

The associational ADVISOR

January 2018

POBA

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POBA Mission Statement: *The Piedmont-Okefenokee Baptist Association exists to equip, enable, serve, and encourage a cooperating partnership of Southern Baptist Churches to effectively build the kingdom of God through evangelism, missions, discipleship, ministry and prayer.*



POBA RA Derby
Saturday, January 27
Jamestown Baptist Church
See page 5

Pastor/Deacon Training
Saturday, January 6
FBC Nahunta
See page 3

Pastor/Staff Prayer
Tuesday, January 23
POBA Office
11:00 a.m.

**Annual Meeting
Meal Reservation**
Reserve by January 19
See page 2

**GBC Evangelism
Conference**
January 29-30
Warner Robins
GBCevangelismconferences.com

**Sanctity of Life
Sunday**
Sunday, January 21

Focus on WMU Week
February 12-18
AIM Meeting: February 12

POBA Annual Meeting
Thursday, January 25
Hebardville Baptist
See page 5

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POINTS FROM THE MISSIONARY'S PEN...

Rev. Don Patterson, cell (912) 288-7594

Points from the Missionary's Pen.

Barbara and I want to express to those of you who prayed for us as I faced catherization of my heart and the placement of three stents. Some of you will recall my having a stent placed in the LAD artery back in June 2002. It was following this procedure that the nurse was removing the sheath from my leg that I flatlined on the monitor. This caused Barbara concern and anticipation as we faced this recent procedure. Thanks to the prayers of so many of you and the wisdom and skills of the cardiologist and other trained personnel we came through the procedure fine. We do ask that you continue to pray for my sugar levels to regain normal range and that I will have the grace and strength to do what is recommended by the Doctors to enable this to happen.

I want to give a thank you to Bro. Tim Hall, our moderator of the association and pastor of Camp Pinckney Baptist, for coming to the hospital during this time of concern and waiting. Bro. Tim has been a dear

friend for a number of years now and stayed close by till late that afternoon and evening I am called to remember Bro. Robert Russell who in 2002 drove Barbara to St. Vincent when we faced that medical episode. Bro. Robert stayed with my wife for the whole procedure and overnight to assure that she and I were both doing alright. I stand in awe of those who demonstrate sacrificial love for not only for my family but for so many others in time of need.

I give praise to God for all of you called POBA and your expressions of love and concern for us as a family I am blessed to be allowed to live among you, work among you, love among you and share in your times of difficulties and joys. I give special thanks for my wife and her support and love for our family. She is my second strong hold, Jesus being my first.

A Reminder.

January 6th is Pastor Deacon Training

First Baptist Nahunta
8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

What's the program?

Dr. Steve Parr will share with us #ReachingNextGen. He will be giving us insight into how we can impact the next generation for Christ.

Bro. Bryan Alexander specialist in Pastoral Care, will be sharing two sessions on the call and work of the deacon.

What's for Lunch?

The church is preparing both breakfast and lunch for us. To be good stewards of the preparations for meals please respond and let us know you and your leadership are coming. RSVP online or by phone by January 4.

Looking forward to this time of training and fellowship.

Continue to pray for Set free Ministry as Bro. Mark Yeatman continues his work in securing a place to house the ministry and church. If you would like for him to share with your church please call him at 722-7356....

POBA ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 25

The POBA Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 25 at Hebardville Baptist Church.

A meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. and the Annual Meeting will begin with praise and worship at 6:45 p.m. The meal is free, but please RSVP by **Friday, January 19.**

You may call the POBA Office (912-285-8161) or register online at pobaonline.com/AnnualMeeting.



NEWS AND INFORMATION:

- First Baptist Folkston is looking for a bivocational Minister of Students/Young Adults. Submit resumes by December 15 to: fbcfolkston@windstream.net
- Offerman Baptist is looking for a bivocational Minister of Music. Contact James Lightsey (550-6516) for more information.
- Lulaton Baptist is seeking a bivocational pastor. Resumes may be sent to: Lulaton Baptist Church, PO Box 961, Nahunta GA 31553-0961.
- Jamestown Baptist is accepting applications for the position of custodian (36 hours/week). Applications can be obtained from the church office or call 912-283-6762.
- Deenwood Baptist has a 1998 GMC 3500 Bus (31 passenger, 47k miles, \$7500) for sale. Contact 283-7168.
- Offerman Baptist is accepting resumes for a bivocational Youth/Children's Pastor. Contact James Lightsey (550-6516) for more information.

