



Celebrating Easter Never Grows Old

As time goes by and the number of holiday celebrations like Christmas, July 4th, Memorial Day, and Labor Day become routine or even "old hat", they can lose some of their excitement and specialness. But for Christian faith communities, the Celebration of Easter (Resurrection Sunday) never grows old. The amazing story around the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus is just as amazing today as it was the first time we heard it. The news that the stone was rolled away and the tomb in which the body of Jesus was laid was now empty, just never grows old. This news was exciting and life changing two thousand years ago, two hundred years ago, twenty years ago, two years ago, and even twenty days ago. The Easter Story never grows old.

The Easter Story and the celebration of Easter is far more than just news that a stone had been rolled away from the entrance of a tomb and that there was no longer a body in that tomb. The very best part and the most exciting part of the Easter Story, that most definitely never grows old, is that "Jesus is alive!" It's the resurrection part of the story that separates it from every story since the beginning of time. It was the resurrection that defeated death and sin and separated Jesus from every person who has ever lived. No way a story like that could ever grow old.

The budding of flowers and trees, the warming temperatures, the beautiful spring skies, and the birds serenading us with spring music, are just a few things that announce to us that the time for Easter Celebration is just around the corner. As we prepare to celebrate the story of the resurrected Christ, may this Easter be one of the best ever for you and your family. May the knowledge of God's love for you, that is demonstrated in the most profound way by the life of His son, draw you closer to the living Christ. May the Easter Story be as fresh this year as it was the first time you realized how much God loved you. Get ready to have a great Easter Sunday on April 21, because Celebrating Easter Never Grows Old!!!

The Bottom Line

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you who contributed to making the 2019 MTBA Spring Meeting such a success. The folks at Gwynn's Island were wonderful in the way they welcomed us to their church. They did not miss a single step when it comes to hosting an event like a MTBA associational meeting. They seemed to think of everything. There were greeters in the parking lot with umbrellas to welcome us with warm friendly smiles even though rain drops were beginning to fall. And all of us noticed how fast the meal line moved because the kitchen staff were so well prepared, and we could tell that they had really figured out how to feed 150 people in such an efficient manner. Thank you Gwynn's Island for the food, the greetings, the music, and most of all for just being the gracious people you are.

So far we have received very positive feedback, even though the program went a little longer than expected. We had 150 registered attendees, informative and interesting presenters, inspirational singing, and the privilege of welcoming Beale Memorial into our MTBA family. The one comment that I seemed to hear more than any other was something like this, "I am so glad we are a part of the MTBA Association".

Finally, I want to thank the Program Committee. An enjoyable spring or fall meeting doesn't just happen. It takes hours of prayer, preparation, and planning. Mrs. Tammy Faulkner is the chair of the Program Committee and Mark Holland, John Snow, Sue Smith, Steve Ransone, and Jennifer Lucas have each served in ways that made this year's Spring Meeting a reality and not just an idea. Thank each of you for the way you put this year's Spring meeting together. God Bless each of you.

Eddie Heath, DOM



MTBA National Day of Prayer Event

If MY people, who are called by MY name, will humble themselves and pray and seek MY face and turn from their wicked ways;

THEN will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2019

Location: Poroporone Baptist Church

Time: 11 a.m.- 12 p.m.

Host: MTBA Intercessory Prayer Committee

Dale Prince, Committee Chair, Presiding

Purpose: To bring together local communities to PRAY.

Who is invited?

Since THIS IS A National COMMUNITY EVENT we are encouraging MTBA churches and members to invite your local neighboring churches and pastors across denominational lines, your local government officials, law enforcement, first-responders, neighbors, and businesses in surrounding counties to join us.

This means.....Anyone who is interested in joining in focused, targeted prayer for our nation and related issues for just one hour.

In Matthew 26:40 Jesus asked Peter "Could you not tarry with me one hour?"

MTBA WEEK OF PRAYER OFFERING (MAY 19—26)

MID-TIDEWATER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Week-of-Prayer Offering for Association Missions

Name _____ Amount _____

Kindly place your Offering for the missions work of Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association in this envelope. It should be a gift to God that is over-and-above your regular offerings to your church. Include it in your giving through your church offering plate and it will be credited to your giving account. Thank you for your generous prayers and gifts for Missions

Envelope Services, Chester, NY

Each year a special love offering is given to the MTBA by members of our MTBA churches. This love offering is over and above our regular tithes and offering that we give to our churches. This special love offering is not used to fund the MTBA annual budget. Rather, 100 % of the monies received through the Week of Prayer Offering goes to fund whatever the designated mission project is for that year. In the past we have used this offering to help fund a Summer **Impact VA Mission Youth Camp**, **Two Rise Against Hunger** events, as well as some community ministry opportunities that come before our MTBA.

