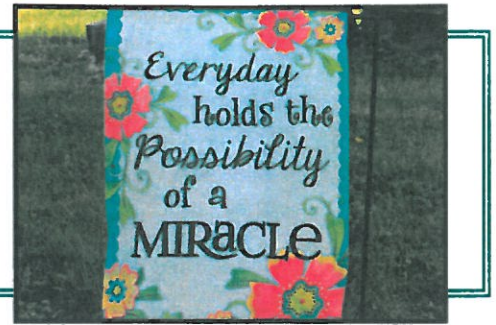


The **TIDINGS**  
Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association

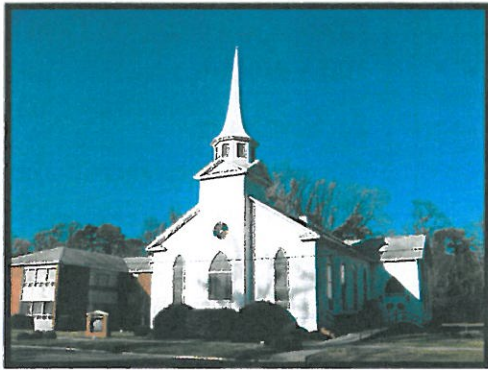
SEPTEMBER 2015



**MID-TIDEWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
FALL MEETING**

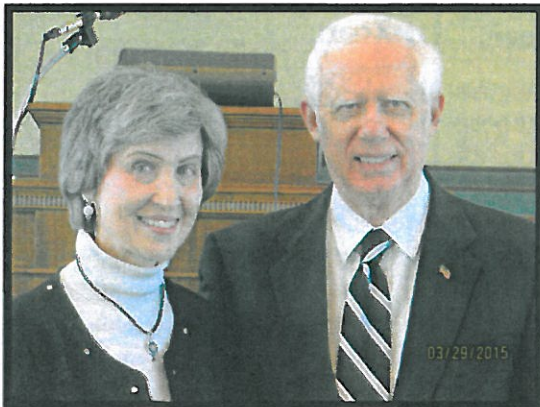
**Sunday, October 18 at 3:00 PM**  
**Gwynn's Island Baptist Church**  
2011 Ferry Road, Gwynn, VA 23066

Message by: Rev. Ed Inabinet  
Dinner graciously provided by  
Gwynn's Island Baptist Church



**This is an important meeting.**

We will be voting on a new Director of Missions and members of Committees & Action Groups for 2016. Dr. Robert May, who recently retired after serving MTBA as Director of Missions for more than 8 years, will be with us, as well as Marilyn May, his wife, who will be bringing special music. Reports will be presented by Committees and Action Groups. Officers will be recognized who served in 2015, and we will dedicate/pray for 2016 Officers.



**Mid-Tidewater Secretaries attend Conference**

Cathy Rowe, Secretary of Mathews Baptist Church and Barbara Bareford, Secretary of MTBA, attended BMAV (Baptist Ministry Assistants of VA) Fall conference at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg on September 17-18.

BMAV encourages spiritual growth, promotes professional excellence, and offers opportunities for continuing education. BMAV also helps to develop a deeper knowledge of the church's mission and the ministry assistant's part in that mission, and works cooperatively with Baptist churches & entities in VA.



(Barbara Bareford & Cathy Rowe at Eagle Eyrie.)



