

The **TIDINGS**

Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association

April 2017

Serving Cooperating Sharing

Second Annual MTBA Golf Tournament

Friday, April 28, 10:00 AM

Piankatank Golf Club

It is time for the MTBA Annual Golf outing and this year we have added a Steak Cook Out for the participants immediately following the golf tournament. The cook out will take place at Camp Piankatank. We would like to have each church put at least one four person team into the tournament. The cost is \$400 per team. There will be mulligans, prizes for closest to the pin, and prizes for the teams that finish first, second, and third places. It is going to be a great day.

This year's tournament is helping us raise money toward MTBA Rise Against Hunger \$5,000 goal. We will use this money to purchase the food for our MTBA project of packing 20,000 meals on Saturday, September 16th. Volunteers from our 25 MTBA churches will gather to prepare these meal packages that will be sent to some of the most undernourished places in the world. Everyone who participates in this year's tournament is helping in a very significant way. Please call Barbara Bareford at 804-758-4385 to register your team. The deadline for registration is Monday, April 24. Looking forward to see you on the links.

2017 MTBA Spring Meeting

Sunday, April 30, 3:00 PM

St. Stephens Baptist Church

The Program Committee has been hard at work planning and preparing for this year's MTBA Spring Meeting at St. Stephens BC. I think there will be some surprises as well as some great stories about those who have gone before us. Three of our churches, Olivet, Saluda, and St. Stephens will be celebrating their 175th birthday and that certainly calls for some celebration.

We will also be giving out three Servant Leadership Awards again this year. The recipients will be Chief Anne Richardson from New Freedom Congregation for **Serving**, Spring Hill Baptist Church for **Cooperating**, and Saluda Baptist Church for **Sharing**.

You can count on great fellowship with sister churches, delicious food, and a very informative and inspiring program you do not want to miss. See you at St. Stephens.

Your 2017 Program Committee

The Bottom Line

Well I don't know about you, but this is without a doubt my favorite time of the year. Some who know me may think it's because the weather is warming up and I will be able to play some golf. I do like that about the Spring, but it's not the reason this is my favorite time of the year. Some may think it has to do with March Madness because I certainly love college basketball, but that is not the reason either. Or maybe it's just because Spring is such a beautiful time of the year in Virginia. As much as I like all of that, it's not the reason either.

No, the reason can be stated in two words...THE RESURRECTION. It is the amazing promise that God has made to us through his Son Jesus. It is the reassurance that God did for us what we could not do for ourselves. And for me, it is the feeling that when Jesus returns it might be in the Spring and maybe even on an Easter Sunday.

I just love this time of the year. And, who knows, this just might be the year and the season when He returns in all of his brilliant glory, just like He promised you and me. I thank God for the powerful message of THE RESURRECTION! I pray that each of you have a blessed Easter celebration.

Eddie



Rev. Lynn Litchfield (in orange coverall) presented Gracelnside, VA's Prison Ministry, on February 8 at Hermitage BC. Over 85 people were present for the morning session. Thank you Hermitage BC for providing lunch! Lynn led the evening session for local youth with over 70 in attendance. Gracelnside chaplains minister to the 30,000 men and women incarcerated in VA today. Gracelnside faith based re-entry program boasts a zero percent recidivism rate. With over 200 graduates, 100% stay out all three years formally followed! Visit website www.graceinside.org.



MTBA WMU Children's Ministry Day was on February 18 at Spring Hill BC. Learning experiences were about missions in Norway and Tanzania. There were crafts, games, and a birthday cake for missionaries. It was a wonderful day! Thank you Spring Hill BC for helping with this event!

Prayer retreat on February 18, 2017, at Camp Piankatank, Hartfield.



Intercessory Prayer Group



Dr. John Snow (Zoar BC), Rev. Rob Marsh (former Saluda BC Pastor) led the retreat.



Lower King and Queen and Olivet Baptist Churches welcomed **Reverend Terry Morrison** as pastor on January 1, 2017. He and his wife, Kim, moved into the parsonage in late December. They have 2 children, Heather and Travis. Terry was employed by VDOT for 32 years managing road construction funds. Kim ran an in home child care center for 20 years. During this time both Kim and Terry were very active in their churches. Terry served as moderator, teacher, deacon and filled in as supply pastor in several churches. In 2009 Terry enrolled at Providence Bible College in Norfolk and graduated in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies. Also during this time he served as interim pastor followed by full time pastor for Whitehead's Grove Baptist Church in Smithfield. Lower King & Queen and Olivet are pleased to have Terry as their pastor and welcome his leadership in their churches. They look forward to his ministry in their churches and their communities.

