

### **Answering The Call**



Someone in my past once told me that *"We don't always get to choose the door that God wants us to walk through."* I don't know about you, but I have found that statement to be true in my life experience. In early June God presented an open door to our MTBA family of churches that we will have the opportunity to walk through.

John Seltzer is the pastor of Corrottoman Baptist Church. But John is also a native son of the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia. This relative small neighborhood in Philadelphia has one of the most dangerous and depressing neighborhoods on the east coast of America. When John grew up on Kensington Avenue, the street was a much safer community. Now that area is over run with drugs, prostitution, homelessness, and violence. It is a literal cesspool where many go to die.

About a month ago John Seltzer wanted to meet with me for the purpose of sharing information about a possible mission trip that God had put on his heart. John feels strongly that God is leading him to take a mission team of 15-20 volunteers to Kensington Avenue in Philadelphia for three days. This team will offer food, water, some emergency medical supplies, like bandaids and wipes, towels, gloves, and other items that people who have absolutely nothing need but do not have.

John shared with me that there were two main goals he hopes to meet. One goal is to have an opportunity to have a conversation with individuals, who are living in a world of hopelessness and addiction, about the hope that is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ. The second goal is to find individuals who are willing to enter a treatment hospital for drug addition and medical issues. John has already found a hospital with beds that is willing to receive these persons that want help. John will take a van that can transport individuals to the hospital. John is also working to secure a shower trailer for this mission trip that would be such a blessing to so many on Kensington Avenue.

John is asking for help from his MTBA family in case there are some who feel led to join this Kensington Mission Team. There is also the need for many items that the mission team will need. I have assured John that our 30 churches will help provide the needed supplies for the mission team. So here is our to do list below:

1. Pray, Pray, and Pray some more for this mission team and their safety, as well as for the people they will encounter during their 3 day stay in Kensington.
2. Talk with John Seltzer if you want to know more about joining the mission team (757-567-6141).
3. A church or individuals can choose items from the supplies list that you would be willing to acquire and bring to the team on the day they choose to load the trucks and vans. We have included a wish list (page 2) that the team will need. After you make your choice, please give Pastor John a call (757-567-6141).
4. The mission team will need gas for their 5 trucks and vans. We are setting a goal of a \$2500. love offering to cover the cost of gas and other miscellaneous needs that may surface. See page 2, item 15, how to write check and where to mail.

***Thank you so much for your support as we pray and support this mission effort. Eddie***

## **KENSINGTON MISSION TRIP — WISH LIST**

**OCTOBER 20 — 23, 2024**

- 1. Linens**
- 2. Towels (used and clean, not new)**
- 3. Hygiene supplies, bar soap (travel or small size), toothbrushes, tooth paste, hand sanitizer, etc.)**
- 4. First Aid Supplies**
- 5. Non-Perishable Food (for Mother of Mercy House food pantry)**
- 6. Diapers, baby food, wipes, bibs (Mother of Mercy House serves mothers and babies)**
- 7. Paper Towels, Toilet paper, paper plates**
- 8. Blankets**
- 9. Sleeping bags**
- 10. Coats**
- 11. Gloves**
- 12. Feminine supplies**
- 13. Gently worn shoes (Through a grant Corrottoman BC has received from Bombas Socks, they will be taking 5,000 prs. socks with them.)**

**Above items deliver on October 12, location to be determined (TBD).**

**14. 1,800 sandwiches (no mayo), deliver on October 19, location TBD.**

**15. Love offering of \$2,500. (to help cover traveling expenses for 5 trucks that will be going and for incidentals.) Make check payable to: MTBA, memo line: Kensington mission trip. Mail to: MTBA, P. O. Box 302, Saluda, VA 23149.**

**All supplies will be left at the Mother of Mercy House to help them continue their mission work.**

## MTBA WMU SPRING MEET, MAY 4, 2024, AT NEWINGTON BC:

Our Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association gathering for WMU was on May 4 at Newington BC. It was a lovely time! Thanks to Colleen Patrick for playing the piano for us <sup>W</sup> and it was wonderful to hear from missionary, Theresa Hudler! The Woman's Missionary Union of VA will be celebrating 150 years, on September 7, 2024, at Camp Crossroads, a Christ Centered, Mission Focused Summer Camp & Conference Center in Central VA.



Dana Brown, MTBA WMU Director



Newington BC Ladies—Thank you!



(Theresa Hudler, missionary), (Juli Semanski, MTBA WMU Secretary), (Joyce Bristow, MTBA WMU Mission Support Consultant), (Lil Cox, former MTBA WMU Co Director) (pictured left to right)



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2024, at 4 PM, MTBA FALL MEETING**  
**at**  
**OLIVET BC.**  
**We look forward seeing you there!**

**MTBA welcomes Rev. Lytle Buckingham as he began his ministry as Interim Pastor at Westville BC on May 4, 2024!**



Ramp — connection with Olivet BC

**Another ramp has been built since our May newsletter by MTBA Servants. Six (6) ramps have been built/installed in 2024.** Since inception of “Ramp-It Up mission project in 2020, there have been 38 ramps built/installed for people who have difficulty with steps. Another ramp request is being evaluated for an upcoming build. **Thank you, MTBA,** for giving generously to the Week of Prayer Missions’ Offering, of which your donations can be received anytime during the year.

“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” I John 3:18

### **STAY CONNECTED**

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

MTBA is comprised of 30 churches located in Essex, Gloucester, King and Queen, Lancaster, Mathews, Middlesex, Northumberland, and Richmond Counties on the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck, VA.

- 1. Visit us:** 884 Gloucester Road, (behind Saluda post office), 2nd floor, Monday-Wednesday 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)  
Barbara Bareford, Office Administrator

eddie.heath@bgav.org  
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)
- 6. Read The Tidings:** your MTBA Newsletter