MISSIONS COLLEGE



IMB Missions College

Dates: January 16-19, 2018

Location: Richmond, VA

Registration Now Open

Visit: <https://info.imb.org/missions-college/2018?mail01>

SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY



Sunday, January 21,
2018

Information about the
Life Chain will be sent
by email.

CHURCHES SEEKING PASTORS

Remember these churches in prayer as they seek pastors:

Beulah	Mt. Calvary
Bristol	Spring Hill
Lulaton	Youmans Chapel

JANUARY PRAYER FOCUS

This month, please remember these pastors and their families in prayer.

Ten Mile: Jason Hayes (Amanda)
Twin Rivers: Jack Sinclair (Jean)
Walkerville: Greg Carter (Shae)
Ware Terrace: Bud Jones (Ruth)
Waycross Community: Jerry Weathersby
Waynesville: Joe Carr (Jan)
West Carswell: Jimmy Thrift (Ida)
Williams Chapel: Mike Aldridge
Winokur: Charlie Dunn (Shirleen)
Youmans Chapel: Jerry Chancey

PASTOR/DEACON TRAINING

Pastor/Deacon Training

January 6, 2018

First Baptist Nahunta

8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

8:30 Breakfast & Registration

9:00 Session 1 (Steve Parr)

10:00 Session 2 (Bryan Alexander)

11:00 Session 3 (Bryan Alexander)

12:00 Lunch

Please RSVP by Thursday, January 4 by calling the POBA office (leave a message), emailing sarah.poba@gmail.com or online at pobaonline.com/PastorDeaconTraining.

EFFECTIVE MISSION



BE STRATEGIC

For our mission endeavors to be effective we must be strategic. Prayer should be the priority in all our

mission efforts because we are seeking to fulfill the Great Commission guided by God each step of the way. To attempt to be on mission apart from prayer is to doom the mission from its inception. Prayer is essential throughout the mission. Where we go, how we go, what people group we engage, when we go should all be matters of prayer. The approach(es) we use, the method(s) of evangelism, discipleship, and church planting are all critical, prayer-based decisions to consider to make the mission effort effective.

For the mission to be effective we must use methods that are INDIGENOUS, NON-DEPENDENT, and REPRODUCIBLE.

INDIGENOUS...Indigenous methods are most effective in communicating the gospel. We NEVER change the gospel! When a native speaker shares the gospel in the native heart language using their native experiences and understanding the local culture in a format (oral or literate), then when a biblical church is formed it will not look "out of place" or imported from another culture but rather be an expression of the gospel that reflects the local culture.

NON-DEPENDENT...If the local church is to be self-supporting, self-propagating, and self-governing, then it

should only be dependent on the Holy Spirit, not an outside source or resource. Evangelism tools, discipleship tools, church planting tools should all be available locally for the mission to be effective.

The only exception is bringing in God's Word, the Bible, and the form (oral or written) in which it is shared and delivered must be prayerfully considered.

REPRODUCIBLE... Reproducible evangelism, reproducible discipleship, and reproducible churches must be in forefront of our mission efforts. Each of these must be reproduced locally and must be employed and modeled in the reproducible manner you want the local believer to reproduce evangelism, reproduce discipleship, and reproduce church planting. If these are not locally reproducible they will die with first generation of believers and not passed to the next generation nor neighboring communities nor neighboring people groups.

One other aspect of being strategic is knowing when to EXIT. Our purpose is to go make disciples of all nations. We need to know when to exit the engagement of a people group *from the beginning* of the engagement so that when that point is reached among the people group, we exit and seek God as to what unreached people group to engage next. Having an exit strategy helps us stay focused on the mission, the goal, the reason for our being among that particular people group, and be good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us individually and as a partnering church.

SOURCE: IMB Missions Scope

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Please contact Greg Benfield at the POBA Office (912-285-8161) for more information or to sign up for one of these mission opportunities.



Mexico Partnership Missions
Oaxaca, Mexico
 February 18-25, 2018



Ecuador Mission Trip
Tangali, Ecuador
 May 14-21, 2018
 Estimated cost: \$1,500

Deposit due: \$600 - February 2, 2018
 You must have a valid passport by February 2, 2018.

LUTHER EXPOUNDS ON THE TRUST REQUIRED TO “HAVE” A GOD

What does it mean when we say this particular verb, that you’re not to have a god anywhere near you? Martin Luther puts it this way, in his small catechism: “We are to fear, love, and trust God above all things.” Elsewhere he says this: “A ‘god’ is the term for that to which we are to look for all good and in which we are to find refuge in all need. Therefore, to have a god is nothing else than to trust and believe in that one with your whole heart.”

In his 1520 Treatise on Good Works, Luther will put it this way:

This is the work of the first commandment, which enjoins, “Thou shalt have no other gods.” This means, “Since I alone am God, thou shalt place all thy confidence, trust, and faith in me alone and in no one else.” For you do not have a god if you just call him God outwardly with your lips, or worship him with the knees or bodily gestures; but only if you trust him with your heart and look to him for all good, grace, and favor.... This faith, this trust, this confidence from the heart’s core is the true fulfilling of the first commandment. Without such faith no work at all can satisfy this command. And because this commandment is the very first of all commandments and the highest and the best, the one from which all others proceed, in which they exist and by which they are judged and assessed, so its work (that is, the faith or confidence that God is gracious at all times) is the very first, highest, and best from which all others must proceed, in which they must exist and abide, and by which they must be judged and assessed.

Luther, then, here, clarifies that the first commandment is a call to entrust oneself to God. We see this as a call that comes throughout the Bible, highlighted here as the entryway or first of the Ten Commandments.

SOURCE: Allen, R. M. (2016). *ET101 Law and Gospel: The Basis of Christian Ethics*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

RA RACER DERBY

The Associational RA Racer Derby will be at Jamestown Baptist Church on Saturday, January 27.



Registration will be at 8:30 a.m. Registration will be \$5.00 or 3 canned goods to donate to Mary Street Mission.

The Associational RA Camporee is scheduled to be on March 2-3, 2018. Registration is \$15/person and includes the t-shirt and great fellowship. Please send Josh McCarthy (mac.fca03@gmail.com) tshirt sizes and numbers by January 31, 2018.

WHAT WE BELIEVE AS SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

Each month we focus on a different topic in the Baptist Faith and Message (BFM). You may obtain a copy of the BFM (in print or by email) by contacting our office.

III. Man

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6; Psalms 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5; Isaiah 6:5; Jeremiah 17:5; Matthew 16:26; Acts 17:26-31; Romans 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29; 1 Corinthians 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22; Ephesians 2:1-22; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11.



Piedmont Okefenokee Baptist Association

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CALENDAR

January

- 1 New Year's Day, office closed
- 6 Pastor/Deacon Training
- 16 Administrative Team Meeting
- 16-19 Missions College
- 19 Meal Reservation Deadline for Annual Meeting
- 21 Sanctity of Life Sunday
- 23 Pastor/Staff Prayer
- 25 POBA Annual Meeting
- 25-28 Jacksonville Pastor's Conference
- 27 POBA RA Derby
- 29-30 Evangelism Conference

February

- 1 Pastor's Day at the Capitol
- 2 Deposit for Ecuador mission trip due
- 12-18 Focus on WMU Week
- 12 WMU Annual Inspiration Meeting
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 Children's Ministry Day
- 17 State RA Derby
- 18-25 Mexico Mission Trip
- 20 Administrative Team Meeting
- 24 Children's Mission Extravaganza
- 27-28 Transitional Interim Training
- 27 Pastor/Staff Prayer

March

- 1 Pastor's Day at the Capitol
- 2-3 POBA RA Camporee
- 4-11 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and the AAEO
- 11 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 16-17 State RA Camporee
- 18 Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday
- 24 Church Financial Compliance, FBC Alma
- 20 Administrative Team Meeting
- 27 Pastor/Staff Prayer
- 30 Good Friday, office closed



Celebrating in January

Active pastors/staff & their spouses celebrating this month



Birthdays

- Melodie Boatwright—5
- Mark Williams—6
- Angie Bishop—9
- James Lightsey—11
- Mitch Hall—12
- Charlie Dunn—18
- Laura Finley—18
- Andrea Stone—19
- Buddy Griner—29
- Anne Cardwell—29

Anniversaries

- Randy & Tammy Carson—2
- RC & Myra James—7
- Barry & Sarah Rozier—19
- Lynn & Susan Harris—26



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