The 2019 Mission Initiative, that was presented to our MTBA by our Community Ministries Action Group, is to participate in Disaster Relief efforts that are on going in North Carolina. Even though it has been almost a year since the tragic hurricane and flooding events hit eastern North Carolina, there is still much work to be done and many volunteers will be needed in the days ahead. The MTBA is partnering with the BGAV DR who is coordinating the relief and recovery work in North Carolina. They have made sure there is housing and food for the volunteers who come as well as coordinating the work that needs to be done each day.

The 2019 Week of Prayer Offerings will be used to:

- Help cover some of the expenses of our volunteers (travel, meals, etc.).
- Help cover some of the costs for our youth who will be going on July 14-20 to Impact NC.
- Help with some of the daily costs of volunteers who might not be able to go otherwise.
- Help with some of the unexpected costs that are associated with any mission effort.

We want to thank each of you in advance for your prayers and financial gifts to this year's

MTBA Week of Prayer Offering.

ATTENTION ALL CHURCHES:

As you plan your Church Summer/Fall events, MTBA has available for your use the Ministry Outreach Trailer (pictured) containing numerous games, some of which are cornhole boards, volley ball and net, dodge ball, kick ball, etc. Also available are snow cone slush maker, hotdog steamer, popcorn machine, and sound equipment with accessories.



Available at **NO CHARGE** are:

- 30 Packs of All-N-One popcorn (for use in above popcorn machine, air or electric popper or on range)
- 6 Snow cone bottles of syrup

Call or e-mail MTBA office (contact information on page 8).

MTBA SPRING MEETING, MARCH 31, 2019—GWYNN'S ISLAND BC



MTBA Spring meeting



Dr. Ed Jordan,
Pastor Gwynn's Island BC



Mr. Don McNamee,
MTBA Moderator (Urbanna BC)



Mrs. Betty Kennon,
MTBA Treasurer (Harmony Grove BC)



Mr. Garth Wheeler,
MTBA Administrative Comm. Chair (Urbanna BC)



Mrs. Sue Smith, Hymn
Leader, (Spring Hill BC)



Mr. Glenn Maddox,
BGAV Disaster Response



Rev. Jonathan Davis, Pastor, Beale Memorial BC, special speaker: Small Church Culture



Dr. Chuck Warnock, Pastor, Chatham BC, keynote speaker



Mrs. Cynthia Shackelford, Macedonia BC, special speaker: Church Conflict



Dr. Susan McBride, BGAV Field Strategist, gave her testimony and perspective having grown up in a small church setting



Mrs. Tammy Faulkner, Program Comm. Chair, (Macedonia BC)

Gwynn's Island BC Choir and Praise Band



Beale Memorial Joins The Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association



Rev. Jonathan Davis Pastor,
Beale Memorial with Eddie

One of the highlights of the MTBA 2019 Spring Meeting was a motion by the MTBA Administrative Committee to receive Beale Memorial BC, Tappahannock, into the Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association. This membership process began when the association received a letter in January 2019 from Beale Memorial BC requesting membership. The Administrative Committee made a motion to the MTBA Executive Committee on January 28, 2019, to begin dialogue sessions with the Beale Memorial leaders.

Over the next few weeks Eddie Heath, MTBA DOM, and Rev. Jonathan Davis, BMBC Pastor, met to begin discussions about what this partnership would look like. On February 28, 2019, a group of MTBA leaders met with a group of BMBC leaders to discuss core values, mission objectives, organization structure, and the desire that Beale was looking for a dual partnership with both the Rappahannock Baptist Association as well as the MTBA. These meetings could not have been better. There seemed to be an instant kinship between Beale Memorial and the Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association. There was a unanimous feeling from all participants that the time was right to bring a motion for membership to the larger MTBA family.

When the vote to receive Beale Memorial Baptist Church into the MTBA was taken at the Spring Meeting, to no one's surprise, the vote was unanimous to receive this sister church into our MTBA family. Thank you to all the folks who worked on this process and helped bring this journey to such a good conclusion. ***WELCOME BEALE MEMORIAL TO THE MTBA FAMILY. WE THANK GOD FOR YOU AND COUNT IT A PRIVILEGE TO SHARE IN NEW AND EXCITING WAYS TO CARRY OUT KINGDOM WORK IN THE DAYS AHEAD!!***

MTBA WMU



The MTBA WMU Spring meeting was held on April 7 at St. Stephens BC. Mrs. Janice Richardson, WMU Director, led the meeting. Annette Greenwood, WMUV Trustee, member of WMUV Adult Ministry Council representing MTBA, and a member of Urbanna BC, was special guest speaker. MTBA WMU Officers are pictured above.