Rev. Terry & Kim Morrison (pictured)

Beech Grove: Called Dr. Richard Croxton as their Interim Pastor on March 5 - Welcome to MTBA!

Bruington: VBS: June 25—30.

Gwynn's Island: Gwynn's Island Baptist Church is in the process of Envision! Discovering God's vision for GIBC. Praise God that over 100 devotional booklets have been distributed. Please pray for God to use this process to His glory.

Harmony Grove: Easter Sunday, April 16 at 6:15 am Sunrise Service at end of Locklies Creek Road (road beside Eckhard's Restaurant); Rev. David Medlen will bring the message, followed by refreshments, the public is invited. Easter Sunday at 9:00 am Sunday School, 11:00 am Worship with message by Rev. Eddie Heath. VBS: July 10—14.

Hermitage: April 15 at 10 am: Easter Egg Hunt and Family Fun Day. Sunrise Service at 6:20 am at Week's Farm (Water View) - in event of rain will be held at Hermitage. Fellowship Easter breakfast held in Fellowship hall following Sunrise Service. VBS June 25—30.

Lower King & Queen: Rev. Terry Morrison called as Pastor on January 1, 2017. Welcome to MTBA!

Mathews: CentriKid June 26-30 at Eagle Eyrie.

Mattaponi: Congratulations to Preston Hudgins and Jack Vogel on their baptism March 19. Preston is 18 and Jack is 76. You're never too old! Congratulations to Holly Duff for coming forward and presenting herself as a candidate for baptism. Renovation and repair of the entrances to the church are complete along with an addition of a ramp for the disabled.

New Hope Memorial: Family Fun Day: April 29 from 11:00 am-4:00 pm, Bible Scavenger hunt, music, bouncy house, games, food, and much more. Come out for this Family Fun Day!

Newington: Maundy Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 pm. April 15 from 9:00 am —11:00 am Easter Egg Hunt. Easter Sunday April 16: Sunrise Service at 6:30 am at Fary Farm (end of Ware House Road) followed by brunch at Newington fellowship hall, 9:00 am Sunday School, 10:15 am Worship. Secret Church on April 22 from 8:00 am—2:00 pm "Scripture and Authority in an Age of Skepticism" with David Platt. Contact Church office for details: e-mail: newingtonbc.org or phone 804-693-2349.

Olivet: Rev. Terry Morrison called as Pastor as January 1, 2017. Welcome to MTBA!

Poroporone: April 9 at 11:00 am Easter Cantata "Lamb of God". April 14 at 7:00 pm Good Friday Service. April 15 at 11:00 am —1:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt. Easter Sunday, April 16 at 6:15 am Sunrise Service and pancake breakfast to follow, 8:30 am Contemporary Worship, 9:00 am Sunday School, 10:00 am Worship/Decorate the "Living Cross". On April 23 "Rally Day" 9:30 am Contemporary Worship, 10:00 Sunday School, 11:00 am Worship, special music, followed by lunch. Women Of Purpose Ministry meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6pm and the Outdoors Adventures Ministry meets on the 2nd Monday of each Month at 7pm.

Saluda: Maundy Thursday Service April 13 at 6:30 pm. Easter Sunday, April 16: 10 am Sunday School, 11:00 am Worship with Dr. Barbara Filling, guest speaker. Sunday, Sept. 24 at 11:00 am: 175th Birthday Celebration with Dr. John Upton, guest speaker.

Spring Hill: Revival May 7—10 at 7:30 pm with Rev. Eddie Heath delivering the messages.

Urbanna: WMU dates: April 23 at 11 am WMU Focus Sunday Dr. Valerie Carter guest speaker, lunch to follow.

April 23 at 3 pm Mid-Tidewater WMU Spring Meeting, Dr. Valerie Carter, WMU Executive Director/Treasurer guest speaker, break & fellowship, Business session. On April 29 at 9 am to 12 noon WMU Sewing Ministry. Project Luv Sacs for Cancer- Seminar will be presented at UBC in June by Leanna Burrell Luv Sac Facilitator.

Zoar: Good Friday Service: April 14 at 7:00 pm. Community Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil on April 15 at 6:00 am-12:00 midnight. Easter Sunday April 16: Sunrise service at 6:30 am at Zoar's beach property, Worship service at 10:30 am, Easter egg hunt at 11:30 am.