**M T B A  
Church News:**



**Bruington:**

Dr. Fred Anderson, Director of the Virginia Baptist Historical Society, was the guest speaker at Bruington Baptist Church's 225th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, September 20, 2015. Dr. Anderson spoke about Bruington Church's first pastor, Rev. Robert Baylor Semple, & the importance of his role in Baptist history. Accompanied by Dr. Roger Collier & Mr. William Gwathmey, Dr. Anderson traveled to the church by horse and buggy from Rosemount, the birthplace of Rev. Semple. The program also included greetings from former pastors & other special guests including: Rev. Brent Kimlick, Rev. Michelle Kimlick, Rev. James Wright, Dr. Roger Crump, Rev. Patricia Crump, Rev. Ellen Gwathmey, Mr. Alfred Shockley, Mr. Jimmy Shockley, Mr. Michael Milstead, & Rev. Sean Kennedy. Miss Lillian Walker Jones was recognized for her many years of service as organist, & music by Gray Bland, Michael Milstead, Crystal and Josh Grigsby, Rev. Roger and Rosa Crump, & the Bruington Baptist Church Choir. An oak tree was planted in the churchyard to replace Bruington's mighty oak that fell during a windstorm & a wreath was placed on the grave of Rev. Robert Baylor Semple by the church's oldest & youngest members, Mr. William Gwathmey & Miss Madaya Seip.

The service was followed by dinner on the grounds. (Fred Anderson pictured)



**Harmony Grove:**

On September 16, Harmony Grove unanimously called Pastor Chris Jessee to be their pastor. He will begin on Sunday, 9/27. (see insert)

**Mathews:**

Bible study, "Becoming a Contagious Christian", began on 9/9 (Wednesdays after family dinner). The Youth, Choir, & WMU have had a busy Summer with many events.

**New Hope Fellowship:**

Dr. Leonard Edloe, pastor of New Hope Fellowship, was awarded The Virginia Pharmacists Association's Outstanding Pharmacist Award on 7/28. Congratulations!

**New Hope Memorial:**

Celebrated Homecoming & Revival from 9/13—9/16.

**Newington:**

Member went to Africa in July for Operation Christmas Child to distribute shoe boxes.

Another member spent a week in July in SW VA leading adult VBS classes, & missionary work. The Ugandan Thunder African Children's Choir will perform on 9/25.

**Olivet & Lower King & Queen:**

Rev. David Medlen retired on August 23 after serving Olivet & Lower King & Queen Baptist Churches for 20 years (see insert). Pastor Search Committees are actively working. Pray they will be led by the Holy Spirit to that person whom God has prepared to be their next pastor.

**Petsworth:**

Monday night Bible study, Revelation, began on 9/14. Pray for Petsworth as they continue to seek God's will for a new Senior Pastor.

**Saluda:**

Pastor Rob Marsh (see insert) began his ministry on July 5. SBC looks forward to many possibilities he will bring as he seeks to serve God as Pastor. The Youth have had several events this past Summer and look forward to a retreat at Eagle Eyrie 10/9—10/11.

**St. Stephens:**

"Note burning celebration" for fellowship hall was held on 9/13.

**Spring Hill:**

Began a new study "Worship From The Tabernacle" on 9/7. Will have upcoming mission trip to Tanzania (Africa). Pastor Chuck McDaniel began his 20th year in July as Pastor.

**Urbanna:**

On 8/8 "No Strings Attached" puppet team went on mission trip to Eastern Shore. On 9/12 Beth Moore Simulcast was held. A Bible study, "Conversation Peace", is held each Tuesday morning began on 9/15.

**Zoar:**

Worship At The Beach services concluded for the Summer; attendance up. Mens' Bible Study of Revelation on Thursday mornings began 9/17. Ladies' Bible study on "Discerning The Voice of God" is being held on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am and Thursday evenings at 7 pm.

## **STOP HUNGER NOW**

On July 11 from 10-NOON, MTBA volunteers (63) packed food (10,153 bags in 1 hour 13 minutes) for Stop Hunger Now at Mathews Baptist Church (8284 Buckley Hall Road, Hudgins, VA 23076). Meal-packaging events took place through a mobile operation that delivers ingredients and supplies. During the event, volunteers work in teams at each packaging station. Volunteers set up and take down packaging stations and equipment, fill bins with raw ingredients, scoop ingredients into meal bags, weigh and seal the bags, box and stack them on pallets, and load the pallets and equipment onto a truck.

