

The Bethel News

Bethel Baptist Association
May 2015

Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar for Baptist Ministers

All ministers and their spouses are invited to attend the 2015 Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar at the Bethel Baptist Associational Office, 124 Bay Ave. SE, Edison, GA, on Friday, May 15, 2015. The Seminar will start at 9:30 AM and end at 12 Noon. Sponsored by Church Financial Services of the Georgia Baptist Convention and GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Everyone with an active account at GuideStone between the ages of 50 and up is invited to attend. Even if you are not considering retirement within five years, your participation should increase your understanding of retirement planning issues changes and options. In addition, you should request an estimate of retirement benefits from GuideStone directly by calling 1.888.984.8433 or by logging on your retirement account at www.guidestone.org. The estimate of retirement benefits will help provide you a best faith estimate of your retirement benefits at your projected retirement date.

Seminar topics will include:

- * How much retirement income is needed?
- * What retirement benefit options do I have?
- * How do I set up my retirement benefits?
- * Should I annuitize my account as a fixed life benefit?
- * Can I keep working and receive my retirement benefits?
- * Do I need to adjust my investments?
- * How do I get the minister's tax-free housing allowance from my retirement benefit?

Seminar Leaders:

Dr. Keith Hamilton, CFP®, AFC®, CRPC®, Church Financial Services, Georgia Baptist Convention
Mr. Jeff Robinson, CLU, ChFC, CFP®, Relationship Manager, GuideStone Financial Resources, SBC

Register Online at www.churchfinancialservices.org, or call 1.800.746.4422, ext. 295.

Bethel Baptist
Association's



are coming to
Okitayakani!

Associational **Day Camp** will be Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, **July 8-10** from 9:30 AM- 3:30 PM each day, for children ages 4 through completed 2nd Grade. The cost is \$40 per child. Send \$20 non-refundable deposit and medical release form to Associational Office by Thursday, June 18th. **Limit: 30 children.**

Our **Overnight Camp** for older children (completed 3rd through 7th grades) will be **July 8-11**. The cost is \$70 per camper. We must have reservations with a non-refundable deposit of \$20 and a medical release form by the registration deadline of Thursday, June 18th. **Space is limited!** Camp will begin at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, July 8th (sign-in between 7:30 and 8:30 AM). Camp will end at 12 Noon on Saturday, July 11th, with a family-style cookout!

Missions Coordinating Committee



The next meeting of the Missions Coordinating Committee will be on Monday, August 10th at 7PM at the Associational Office. Anyone desiring approval for an associational missions/ministry project and/or funding from the New Work Fund should submit their written proposals and requests to the BBA office by Thursday, August 6th. Contact us by phone at 229-835-2887 to obtain needed forms.

Missionary Musings

First of all, I want to say "Praise the Lord!" for the **31 individuals** who prayed to receive Christ during the course of **Collide Blakely** activities on March 30-April 3. Pastor Craig Layton and his evangelistic team found several open doors of opportunity to share the Gospel throughout the city of Blakely, and many people responded. Please pray for Pastor Darrell Alexander and the congregation of New Zion Baptist Church, especially, as they seek to follow-up on the families who were impacted by this special week.

Summer is almost upon us, and we are gearing up for our children's **Summer Camps** at Okitayakani in July. **Day Camp** will be Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, **July 8-10**, and the **Overnight Camp** for older children will begin Wednesday morning, **July 8th**, and wrap-up with our family cook-out at Noon on Saturday, **July 11th**. Please see elsewhere in this newsletter for more details. Registration materials are being mailed to all of our churches this month, and are also available on our BBA website (www.bethelassociation.com, click on "Summer Camps"). Pay particular attention to our **deadline** for signing children up for either camp of **Thursday, June 18th**.

Mrs. **Wanda Moody** is once again heading-up our Overnight Camp, and we welcome Mrs. **Laura Goode** to the team as our new Day Camp Director this year. If you would like to help (volunteer) for either camp, please let one of these ladies know, or call me at the Associational Office.

We were sad to have to say good-bye to **Jana and Tommy Youmans** last month. Jana served for the past 3 years as our Ministry Assistant in the Associational Office, as well as our Associational Clerk. Tommy also served the BBA as our Church Music Specialist. They are a faithful, talented couple and we will miss them both, but we rejoice that the Lord has called them to a new place of service in the Moultrie area and we wish them God's richest blessings in their ministry there.

Please pray for our Administrative Team and myself as we seek to fill our needs in the office. We want to maintain a level of helpful efficiency in the Associational Office, while at the same time being the best stewards that we can be of our associational resources. In the meantime, I am trying to be in the office as much as possible Mondays through Thursdays. If you need to stop by our office, however, it is probably a good idea to **call first** (at 229.835.2887) and make sure someone is there, until we find our regular replacement(s) for "Miss Jana." And, if you need to call me and cannot reach me at the office, feel free to call my mobile phone at 229.723.1375.

