

The **TIDINGS**

**Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association**

December 2017

*Serving Cooperating Sharing*



**Wise men still seek Him.**

© AcrylicMonkey.com

*We wish you a very blessed and Merry Christmas. We thank the Lord for each of you.*

*Eddie and Barbara*

**The Bottom Line**

Where did 2017 go? It seems like only yesterday when it was 2016 and we were planning events and mission efforts for 2017. Even though 2017 passed quickly, it was a really good year for our MTBA. Our Action Teams are providing strong leadership for us. These teams are gifted with excellent leaders, they are creative, dedicated, and energized to carry out our mission statement; "to provide the means through which member churches cooperate and join together in spreading God's Word and serving those in need."

Hardly a day goes by that I don't think about how blessed I am to have the privilege of serving as your Director of Missions. You have been a blessing to me and an encouragement to my ministry call in so many ways. I know there were other paths that I could have traveled after my retirement from the BGAV, but I am so glad that the Lord led me to serve in the MTBA. It has been such a joy for me. To serve the Lord side by side with so many of our pastors and lay leaders has become such a joy for me. My prayer is that all of our efforts to strengthen our faith communities and to reach out to our greater communities are pleasing to the Lord. God bless each of you.

*Eddie*

## Update on Strategy Planning Committee

The Strategy Planning Committee has just completed Phase One of their work. They have spent months looking at the work of previous strategy teams as well as talking with several Baptist leaders who have experience working with Baptist Associations. Here are several pieces that have begun to surface for the committee.

- There is not a feeling that the MTBA organization needs to go through some kind of major reorganization.
- The importance of fellowship cannot be overstated in a local association.
- A healthy balance between inward and outward focus in our MTBA churches.

At this point in the developmental process, the Strategy Planning Committee did not want to proceed any further without input from our MTBA pastors and church leadership. Therefore they developed a Listening Hub Strategy. It works like this:

- We are asking 6 churches to serve as a host church for 4 other churches that are located close to host church.
- The MTBA will provide a meal for those in attendance before the listening session begins.
- Each gathering will be led by a Facilitating Team made up of 3 members from the Strategy Planning Team. There will be 3 questions that each gathering will be asked to answer which should give the team the kind of input they are looking for from our churches.
- We are asking for each church to provide no more than 3 or 4 persons from each church to attend their listening session. These should be persons who can contribute in a productive way to this process. We need people who can think more on an associational level and not so much on a local church level for this effort.

An Information Gathering Hub chart can be found as an insert in the newsletter.

## The MTBA Fall Meeting



This year's fall meeting was hosted by Zoar Baptist Church. The theme was "With Shouts of Joy!". Over twenty churches were represented at 2017 Fall Meeting. The Program Committee did another excellent job of creating an exciting and informative program. These kinds of meetings don't just happen. It takes weeks and weeks of meeting and planning, and trying to find fresh ways of sharing about MTBA life.

A big Mid-Tidewater Thank You to the good folks at Zoar Baptist Church. The way you opened your arms as well as your doors make everyone feel right at home. The meal was sooooo goood. We could tell that the meal had been made with hands of love. Thank you for being so gracious to your MTBA family.

The main take away from the meeting was that the MTBA is not an office, not an office staff, it's not a building, it's not a top down kind of organization. The MTBA is an association of 25 churches who pray for one another, encourage one another, who work with one another, who fellowship with one for the purpose of making Christ known to communities as well as developing more Christ like followers. The MTBA is us, serving the Lord with one another. Thank you Program Committee for reminding us of this very important fact about the MTBA family.