Meal-packaging events are a great way to educate volunteers about global hunger and inspire them to get more involved in fighting it. The events also give volunteers hands-on experience in leadership development, team-building, relationship-building, creative problem-solving, and goal-setting and achievement.

(see insert for pictures) Additional pictures on website: [midtidewaterbaptist.org](http://midtidewaterbaptist.org): click on "News".

## **MTBA WEBSITE:**

**[midtidewaterbaptist.org](http://midtidewaterbaptist.org)**

22 MTBA churches that have been added to website. Visit website for general information (under "About"), Ministries, Partner Churches, Resources, Calendar, and Directions. The remaining churches will be added to website.

**ALL CHURCHES:** Each church can add their events to website to your church profile. MTBA office can add your church events to Google calendar; send events to MTBA office.

## **ALL CHURCHES:**

Send church events for next Tidings to MTBA office by 12/1.

## **"SUMMER JAM":**

MTBA Summer Jam for rising 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders was held on Thursday, August 20, 2015, at Harmony Grove Baptist Church. The evening began with numerous games outside for the Youth, followed by dinner. Pastor Jonathan Davis of Urbanna Baptist Church and Bill Bower, Chair of Youth Ministries, played additional exciting games with the Youth inside the church. Pastor Rob Marsh of Saluda Baptist Church spoke a message that "we must have a clear message, what is on your billboard about your life? Is Jesus real in our life? When troubles come and the wheels of your life have come off, Jesus is the Anchor! Embrace a life of service by serving others. It's about His glory and His fame, not about you." Following Pastor Marsh's message, music was provided by Scarlet Fade, a worship band, with high energy, praise music.

The event was a great success! We thank Harmony Grove Baptist Church for hosting the event, Pastor Jonathan Davis for his tireless efforts with scheduling/setting up/taking down and his enthusiasm, Bill Bower for his assistance in making this event an awesome night for the Youth & Adults, Pastor Rob Marsh who delivered a message geared to the Youth, Don McNamee for his setting up/taking down, running errands, video taping the event, and many others who had an active part in the Summer Jam.

(see insert for pictures)

Additional pictures on website: [midtidewaterbaptist.org](http://midtidewaterbaptist.org)), click on "News".

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING:**

Sunday School training event for Pastors, General Officers, and workers was held at Poroporone Baptist Church on Saturday, September 12 from 9:00 am – 11:30 am. This was a very informative, energizing event and very well attended. Present were five "consultants" from BGAV and/or churches from the Richmond area who trained using their expertise. There were sessions with open discussions in which there was an opportunity to ask questions and discern the best approach for situations, Sunday school classes, teaching methods, etc. We are grateful to Poroporone Baptist Church for hosting this event, providing a reception with delicious food, and especially for their hospitality. Within an hour of the start of the event, there were tornado warnings in our area, but God took us in the palm of his hand and the storm passed without incident. For successful teachers and leaders, we need a clear vision, objectives, grow leaders spiritually, utilize people according to their spiritual gift (s), commit resources (finances), enhance talents by improving skills, affirm, affirm, affirm: PRAISE, and PRAY, PRAY WITHOUT CEASING.

**Do YOU bloom  
where YOU are planted?**

(see insert for pictures)





**Rev. David Medlen** was honored with a reception given by Lower King & Queen and Olivet Baptist Churches on August 23, 2015. Pastor Medlen faithfully served Lower King & Queen and Olivet Baptist Churches for twenty years and has been a minister for 50 years serving churches in Hawaii, TX, NC, and VA.

Well done, good and faithful servant!

