365.15			
Receipts	1724.32	14129.81		
Expenses	4537.20	9437.22		
Sub Total	47552.27	4692.59		
Designated Revenues	210.00			
Designated Expenses	1769.15			
Ending Balance	45993.12			
Investments				
Money Market #1	13318.25			
Money Market #2	10337.29			
TOTAL	23655.54			
Baptist Foundation	11698.18			

Special Days in April

Birthdays

01 Ashley Maish.....Big Stevens Creek
 06 Sandra Mosteller.....Providence
 14 Lori Noblin.....Plum Branch
 19 Larry Ford.....Ebenezer
 21 Vonda Cooley.....Berea
 26 Laura Herring.....Edgefield First
 28 Lynn Williams.....Edgefield First

Wedding Anniversaries

07 Jerry & Helen Garvin.....Gilgal
 15 Bruce & Vonda Cooley.....Berea

Pastoral Anniversaries

John Noblin (7 years).....Plum Branch

Men's Ministry Supper/Meeting

Thursday, April 10 at 7:00 P.M.

Hosted by: First Bethany

Please contact Wayne Miller for more information at 803.637.3663.

Ministers and Wives Fellowship

Saturday, May 10 from 3:30 to 7:30 P.M.

Home of Donna & Robert Williamson

Church Events

Edgefield First: Easter Egg Hunt April 19 from 10:30 A.M. until Noon.

Little Stevens Creek: Easter Egg Hunt on April 19 at 3 P.M. You may call 803.622.3113 for more information.

Plum Branch: Homecoming March 30 at 11 A.M. with Rev. Darrell Engle, with dinner followed by Gospel Singing at 1:30 P.M.

A Clean-Up Morning at Association Office

Saturday, May 24 at 8:00 A.M.

Please call Bill Jennings at 803.637.3763 if you would like to help.



Helping His Harvest

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:37-38

Looking for a way to attract and keep visitors?

Check out OUTREACH MAGAZINE online at

www.outreachmagazine.com/ for some ideas to consider about visitors to your church. From the Homepage, click on Resources, at the bottom of resources page under the heading Popular Topics, click on Keeping Visitors

Engaged to find 4 articles and ideas that may help you gain and keep visitors. Feedback welcomed – send to me at john.noblin@yahoo.com.

By Rev. John Noblin, Evangelism Program Leader

**April 13: Cooperative Program Sunday
Together we can do more to impact the Kingdom!**

For All Ages-Looking Ahead

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

Jeremiah 1:5

Event	Date	Location
RA/Challenger Field Day Register by April 1	Apr 12	Connie Maxwell
Start Your Engines! Bring a Kid Event at Darlington Race Track	Apr 11-12	Darlington
Spring Youth Thing Register at www.vstuff.org	Apr 18	Carowinds
Jubilee: Gospel Music & Preaching	Apr 14-16 or Apr 16-18	Branson, Mo
Band of Brothers	Apr 21-23	White Oak
Jubilee: Gospel Music & Preaching	Apr 28-30	Myrtle Beach
IGNITE – EBA Youth Weekend Registration due April 11	May 2-4	Marietta Baptist Camp
WMU Leadership Training	May 16-17	Camp La Vida
Ministry Assistants Conference	May 15-17	Camden FBC
Church Treasurer’s Conference	Aug 2	SCBC
Coastal Evangelism Conference	Aug 6-8	Langston BC Conway, SC

Edgefield Baptist Association
985 Highway 25 North
Edgefield, SC 29824

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Return Service Requested

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).

May 18-25: Associational Missions Emphasis Week of Prayer & EBA Missions Offering
CROSSing North America - Missions That Begin at Home: “...*sharing the good news as we go*” Matthew 28:19-20
 Free materials available by contacting the EBA office: bulletin covers, prayer cards, posters



The Missions Map is now in place at the EBA office and ready for you to see where people in the EBA are On Mission.

Prayer for Mission Trips

Be prayerful for spiritual preparation for the teams, for God to be glorified, and for safe travel.

May 17-31: Tanzania-Dr. Beth Gordineer

June 23-July 12: Samoa

July 5-12: Washington State-Big Stevens Creek Youth Group

VBS in Every Church

Tuesday, April 29
6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Edgefield Association Office

Lynn Williams will share ideas and materials to help you have a successful VBS in your church – no matter which “theme” or curriculum you use.

Ministry Health Kits: Due May 6

Please place one each of the following items in a 2-gallon zippered bag:

- ✓ Adult Toothbrush
- ✓ Toothpaste (6 oz. or larger)
- ✓ Bath-size Soap (3.7 oz. or larger)
- ✓ Wash Cloth
- ✓ Bath Towel
- ✓ Comb

WMU Leadership Team for 2014-2015 Elected at Spring Meeting



Photo L to R: Roger Gardner, Lynn Rearden, Jenny Banner, Gladys McNeil, Lisa Doolittle, Rhonda Herlong, Barbara Humes, Faye Johnson, Faye Usry, and Susan Keck. Not shown: Andrea Hensley, Suzanne Peeples, and Linda Dale Shaver.

WMU organizations that received Triple A Recognition are: Antioch, Edgefield First, Little Stevens Creek, and Red Oak Grove. Churches recognized for significant growth in WMU are: Antioch, First Bethany, Plum Branch and Republican.