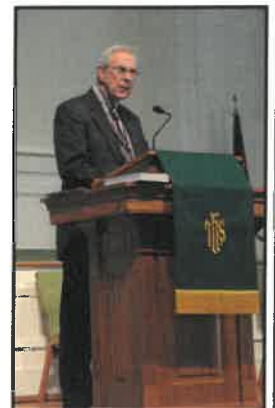


Wanda Watkins (L) rec'd. Historian award,  
Tammy Faulkner, (R) Moderator (2016-17)



Dr. Ed Jordan, New Moderator (2017-18)

Rev. Ed Inabinet  
(Strategy Plans)



**Hermitage BC wins "Judges" award of their children's float at Urbanna**

Christmas parade on Dec. 1. They enjoyed wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and handed out "you've been elfed" cards inviting over 200 people to church. Their current study for December is "North Pole News" - all children are invited to join the fun learning about the birth of Jesus during the 11 am worship service. On Nov. 26 the children attended the movie, "The Star", and had a wonderful time at the movie telling of the birth of Jesus.



**MTBA YOUTH MINISTRY**

As most of you know God had different plans for us on December 9. The snowfall ended up canceling our Journey to Bethlehem plans. If you were planning on helping with transportation we thank you. To the ladies of Harmony Grove who were going to pick up pizzas and get all the food out upon our return, thank you.

The Youth Ministries Action Group thanks you for the outpouring support with 72 RSVP'S. We hope to try this again in 2018.

We are working on 2018 plans. Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 24. We will be having a training for all youth workers. Danny Quirin from BGAV will be leading this. More information will be emailed.

I hope all of you have a Merry Christmas. Thank you for your support in 2017. We are excited about 2018!

Merry Christmas, **Brenda H. Armistead, Chair**

**VBF's Scholarship** cycle is open. Students from MTBA churches may apply at

<http://vbfinc.org/scholarships/>

Application deadline Jan. 31, 2018.

**NEWS FROM OUR MTBA CHURCHES / DECEMBER 2017**

**Bruington:** Drive thru Live Nativity, Monday, December 18, 6:00 p. m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Glebe Landing:** Annual Men's Steak night Jan. 26 or 27- details call Church.

**Gwynn's Island:** Christmas Cantata Dec. 17 at 7:00 pm, Christmas Eve service Dec. 24. at 5:00 pm.

**Harmony Grove:** Dec. 24 at 4:00 pm Christmas Eve service.

**Mathews:** Dec. 24 at 7 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve service.

**Newington:** "Christmas Is Real" Cantata Dec. 17 at 6:00 pm. Candlelight Christmas Eve service Dec. 24 at 6:00 pm.

**Petsworth:** Drama Ministry 2017 Christmas Drama on Dec. 16 at 2 pm and 7 pm .

**Poroporone:** Christmas Cantata Dec. 17 at 11 am and at 6:30 pm Christmas pageant. Women Of Purpose Ministry meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6pm and the Outdoors Adventures Ministry meet on the 2nd Monday of each Month at 7pm.

**Saluda:** Christmas Cantata "The Christmas Song" on Dec. 24 at 11:00 am. Prayer meeting & Bible study led by Rev. David Medlen on Wed. nights at 6:30 pm.

**Spring Hill:** Ordained two new deacons on Nov. 19: Jason Stump and Dave Roddy. Christmas Cantata: "O Little Town of Bethlehem", Dec. 17 at 7 p. m. Christmas Caroling in community, Dec. 22, leave church at 6 pm.

**Urbanna:** Packed 270 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes. Jan. 8 at 7 pm WMU Couponing seminar.

**Westville:** Welcomes Rev. Everett Hughes as their Interim Pastor.

**Zoar:** Candlelight Christmas Eve service Dec. 24 at 6:00 pm.

### Information Gathering Hubs Hosted by Strategic Planning Team

Team	Host Church	Information Gathering Hubs	Inviter
Team B (Morrison)	Glebe Landing	St. Stephens, Mattaponi, Glebe Landing, Bruington	Rev. Holland
Team B (Morrison)	Saluda	New Hope Memorial, Saluda, Urbanna, First Baptist Harmony Village	Barbara Bareford
Team A (Snow)	Hermitage	Hermitage, Olivet, Wares, Poroporone	Rev. Morrison
Team A (Snow)	Mathews	Mathews, Westville, Macedonia, Spring Hill, Gwynn's Island	Ed Jordan
Team C (Jordan)	New Hope Fellowship	New Hope Fellowship; Harmony Grove, Zoar, White Stone, Farnham	Rev. Snow
Team C (Jordan)	Newington	Newington, Beulah, Petsworth, Beech Grove, New Freedom	Rev. Cumbia
<b>Team A</b>	<b>Team B</b>	<b>Team C</b>	
John Snow	Terry Morrison	Ed Jordan	
Jim Burns	Brenda Armistead	Annette Greenwood	
Gene Cumbia	Dale Prince		