Thank you all for your patience and prayers during this time. It is a joy to serve with you in this part of God's field!

Bro. James



HELP WANTED:

A team of 2-3 volunteers to help prepare the *Bethel News* for mailing (folding, taping, sorting).
One day each month (between the 25th and the last day of the month).

Contact Bro. James at the Associational Office (229.835.2887) if you would like to help.

Many hands make quick work!+



The Associational Office
 Will be Closed on
 Monday, May 25th,
 In Observance of
MEMORIAL DAY.
 Have a Safe and Happy
 Holiday!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following churches which were recently recognized by the Georgia Baptist Convention for their achievements in the areas of missions giving and evangelism for 2014:

Largest contributor to the Cooperative Program in the Bethel Baptist Association for 2014- **Cuthbert First Baptist Church**

Largest percentage contributor to the Cooperative Program in the Bethel Baptist Association for 2014- **Bluffton Baptist Church**

Largest per-capita contributor to the Cooperative Program in the Bethel Baptist Association for 2014- **Bluffton Baptist Church**

Most baptisms in the Bethel Baptist Association in 2014.
Arlington Baptist Church

Most baptisms per resident member in the Bethel Baptist Association in 2014- **Salem Baptist Church**

21st in % Medium-sized Sunday Schools+for Sunday School Growth in the Georgia Baptist Convention for 2014- **Cuthbert First Baptist Church**

We appreciate these churches and their leaders for their faithfulness to the Great Commission.

Attention Pastors and Staff!

Our “**Revitalization Roundtable**” discussion for **May 20th** will feature special guest **Randy Mullinax** from the Georgia Baptist Convention’s Evangelism Ministries office. We will seek to address the need for a viable **evangelism strategy** in our churches as we pursue revitalization and revival. All pastors and staff are invited to take part in this crucial discussion. The meeting begins at **10 AM**, and we will conclude at 12 Noon.

CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

March 26, 2015 thru April 29, 2015

Arlington	1,248.76
Bethel	498.24
Beulah	580.00
Blakely FBC	1,686.40
Bluffton	486.33
Carnegie	
Coleman	
Colomokee	417.60
Cuthbert FBC	512.50
Damascus (E)	
Damascus (R)	382.29
Edison	227.24
Enterprise	1,246.74
Faith	
Fort Gaines	1,059.88
Georgetown	1,000.00
Leary	221.55
Milford	287.00
Morgan	
Morris	
Mt. Gilead	
Mt. Hebron	173.67
Mt. Vernon	263.10
New Bethel	
New Hope	443.23
New Zion	
Rehoboth	
Salem	
Shellman FBC	
Shiloh	291.00
Southside	225.00
Sowhatchee	224.23
Springvale	
Vilulah	50.00
Individuals	250.00
TOTAL	11,774.76
Balances	
General Fund	16,555.32
Designated Fund	13,304.06
New Work Fund	9,657.02
World Missions Conf.	5,146.06

Thank You

Bethel Baptist
Association
124 Bay Ave.
PO Box 398
Edison, GA
39846

Change Service
Requested

The Bethel Baptist Association

Dr. James Holloway, Associational Missionary
Phone 229.835.2887
FAX 229.835.2023

E-mail: bethelbaptist@windstream.net
Website: www.bethelassociation.com

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Calendar of Events

May, 2015

- 4 Bivocational %Barnabas+Group-Assoc. Office, 7PM
- 5 %Barnabas+Group-Assoc. Office, 11AM
- 11 Administrative Team-Assoc. Office, 6:30 PM
- 12 New Zion (Mission) Steering Committee-
Freeman Rd., 7PM
- 15 MinistersqPre-Retirement Planning Seminar-
Assoc. Office, 9:30 AM-12 PM
- 18 Team Leader Training-Assoc. Office, 6:30 PM
- 20 %Revitalization Roundtable+Assoc. Office, 10AM
- 25 MEMORIAL DAY (Assoc. Office Closed)

June, 2015

- 18 DEADLINE for Summer Camp Reservations
- 22-26 Bro. James on Vacation
- 29 Executive Committee-Assoc. Office, 7PM

July, 2015

- 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 8-10 BBA **Day Camp** at Okitayakani. 9:30 AM-3:30 PM
- 8-11 BBA **Children's Overnight Camp** at Okitayakani.
Begins at 8:30 AM on Wed., concludes at Noon
On Saturday

Upcoming:

- August 15-Regional Sunday School Worker Training at
Blakely First Baptist Church
- September 12-13-BBA +On Mission Connection+

PRAYER WALK



The **3rd Sunday** of
every month from
2:30 PM to 3:30 PM

**Randolph/Clay
High School
Clay Middle School**