*Rev. David Medlen & Rev. Eddie Heath*

**Rev. Rob Marsh** is Pastor of Saluda Baptist Church. Rev. Marsh has served as the Associate Pastor of Students & Families at Ferry Farm Baptist Church in Fredericksburg, VA for the past five years. He was ordained to the ministry by Ferry Farm Baptist Church in 2011. Rev. Marsh holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religious Studies from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Master of Divinity Degree from the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. He has an Associates Degree in Logistics Planning & Supply Management from the Community College of the Air Force and has completed the Airman Leadership School of the North Carolina National Guard. He has served as a Youth Pastor at churches in Richmond, Midlothian, and Fredericksburg. Rev. Marsh is a military veteran, having served his country in the United States Air Force and Air National Guard during the Afghanistan/Iraq conflicts. Rev. Marsh and his wife, Lindsay, have a son, Liam.



*Rev. Rob Marsh*



**Rev. Chris Jessee** is Pastor of Harmony Grove Baptist Church. Rev. Jessee had been Associate Pastor/Student Ministry at Potomac Crest Baptist Church in Woodbridge, VA since August 2013. Chris grew up in Florida. Chris has a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry with focus in Leadership Development 2014 from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Lynchburg, VA. He has a Bachelor of Science in Practical Theology 2007 from Southeastern University, Lakeland FL and an Associate of Arts in Mass Communications 2005 from Polk Community College, Winter Haven, FL. His skills are preaching and teaching. Rev. Jessee and his wife, Mallory, have three children, Leah Isaiah, and Micah.

*Rev. Chris Jessee*

**[Welcome Rev. Rob Marsh and Rev. Chris Jessee to Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association!](#)**



**STOP HUNGER EVENT on 7/11/15:**



**Pastor Brian Kramer of Mathews Baptist Church, Paul Williams, Program Manager of Stop Hunger, Tammy Faulkner, Chair Community Ministries Action Group (Macedonia Baptist Church), & Dr. Robert May**



**Church members ready to pack 10,153 bags.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMER JAM on 8/20/15:**



**Pastor Rob Marsh of Saluda Baptist Church was worship speaker.**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Pastor Jonathan Davis of Urbanna Baptist introduced worship band, Scarlet Fade.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING on 9/12/15:**



**Pastor Doug Davis of Poroporone welcomed all and prayed.**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Members ready for training.**

Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association  
P. O. Box 302  
884 Gloucester Road  
Saluda, VA 23149

Phone & Fax: 804-758-4385  
E-mail: mtbasaluda@gmail.com  
www.midtidewaterbaptist.org  
Office Hrs: Mon.-Wed. 8:30 am-3:00 pm

Rev. Eddie Heath, DOM (effective 1/1/16)  
Barbara Bareford, Secretary

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Urbanna VA  
Permit 122



"You care for the land and water it;  
you enrich it abundantly."  
Psalm 65: 9 (NIV)

**Return Service Requested**

**MTBA INTERCESSORY  
PRAYER MEETINGS:**  
**(EVERYONE IS INVITED).**

Monday, October 12 at 7 pm  
Harmony Grove Baptist  
7722 General Puller Highway  
Topping, VA 23169-0138

Monday, November 9 at 7 pm  
Poroporone Baptist Church  
30071 The Trail  
Shacklefords, VA 23156

No Prayer Gathering in December.

(Monthly Prayer Gatherings will  
resume in January 2016).

**CALENDAR FOR 2015/2016:**

October 2015:  
PASTOR Appreciation month

Sunday, October 11, 2015:  
World Hunger Sunday

**Sunday, October 18 at 3 pm:**  
**MTBA Fall Meeting**  
**Gwynn's Island Baptist Church**  
**2011 Ferry Road**  
**Gwynn, VA 23066-0026**

November 9-11, 2015:  
BGAV Annual meeting,  
Second Baptist Church  
Richmond, VA

November 29-December 6:  
Week of Prayer—  
International Missions and  
Lottie Moon Christmas  
Offering

Sunday, April 17, 2016  
at 3 pm:  
MTBA Spring Meeting  
Urbanna Baptist Church  
121 Watling Street  
Urbanna, VA 23175-0416