Loving Our Neighbors 52 Weeks A Year

May 1, 2017 – April 29, 2018

Matthew 22:39

The Community Ministries Team will be launching the 2017-2018 Mission Project for our MTBA Churches at the Spring Meeting. It is called *Loving Our Neighbors 52 Weeks a Year*. The goal is for each of our 25 churches to sign up for two of the 52 weeks between the first week of May 2017 and the last week of April 2018. The mission is to identify someone in your church's community, that is not a member of your church, and do some act of kindness for that individual or family that will be a blessing to them during your chosen week. Here are the key points to carrying out the Love Your Neighbor mission initiative:

- During the church's chosen weeks, the task is to carry out one act of kindness. But a church does not have to limit itself to one act of kindness during their chosen week.
- The act of kindness can be big or small. Take a meal to someone in need, cut grass, clean a gutter, take someone to the doctor, visit a shut in and just talk with them for a while, fix a car, give a ride, etc. You get the idea. Any act that blesses someone qualifies.
- The person who has been identified should be someone or some family that is not a member of your church. The focus is to be a blessing to others.
- Make sure and choose two weeks. The MTBA office has a master list of the weeks the different churches have chosen. If you do not sign up for a week at the Spring meeting, just call the MTBA Office at 804-758-4385, and we can help you choose your week.
- Finally, please share with the MTBA Office any amazing and exciting stories that come out of the Loving Your Neighbor project. We will use these stories during the next 12 months to highlight the amazing ways our churches are seeking to be a blessing to our community.

Just as our associational churches worked together in the feeding hubs during Impact week, this will be another opportunity for our 25 churches to work together during the next 12 months to find ways to be the presence of Christ in our communities. We are looking forward to hearing what great things God has in store for us as a result of simply *Loving Our Neighbors*.

The Tidings (April 2017)

Calendar—2017

- Prayer gatherings each 2nd Monday night of the month at 7:00 PM.
- Ministers Conference the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:30 AM.
- **April 16, EASTER SUNDAY**
- April 23, 3:00 pm MTBA WMUV meeting at Urbanna BC, Dr. Valerie Carter guest speaker.
- April 28, MTBA Golf Tournament.
- April 30, 3:00 pm MTBA Spring Meeting, St. Stephens BC.
- May 16, 7:30 pm, VA Baptist Historical Society annual meeting at River Road Church, Baptist, corner River & Ridge Roads, Richmond.
- May 20, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, WMUV "Come to the Table": Missions leadership team training for churches and associations at VA Baptist Resource Center, 2828 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294. Cost is \$10; registration deadline is May 6. Register: wmuv.org/cometothetable, e-mail: wmuv@wmuv.org, or call 1-800-255-2428, x8267. Contact Annette Greenwood (Urbanna BC), (agreewood4@verizon.net) or phone 804-824-4073.
- September 16, Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) at Hermitage BC.
- October 15, 3:00 pm MTBA Fall Meeting at Zoar.

MTBA INTERCESSORY PRAYER ACTION GROUP:

The Mid-Tidewater Intercessory Prayer group participated in a Prayer Retreat at Camp Piankatank on Saturday, February 18, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The retreat leaders were Rev. Rob Marsh and Dr. John Snow. There were 30 people in attendance. We were blessed as we prayed, worshipped and spent time alone with God. The fellowship lunch was provided by the camp staff and enjoyed by all. The Prayer Group met before our Prayer time at Glebe Landing BC on March 13 at 6 p.m. to plan and pray for 2017 and beyond. We will be hosting another prayer retreat in the fall with a firm date to follow soon. The churches have captured the idea of hosting and our schedule is full for 2017. To God be the glory. We are grateful as your intercessors to lead prayer in our churches in this great association.

Serving alongside each of you,

Annette Greenwood, Intercessory Prayer Chair

MTBA Week of Prayer Offering

May 21-28

Each of the 25 MTBA churches are asked to consider making a one time love gift to the MTBA that is above their regular offerings to the association. This year the offering will go toward helping with the cost of purchasing the food items needed for the Rise Against Hunger Project on Saturday, September 16.

Our goal is to pack 20,000 meal packets on September 16. The cost of the food needed to fill the 20,000 packets is \$5,000. It is such a little price to pay for helping to put much needed food in the hands of men, women, boys, and girls who go to bed hungry almost every night of their lives.