MTBA WMU will not have a Fall meeting, but ask that our MTBA Churches promote "World Hunger Sunday", October 13. Please give financially at your churches as these funds are distributed here in VA and around the world.

MTBA Youth Leadership Conference



A great Youth Leadership Conference was held on Feb. 16 at Harmony Grove BC, led by Danny Quirin, (pictured) of BGAV. Thank you MTBA Youth Committee, chaired by Brenda Armistead, Harmony Grove BC. *On July 14—July 20 a MTBA Youth Impact Team will be in NC for Disaster Relief. Please contact the MTBA office if your youth might be interested in this mission adventure.*



MTBA Responds to Disaster Relief Call in North Carolina

The Community Ministries Action Group of the MTBA recommends a mission project each year to the MTBA. For 2019 they have recommended to the Executive Committee that we partner with the BGAV Disaster Relief Team to send individuals, teams, and dollars to help with the recovery work in North Carolina. The hurricane and flooding that took place in 2018 will require at least three years of volunteers giving their time and skills to help with the recovery work. Already several volunteers from our MTBA churches have made trips down to North Carolina to help with the recovery work, but there is much more to be done.

The MTBA Youth Ministry team has set July 14-20 as the date to take a MTBA Youth Mission team to North Carolina to help with all types of recovery work. The goal is to take at least ten youth on this mission trip. They have already secured the necessary adult chaperones, and several youth volunteers, but they are still looking for additional youth to help meet their ten volunteer goal.

The process is easy.

1. Identify volunteers from your church that would like to go. As few as two or as many as forty will work just fine.
2. Pick a date that you would like to go. The BGAV Disaster Relief folks are flexible. Once you pick a date, contact the BGAV DR team either by phone (1-800-255-2428) or through their web page <https://bgavdr.org/volunteer>.
3. Contact the MTBA office so we can let other churches know that you are sending a team. We will let other churches know so they can join you with additional volunteers from their churches.

If you have any questions, please give us a call at the MTBA office.

Westville Welcomes New Pastor

On February 2019, Westville BC called Rev. Robert (Bob) Huff as their pastor. Bob served in the Air Force between 1969 and 1973. After the Air Force he worked in construction trades, mechanics, music and teaching. Bob has also served as a preacher, teacher, and pastor at the Bush Park Campground for four years. His love for the Bible and music will be a blessing to the good folks at Westville as he begins this next chapter of ministry in his life.

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

DATES/LOCATION

MTBA UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

SUNDAY, APRIL 21	EASTER
Thursday, April 25 (11:30 am - 1:00 pm) at Nick's Spaghetti & Steak House (Shackelfords)	MTBA Administrative Professionals Appreciation Luncheon
Thursday, May 2 (11:00 am - 12:00 pm) at Poroporone BC	MTBA National Day of Prayer (hosted by MTBA Intercessory Prayer Action Group)
Monday, May 13 at 7:00 pm (Bruington BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Sunday, May 19 - Sunday, May 26	MTBA Week of Prayer Offering
Tuesday, May 21 at 10:30 am (church TBD)	MTBA Ministers' Conference
Monday, June 10 at 7:00 pm (Beech Grove BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Monday, June 17 at 12 noon at Nick's Spaghetti	MTBA Admin. Comm. meeting
Monday, June 24 at 7:00 pm at Saluda BC (Saluda)	MTBA Executive Committee meeting
Monday, July 8 at 7:00 pm (White Stone BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Sunday, July 14 -Saturday, July 20	MTBA Youth Impact Team to NC (Disaster Relief)
Monday, August 12 at 7:00 pm (Westville BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Saturday, August 17 from 2-4 pm (WISC, Williamsburg Indoor Sports Center)	MTBA Youth
Monday, September 9 at 7:00 pm (New Hope Fellowship)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Tuesday, September 17 at 10:30 am (Zoar BC)	MTBA Ministers' Conference
Monday, September 23 at 12 noon at Nick's Spaghetti	MTBA Admin. Comm. meeting
Monday, September 30 at 7:00 pm at Saluda BC (Saluda)	MTBA Executive Committee meeting
Monday, October 14 at 7:00 pm (Beulah BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Tuesday, October 15 at 10:30 am (Farnham BC)	MTBA Ministers' Conference
Sunday, October 20 at 3:00 pm at Newington BC (Gloucester) (MTBA 60th Anniversary 1959 - 2019)	MTBA Fall Association meeting (MTBA 60th Anniversary 1959 - 2019)
Monday, November 11 at 7:00 pm (Olivet BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering