



2019 Reflections

I guess the first thing I would say about 2019, is that it went by way too fast for me. It is just hard for me to realize that in just a few weeks it will be 2020, and not only will another year have passed, another decade will have passed as well. That old saying that "time flies" has never been truer for me.

As for the MTBA it has been another good year as well. We had another church (Beale Memorial) join the MTBA family. Most of our folks know their pastor, Jonathan Davis, very well. Beale will be a good addition to our family of churches as we endeavor to strengthen the kingdom work of our 28 churches.

We were blessed to have two outstanding associational meetings. The Spring Meeting was hosted by Gwynn's Island Baptist Church with a focus on the importance of small church ministries in the MTBA. The Fall Meeting was hosted by Newington Baptist Church with a focus on celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the MTBA. I think all would agree that the highlight of our fall meeting was the 60th Anniversary Associational Choir under the direction of Dale Saunders. The two anthems they presented were both powerful and inspirational. It was an unforgettable afternoon for all who were in attendance.

2019 was another year where MTBA folks reached out beyond our MTBA association to be the presence of Christ to those needing help. We had folks go to Eastern North Carolina to help with the ongoing disaster relief efforts led by the BGAV, we had folks from our MTBA churches go to the Standing Rock Indian Reservation to minister there in many different ways, and John Smith went to Togo, Africa to do some volunteer work in a hospital.

So even though 2019 was a quick year, it was also a very good year. I am so thankful for the privilege of serving as the Director of Missions for the Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association. Thank you so very much.

Eddie

MTBA Fall Gathering, October 20, 2019, at Newington BC



Pre-concert by Newington BC



Association choir led by Dale & Nancy Saunders, Olivet BC



Cynthia Shackelford, Macedonia BC, received an award for serving as MTBA Clerk 2010-2019 by Eddie Heath, DOM.



Dr. Nathan Taylor, Executive Director VA Baptist Historical Society & Center for Baptist Heritage & Studies, was keynote speaker.



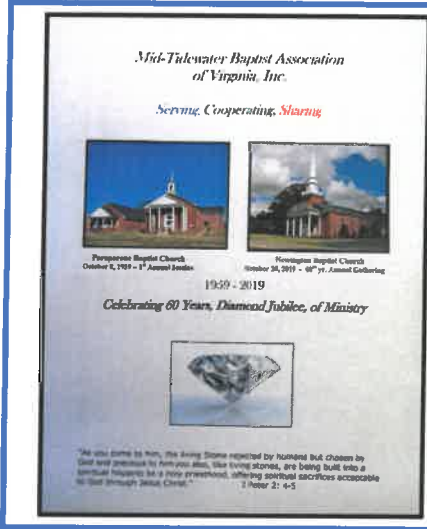
Eddie presented engraved gavel to Don McNamee, Urbanna BC, as outgoing Moderator.



Dr. Barbara Filling, Harmony Grove BC Pastor, signed MTBA Bible as incoming Moderator.



**Joy
To The World
The Lord Has Come!**
*We want to wish you a blessed
Christmas. We Pray that Christ will be as
real and special to you as
He was to those who first beheld His
majesty.*
Eddie and Barbara



The **MTBA 60 yrs.' History booklet (1959—2019)** is available on-line, Google at: http://www.midtidewaterbaptist.org/mtba_history/

or visit MTBA website: www.midtidewaterbaptist.org, click on "About", next click on "MTBA History".

A copy can be postal mailed or e-mailed if you contact MTBA office, page 4.

MTBA CALENDAR 2020	
Monday, January 13 at 7:00 pm (church TBD)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Monday, January 20 at 12 noon (Nick's Spaghetti, Shacklefords)	MTBA Administrative Committee
Tuesday, January 21 at 10:30 am (Hermitage BC)	MTBA Ministers' Conference
Monday, January 27 at 7:00 pm at Saluda BC	MTBA Executive Committee
Monday, February 10 at 7:00 pm (Glebe Landing BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Tuesday, February 18 at 10:30 am (New Hope Memorial BC, Shacklefords)	MTBA Ministers' Conference
Monday, March 9 at 7:00 pm (church TBD)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Tuesday, March 17 at 10:30 am (First Baptist Church of Harmony Village, Locust Hill)	MTBA Ministers' Conference
Monday, March 23 at 12 noon (Nick's Spaghetti, Shacklefords)	MTBA Administrative Committee
Monday, March 30 at 7:00 pm at Saluda BC	MTBA Executive Committee
Monday, April 13 at 7:00 pm (Beale Memorial BC)	MTBA Prayer Gathering
Tuesday, April 21 at 10:30 am (New Hope Fellowship, Hartfield)	MTBA Ministers' Conference
Sunday, April 26 at 3:00 pm (Beale Memorial BC)	MTBA Spring Gathering



In observance of Christmas, MTBA office will be closed December 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, & January 1.

We will re-open on Monday, January 6, 2020.

STAY CONNECTED

Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association
P. O. Box 302
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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
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4. **Share our Stories: On Facebook Page**

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

5. **Stay Informed: Webpage**

www.midtidewaterbaptist.org

CHURCH NEWS:

Beale: Sunday, Dec. 15 at 7 pm Christmas Cantata "Good News From Home".

Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Gwynn's Island: Hosting a concert on Saturday, Dec. 14 for the Courthouse Orchestra at 7 pm. Annual Christmas Cantata is Sunday, Dec. 15 at 7 pm.

Harmony Grove: Sunday, Dec. 15 at 11 am Christmas Cantata "The Birthday of a King". Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 5 pm Candlelight, Communion, Christmas Eve Service invite all as we celebrate and await the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Mattaponi: Saturday, Dec. 14 at 6:00 pm Annual wonderful Christmas dinner, followed by some Christmas fun! We even hear that Santa will be making a guest appearance! This is a fun night that you won't want to miss!
Sunday, Dec. 22 at 4:30 pm Inspirational Christmas Candlelight Service sharing the traditional Christmas story along with Christmas hymns. This service will surely inspire you to focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

New Hope Fellowship: Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 10 pm "Break-Out to Break-In New Year's Eve Worship Celebration, all are welcome.

Newington: Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7 pm Courthouse Community Orchestra concert.

Sunday, Dec. 8 at 6 pm Christmas Cantata "Prince of Heaven". Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 7 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight.

Petsworth: Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 5 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Saluda: Sunday, Dec. 15 at 11 am Choir Christmas Program. Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 5 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Spring Hill: Sunday, Dec. 15 at 7 pm: Christmas Program "Oh Worship The King!"

Westville: Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 4:30 pm Community night Celebration Party.

Zoar: Sunday, Dec. 8 at 10:30 am Children's Program. Friday, Dec. 20 from 5 pm—7 pm Live Nativity.
Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 6 pm Christmas Eve Service.