**CHURCHES AND PASTORS  
MID-TIDEWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
(December 2017)**

CHURCHES	CHURCH PHONE NUMBERS	PASTORS	WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK
----------	----------------------------	---------	---------------------

Beech Grove Baptist Church	804-642-5949	Dr. Richard Croxton, Preaching Interim	
Beulah Baptist Church	804-693-6298	Rev. Tom Cohick	Facebook
Bruington Baptist Church	804-769-3246	Dr. Roger Collier	FB & <a href="http://www.bruingtonbaptistchurch.com">www.bruingtonbaptistchurch.com</a>
First Baptist Church of Harmony Village	804-366-0561	Rev. Woodland Holmes	
Glebe Landing Baptist Church	804-758-2233	Rev. Gene Cumbia	Facebook
Gwynn's Island Baptist Church	804-725-2384	Dr. Ed Jordan	FB & <a href="http://www.gibcchurch.com">www.gibcchurch.com</a>
Harmony Grove Baptist Church	804-758-5154	(vacant)	FB & <a href="http://www.harmonygrovechurch.com">www.harmonygrovechurch.com</a>
Hermitage Baptist Church	804-758-2636	Rev. Edward Harrow, Interim	FB & <a href="http://www.hermitagebaptistchurch.com">www.hermitagebaptistchurch.com</a>
Lower King & Queen Baptist Church	804-785-2008	Rev. Terry Morrison	Facebook
Macedonia Baptist Church	804-725-5416	Rev. Michael Gregory, Interim	FB & <a href="http://www.macedoniabaptistchurchva.com">www.macedoniabaptistchurchva.com</a>
Mathews Baptist Church	804-725-3707	Rev. Brian Kramer	FB & <a href="http://www.mathews baptist church.com">www.mathews baptist church.com</a>
Mattaponi Baptist Church	804-384-7721	Rev. David Anthony	FB
New Freedom Congregation	804-693-5503	Rev. Walt McKibbin	
New Hope Fellowship	804-776-7600	Dr. Leonard Edloe	FB & <a href="http://www.newhopef2010.org">www.newhopef2010.org</a>
New Hope Memorial Baptist Church	804-758-4895	Rev. Dan Grantham	Facebook
Newington Baptist Church	804-693-2349	Rev. Mike Gray	FB & <a href="http://www.newingtonbc.org">www.newingtonbc.org</a>
Olivet Baptist Church	804-785-2008	Rev. Terry Morrison	Facebook
Petsworth Baptist Church	804-693-3024	Rev. John Pouchot	FB & <a href="http://www.petsworthchurch.org">www.petsworthchurch.org</a>
Poroporone Baptist Church	804-785-3948	Rev. Doug Davis	Facebook
Saluda Baptist Church	804-758-3102	Mr. Eddie Harrow, Jr., Preaching Interim	FB & <a href="http://www.saludachurch.org">www.saludachurch.org</a>
Spring Hill Baptist Church	804-725-3500	Dr. Charles McDaniel	
St. Stephens Baptist Church	804-769-8833	Rev. Mark Holland	Facebook
Urbanna Baptist Church	804-758-2720	Dr. Bruce Powers, Interim	FB & <a href="http://www.urbannabaptistchurch.org">www.urbannabaptistchurch.org</a>
Westville Baptist Church	804-725-3079	Rev. Everett Hughes, Interim	FB & <a href="http://www.westvillebaptist.com">www.westvillebaptist.com</a>
Zoar Baptist Church	804-776-9502	Dr. John Snow	FB & <a href="http://www.zoarbaptistchurch.org">www.zoarbaptistchurch.org</a>

Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association	804-758-4385	Rev. Eddie Heath (Director of Missions) Barbara Bareford (Office Administrator)	FB & <a href="http://www.midtidewaterbaptist.org">www.midtidewaterbaptist.org</a>
-----------------------------------	--------------	--	---



## Changes To Ministry Outreach Trailer

On November 7, the Administrative Committee, the MTBA staff, and our Middle Peninsula Insurance representative met to review our requirements for using the Ministry Trailer with the major focus being the use of the inflatables. After looking at all options and learning that there are companies who will deliver, set up, and pick up inflatables for as little as \$250 and carry all of the insurance, the Administrative Committee will make a recommendation at the MTBA January Executive Committee meeting to no longer include the inflatables in the Ministry Outreach Trailer. The plan is to sell the inflatables, ask the Youth Committee to look at making upgrades to the Ministry Outreach Trailer content, and have the MTBA office staff provide a list of companies who rent inflatables.

## STAYING IN TOUCH

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

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:**  
Rev. Eddie Heath, DOM (Cell: 804-921-3658)  
eddie@midtidewaterbaptist.org  
Barbara Bareford, Office Administrator  
barbara@midtidewaterbaptist.org
4. **Share our Stories: On Facebook Page**  
<https://www.facebook.com/MidTidewaterBaptists/>
5. **Stay Informed: Webpage**  
[www.midtidewaterbaptist.org](http://www.midtidewaterbaptist.org)

## **DISASTER RELIEF—NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD**

**By: Dr. Robert May, MTBA DOM 2006—2015:**

(Dr. May pictured far left)



When Marilyn and I moved from Virginia to Georgia we had no idea what we would do once we retired. Moving to a new community presents many challenges and one of these is finding a church to belong to and serve in. It did not take long for us to find a church. We joined the First Baptist Church of Cumming, GA two months after we moved to Georgia. The next Sunday Marilyn began serving first as organist and later as pianist at First Baptist. This ministry has given her an opportunity to serve Christ through the music ministry of the church. While with the MTBA, I had the opportunity to become involved with the Disaster Relief ministry of the Baptist General Association of Virginia. It wasn't long before I met members of First Baptist Church of Cumming who were involved with the North American Mission Board's Disaster

Relief ministry. One of the major responsibilities of the NAMB is to provide assistance and coordination to state Baptist conventions when disaster strikes in the United States and even in foreign countries. We all know about the tens of thousands of Disaster Relief volunteers that serve through the many Baptist State conventions, what I did not realize was that the NAMB had its own set of volunteers. First, I worked in the NAMB Warehouse, located the basement of its building. The Warehouse stores many items that are needed to support the ministries of the state conventions. Second, part of NAMB's relief ministry is provide supplies and equipment through to state conventions. The logistic arm of the NAMB has trucks [semis and F-550s] that carry supplies and equipment [shower and laundry trailer, command trailers, mud-out trailers, etc.] to disaster stricken areas. Last year I was certified to drive the smaller trucks and have traveled many miles in this ministry. I did not retire to travel, but in this volunteer ministry I have traveled to many disaster areas to deliver supplies and equipment. This has been travel with a purpose, providing support and help to people in difficult circumstances. In addition to being a driver, I also have the responsibility of coordinating the volunteer drivers and the warehouse workers. The months of September and October were extremely busy for the NAMB's fulltime staff and volunteers. We loaded dozens of boxes, each weighing almost 300 pounds and holding items to be given first to Pastors in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, which the pastors and their congregations could use to minister to people in their communities. The boxes were then sent to major East Coast ports and shipped to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands by air and sea. In addition, our trucks made many trips to Texas and Florida to deliver much needed equipment to the respective state convention DR ministries. Marilyn and I have been blessed by our retirement ministries and believe that the Lord was in our move to Georgia. And the wonderful thing is that we are blessed with the health and energy to be still be involved in ministry. **I would like to thank the Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association for taking an offering for Disaster Relief at the Fall Meeting.** The Disaster Relief ministry is supported, in large part, by contributions such as the one you made in October.