

The *TIDINGS*

Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association

March 2015



MTBA SPRING MEETING
AT
POROPORONE BAPTIST CHURCH
APRIL 19, 2015
AT
3:00 PM

DINNER FOLLOWING AT 5:30 PM
ADJOURNMENT

The MTBA Spring Meeting will have a different format from previous Spring meetings. We will not have the traditional break-out sessions that we have had in for at least the last ten years. Over the years we have been privileged to have almost every leader within the Virginia Baptist Mission Board lead in break-out sessions, plus a number of other Baptist leaders who are involved in various types of ministries.

One common philosophy of the different Program Committees over the years has been an effort to let our people see the variety of ministries that Baptists are involved in, in hopes that churches will discover new ways they can minister and rejoice in the ministries that they are involved in.

The emphasis for the 2015 Spring meeting continues the focus on missions. We have two speakers who are no strangers to our churches and who have been involved in missions both within and beyond the geographical boundaries of the Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association.

The first speaker will be **Mr. Buck Rodgers** who has been the Construction Coordinator of the Impact Virginia! events within our Association. The MTBA has hosted four Impact Virginia! events: 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2014. Impact Virginia! is the Virginia Baptist Mission Board's one week construction opportunity for teenagers in which 250 to 300 participants focus on home repairs for those with great need in an Association. The goal is make the homes safe, dry and warm.

As Construction Coordinator of an Impact Virginia! event, Buck surveys possible job sites, selects the jobs sites, lines up the construction materials, plans each project and coordinates the work the youth do under the supervision of the on-site crew chiefs. It takes months, to arrange for an Impact Virginia! event.

Buck has traveled extensively within the boundaries of our association looking at homes that have been recommended to him by our people. This has given him a good perspective of needs that exist and an awareness of what can be done to help people.



The second speaker is the **Rev. Mike Gray**, the pastor of Newington Baptist Church, Gloucester. He is a graduate of Palm Beach Atlantic University (Bachelor of Arts) and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Master of Divinity) Louisville, KY. He is married to the former Cathy Lee Graefe of St. Petersburg, FL. Mike and Cathy have two daughters and five grandchildren.

Pastor Gray has been actively involved in local, state, national and overseas mission projects— in Brazil, South Africa and Ghana.



Calendar for 2015

Sunday, May 3 at 3 pm:

WMU annual meeting at
Poroporone Baptist Church
(Shacklefords)

Saturday, July 11 at 10 am:

Stop Hunger Now Packing Event
Mathews Baptist Church
(Hudgins)

Sunday, October 18 at 3 pm:

MTBA Fall Meeting
Gwynn's Island Baptist Church
(Gwynn)

TO ALL CHURCHES:

**MTBA INTERCESSORY
PRAYER MEETING:
(EVERYONE IS INVITED)**

Monday, April 13 at 7 pm
Glebe Landing Baptist Church
(Laneview)

Monday, May 11 at 7 pm
New Hope Baptist Church
(Shacklefords)

Monday, June 8 at 7 pm
New Hope Fellowship
(Hartfield—Hwy. 33 E)

If you would like your church events highlighted in the next newsletter, send your information/newsletter to the MTBA office no later than on June 16.

We can add to MTBA website your church event (s).

MTBA contact information is on back page.

God Will Move The Stone

The women who sought to anoint the dead body of Jesus are to be commended for their tender love and regard for the Savior. Yet, as they came near the place of burial, the practical difficulty of moving the heavy stone that sealed His tomb brought them unnecessary anxiety. Their fears were groundless; the stone had already been moved. So too, we are often needlessly concerned over prospective difficulties that God graciously removes or helps us overcome. Let us exercise greater faith in facing possible obstructions on the pathway of duty. We may be sure of the Lord's assistance in such matters when we press on in His name and for His glory.

Go forward today on the pathway of service, undaunted by possible future obstacles. Let your heart be cheered by the certainty that whatever difficulty you may face, God will move the stone.

From: Our Daily Bread

THANK YOU, CHURCHES!

A special thank you to the Churches that have provided mailing list for our newsletter, The Tidings. The mailing lists for all churches were lost due to a computer crash last Summer.

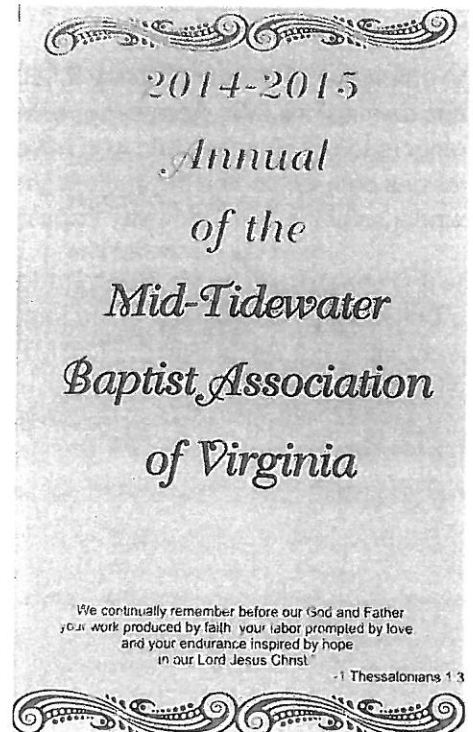
Dr. Robert May completed 50 years of ministry on March 28.

**MTBA VBS INFORMATION
NOW ON FACEBOOK:**

MTBA has a facebook page. A BIG thank you to **Kristal Reiner** of Hermitage Baptist Church for creating our facebook page. It is a site for our churches to share ideas, dates, and communications regarding our local Vacation Bible Schools. VBS is an entry point to Church and Christianity for many people. VBS gives the Church the opportunity to establish long-term relationships with visitors.

Like us on facebook.

The 2014-2015 Annuals have arrived! We are in the process of distributing the Annuals to our Churches. If you need additional copies, please contact the MTBA office.



MTBA Church News:

Bruington:

We welcome Dr. Roger Collier as Interim Pastor. Dr. Collier is no stranger to the MTBA. In 2014 he retired as Pastor of Harmony Grove Baptist Church. He was also moderator of the MTBA in 2014. Will have Sunrise Service on Easter, April 5. Youth events upcoming: 4/8 Family Movie night, 5/15—5/16 is Youth Retreat. VBS will be on 6/28—7/3 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Our 225th Anniversary event will be on Sept. 20.

Glebe Landing:

On March 17 at 10:30 am, Glebe Landing hosted the MTBA Ministers' Conference. The MTBA Intercessory Prayer Group will meet at Glebe Landing on April 13 at 7 pm. Easter event for the children will be on April 4. Sunrise Service will be at John Longest's home on April 5, breakfast to follow, 9:30 am Sunday School, Worship Service 11:00am decorating of cross with flowers. Pastor Gene Cumbia will be the guest speaker at Union Shiloh Revival & GLBC Choir on May 7. WMU ladies are providing lunch for Mattaponi Clinic.

Harmony Grove:

We had a successful pancake supper on 1/24; donations went towards new music. The choir is practicing a cantata for Easter and new music for Lent season. Choir bells are sounding wonderful.

Hermitage:

Pastor Edward Harrow, Sr., will be honored at the Middlesex Rotary Club's annual "Pride of Middlesex" dinner at the Hartfield Firehouse Pavilion on April 11.

Mathews:

WMU ladies made jars of home-made soup in Feb. & delivered them to shut-ins. Eagle Eyrie Senior High school weekend retreat was on March 13-15. On April 21 at 10:30 am, the MTBA Ministers' Conference will be at Mathews Baptist. Spring revival will be on April 26-29 with Rev. David Burt.

Newington:

"Secret Church" will be on April 24 starting at 7 pm to about 1:00 am based on David Platt's preaching. A church wide study, Counter Culture, will begin on April 29. VBS will be held the week of June 22-26 starting at 9 am.

Answering the Challenge Apologetics Conference

April 17-18 @ Newington Baptist Church
Friday 7 pm to 9 pm
Saturday 9 am to 4 pm

Olivet & Lower King & Queen

Memorial Day services will be on May 17 with Rev. Eddie Heath & afternoon service of music.

Petsworth:

Community Impact Day will be on July 18 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm for Service Projects, and from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm there will be dinner and testimonies. VBS will be on July 20-24 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

St. Stephens:

We welcome Rev. Mark Holland as Interim Pastor. He resides with his wife, Beth, in Mechanicsville.

Saluda:

Youth attended a retreat in March to Eagle Eyrie. The choir has been practicing special music for Easter.

Spring Hill:

They held a Bible study class, "Following God" series, on March 15 & 29 at 6:00 pm. Will be having a revival on April 26-29 with speaker, Rev. Ed Inabinet.

Urbanna:

On Feb. 9 MTBA Intercessory Prayer Group met at UBC. On March 4 UBC hosted The Saint John's Bible presentation by Dr. Tracy Hartman. L. Powell Smith, son of Eileen & John, is headed on a return mission trip to El Salvador in April. His first mission trip was to Panama when he was eleven with the UBC puppet team.

Zoar:

Has been studying the book, The Purpose Driven Life. God has a plan (purpose) for your life. Also had a six week Bible study, "Introduction To The New Testament", taught by Eddie Harrow in Feb. & March. On Feb. 7 had a reception for Dr. Valerie Carter, Executive Director/Treasurer—WMU of VA. Dr. Carter was guest speaker on Feb. 8. MTBA Intercessory Prayer Group met on March 9 at Zoar.

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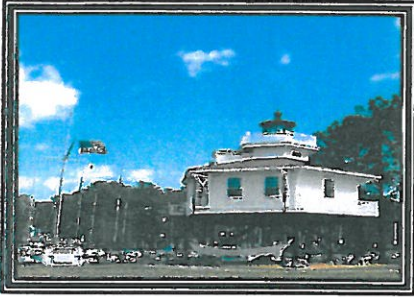
www.midtidewaterbaptistassociation.org

Office Hrs: Mon.-Wed. 8:30 am-3:00 pm

Dr. Robert May, Director of Missions

Barbara Bareford, Secretary

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"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

Return Service Requested

**WMU RECEPTION FOR
DR. VALERIE CARTER**

Dr. Valerie Carter, Executive Director/Treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia [WMUV], spoke twice in February at Zoar Baptist Church. On Saturday afternoon, March 7, she spoke at a reception hosted by the WMU of the MTBA, Mrs. Joan Walden, Director. The following day she spoke at the morning worship service at Zoar Baptist Church. Dr. Carter's involvement in missions within Virginia began in 1988. She served for ten years as Director of the Hillside Baptist Center in Richmond, as associate of Christian Social Ministries at WMUV for five years and for the past ten years as Associate Pastor for Global Ministries at the Bon Air Baptist Church in Richmond. As Associate of Christian Social Ministries for WMUV, she developed Hope Builders/Christian Women's Job Corps sites throughout Virginia.

Dr. Carter has a passion for ministry, a devotion to the work and ministry of the WMUV and a love for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with those who do not know Him as Savior. Any church interested in starting a WMU or strengthening your existing WMU ministry or seeking to find new ways to serve Christ should invite Dr. Carter to assist your church with ministry and missions.



Dr. May was presented a gift (silver tray) from Bruington Baptist Church on December 21. The tray is engraved:
"For your work with the Mid-Tidewater Association and generous service to Bruington Baptist Church December 2014".

