

Connections

APPOMATTOX BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2016



Looking Ahead in 2016 BLAND COUNTY MISSION TRIP

The ABA Mission Team is working on getting a date in July this year. This is a great trip with lots of different things to do! Past projects have included working in the food bank, unpacking trucks, cleaning the preschool, working in the clothes closet, working on neighborhood construction projects, and community services in the surrounding area. We are helping hands for God!

The cost is \$25.00 for each person to go. We have more details on the way. Get your name on the list now! Call the ABA office at 434-352-5806 even if you are just considering this ministry.



STOP HUNGER NOW

This year's goal is **\$6,000.00**

Let's start off 2016 fundraising early! Here are some ways to jump start your giving:

- ⇒ *pocket change Sundays through-out whole year*
- ⇒ *VBS offering*
- ⇒ *yard sales, car washes*
- ⇒ *children's Saturday events at church*

What ideas will your church come up with? These are just suggestions. Each church can be creative in designing new ways to fund our Stop Hunger Now campaign.

If your church starts now and works towards the goal you will be surprised at how much a little will add up though-out the year. Please consider helping with Stop Hunger Now and putting a team together to come help pack meals.

More information will be coming about the time and place after Stop Hunger Now inspects our preliminary site for the food packing. The date will be middle to late October.



Summer Plans for VBS

Many of the ABA churches are in the planning stages for Vacation Bible school. Please email the ABA office or call (414) 352-5806 and leave a message with your dates.

Also, when you plan your church events like homecoming, revivals, and other special events, please send Carolyn Dolan your dates. It will be posted both in the newsletter and online at the ABA website.

Happy Valentine's Day from
Appomattox Baptist Association!



Happenings in WMU Missions from Linda Jo Mays

Hello Ladies,

Happy New Year! We had a wonderful planning meeting for the WMU Leadership Team on January 9. Thank you to all who attended. Here are the highlights in case you couldn't come.

Dates to keep in mind: Focus on WMU—February 7-14; Children's Ministry Day—Feb 13; NA Mission Emphasis—March 6-13; Shine—April 8-10; Mom and Me—April 22-23, 23-24; Spring Volunteer event at CRCC—May 13-15; Come to the Table—June 4; Sports Camp—June 13-16; Standing Rock—July 23-31; Bland Mission Trip—Date to be announced.

Our annual meeting will be on **March 29 at Glenn Memorial Church in Prospect**. Please put it on your calendar now. We have very special missionaries speaking--flyers coming soon. Also at our Spring Meeting we will be collecting **Undies for Bland**. So please have an Undie Sunday or two in February or early March so we can have another wonderful collection for Bland.

January is when we pay our WMU dues which are \$1.00 per adult and \$.50 per youth or child. Please send those to Hope Bondurant, 1036 Columbus Road, Concord, VA, 24538.

Thank you for all you are doing to spread the love of Christ through missions.

Cullen Baptist Church



is hosting an After Church Bowling Party February 21, 2016 at 2 PM at the **Main Street Lanes, 2006 S Main in Farmville**. We are inviting ABA churches. The cost for two lanes for up to eight people including shoes is \$45. For more information, please contact

Cullen Baptist Church, Pastor Guy Stockslager at 434-610-9859



Little Harper Grace Harrison, passed into heavens gates on January 18, 2016. Please be in prayer for the family as they deal with the loss of this precious young child. The family appreciates your love and prayer support. Harper's grandfather, John Harrison has recently been diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer. Please continue to pray for this family.

Here's how you can help the ABA to save money! We can email the **Connections** newsletter directly to you. If you would rather read it on your computer or mobile device, call the ABA office and give us your email address. We'll email each new edition to you.



Where is Our Focus?

By Chad Harris

At times, we can get so focused on the present that we lose sight of what is important. It's important for us to look at what's in store for the believer who has put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ. In the present, we have temporary bodies which are wracked with the consequences of sin such as disease, distress, despair, and eventually death. We are also engaged in a spiritual struggle while we are in these bodies. We struggle with yielding to the Spirit or yielding to the flesh. Romans 7:24 says,

“O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?”

While we are here on earth, **we live by faith**, but we look forward to the day when our **faith will be made sight**. While we are here on earth, we are physically separated from the Lord, but we know that to be **absent from the body is to be present with the Lord**. While we are here on earth, we are clothed in mortal bodies, but we long for the day when our bodies will be transformed into **glorious bodies**. As the song says, “We are pilgrims that are passing through and our treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue...” We have a destination as Philippians 3:20-21 says,

“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”



As we are reminded of this blessed truth and the hope that we have as we look forward to our **eternal place**, we can identify with what I Corinthians 15:55-57 says,

“O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law, But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

When we have the proper perspective of eternity, this should have a great impact on how we live our lives. Whatever struggles or difficulties that we face should be seen in light of eternity. Romans 8:18 says,

“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

Someday it will be worth it all when we see Jesus. All trials will seem so small when we see Christ. We must be willing to run the race and serve him while we are in these earthly bodies. The time for serving is now! As believers in Christ, we will stand before him one day at the Judgment Seat of Christ and will give an account for what we have done, whether good or bad. According to I Corinthians 3:10-12, the good we do will be rewarded and the bad that we do will be burned up. As we focus on this glorious future we have in Christ, may we allow it to influence the way we live today!

Read the newsletter any time. Go to: www.appomattoxba.org and click “newsletter” on the toolbar. Many thanks to Pastor Scott Curtis for putting the **Connections** newsletter online.



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“Connections”
deadline is the
15th
of each month

Church	ABA	Other	Total	Church	ABA	Other	Total
YTD total 2015							
Bethel	2,960.45	267.32	3,227.77	Liberty	1,000.00		1,000.00
Bethpeor	600		600	Midway	2,000.00		2,000.00
Beulah	289.43	100	389.43	New Chapel	4,490.00		4,490.00
Brookneal	5,586.31	85	5,671.31	New Hope	1,250.00	502.11	1,752.11
Calvary	1,000.00	282.72	1,282.62	Providence	4,916.27	737.39	5,653.60
Central	1,229.00	200	1,429.00	Red Oak	0.00		0.00
Cullen	1,293.95		1,293.95	Reedy Spring	600.00	500	1,100.00
Elon	6,350.00	500	6,850.00	Rocks	4,714.95	150	4,864.95
Falling River	2,726.50	745.22	3,471.72	Salem	650.00		650.00
Glenn Memorial	2,862.00	2,033.25	4,895.25	Spout Spring	0.00		0.00
Grace Hills	1,708.63	250	1,958.63	Spring Creek	2,750.00	800	3,550.00
Hebron	1,800.00	230	2,030.00	Stanton River	1,500.00	405.25	4,905.25
Hollywood	1,028.00	528	1,556.00	Union Hill	2,800.00	610	3,410.00