We need three things from our association family:

1. Your prayers.
2. Volunteers to put food in the packets.
3. Your gifts to the Week of Prayer Offering.

Thank you in advance for your generous spirit.

MTBA YOUTH MINISTRIES ACTION GROUP:

The Youth Ministries Action Group met on March 7 and again on April 4. Our meetings have been off to a great start, and I am excited to have the opportunity to Chair this Committee. When I was asked to Chair, there was no hesitation on my part as I have a 12 year old daughter myself. We have a tentative date on the Calendar to host our first event at Camp Piankatank on Sunday, June 11 in the afternoon. I will be sending e-mails out to our Churches with more information as we finalize our plans.

Another helpful thing for our Committee is to have a contact person within each church so we can communicate youth activities. You can e-mail me that info at bhacrajr@gmail.com. Please tell me what Church you are representing in your e-mail.

Our Committee is looking to start a Bible Club within the Middlesex School System. Another thing we are working on is getting a Saturday training day for our Youth workers. We are working with the BGAV on this. Rise Against Hunger will be September 16 at Hermitage, and we plan to get our MTBA Youth involved with this great project. Please be in prayer for our Youth Ministries Action Group which consists of: Laura Ripley of Macedonia Baptist, Brian Burris of Newington Baptist, Brooke Butler of Bruington Baptist, Lorenzo Chavis of New Hope Fellowship, Cynthia Therrien of Hermitage Baptist, Callie Jo Revere of Harmony Grove Baptist and myself of Harmony Grove. We are committed to helping our Youth be more involved in the Lord's work. Please pray for us as we take on this very important task. We want our youth to know Him and make Him known.

Brenda H. Armistead, Chair (Cell: 804-694-7583)

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

Phone: 804-758-4385

E-mail: eddie@midtidewaterbaptist.org

barbara@midtidewaterbaptist.org

Website: www.midtidewaterbaptist.org

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

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/MidTidewaterBaptists)

[MidTidewaterBaptists](https://www.facebook.com/MidTidewaterBaptists)

Rev. Eddie Heath, DOM (Cell: 804-921-3658)

Barbara Bareford, Office Administrator

STAYING IN TOUCH

1. **Visit us:** 884 Gloucester Road,
(behind Saluda post office), 2nd floor,
Mon.-Wed. 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

2. **Call us:** 804-758-4385

3. **Communicate with us; e-mail:**

eddie@midtidewaterbaptist.org

barbara@midtidewaterbaptist.org

4. **Share our Stories**

On Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/MidTidewaterBaptists/>

5. **Stay Informed:**

Webpage

www.midtidewaterbaptist.org

2017 Annual of the Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association will be given out at MTBA Spring meeting on Sunday, April 30 at St. Stephens BC. Be sure and have someone from your church pick up your copies for your church.

Ministry Job Opening:

Macedonia Baptist Church is looking for a pianist for Sunday morning worship service. Contact Pastor Michael Gregory (mdegregory@aol.com) (phone: 804-399-3510).

Camp Piankatank, owned and operated by BGAV, and located on the Piankatank River in Hartfield, VA invites you to use their facilities for summer camp, church retreats, and picnics. Contact Matt Hunt, (matt.hunt@camppiankatank.org), phone 804-776-9552.

2017 Camp dates:

Father/son weekend: June 23-25

Boys Week: June 25-30

Mini Week: June 30-July 2

Girls Week/Piankatank Pals 1: July 9-14

Co-Ed 1/Piankatank 2: July 16-21

Mother/Daughter Weekend: July 21-23

Co-Ed 2/Piankatank Pals 3: July 23-28

Rise Against Hunger

On **Saturday, September 16**, the MTBA family of churches will join together to package 20,000 meals. Our association family will be joining thousands of others who will be packaging meals just like us. The purpose is to join a world wide effort to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable. Here is what we will need:

1. It will cost \$5,000 to purchase the food needed for the packing of 20,000 meals. Make your financial gifts to MTBA or by giving to the **MTBA Week of Prayer Associational Offering**.
2. We will need one 10 person team to set up tables and supplies for packing teams.
3. We will need two 45 person teams to do the packing. One team will serve in the morning and one after lunch.
4. We will need one 10 person team to take down tables, clean up, and pack the truck with the boxes of meals.

If you would like to serve on one of these teams, please contact the MTBA office at 804-758-4385. We will be happy to sign you up.