

# The associational ADVISOR

February 2019

POBA

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Associational Missionary: Don Patterson ■ Mission Strategist: Greg Benfield ■ Ministry Assistant: Sarah Rozier

**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.*



## WMU Annual Inspiration Meeting

Monday, February 11  
Beulah Baptist Church  
7:00 pm



## Pastor/Staff Prayer

Tuesday, February 26  
11:00 a.m.  
POBA Office



## Bainbridge Ministry Trip

February 15-16  
Clean-up & Painting  
Call POBA Office  
to participate



## Listening Session with Thomas Hammond

February 28  
Central Baptist, 6:00 pm  
See page 5



## Senior Adult Leaders

55+ Swap Shop Tour  
February 19  
Calvary Baptist Church  
See page 4



## NEW Website

[mypoba.com](http://mypoba.com)  
Check it out!

## The Gathering (Youth)

Sunday, February 24



## Stay Informed!

Sign up to receive  
event reminders  
Text “@pobaevent” to 81010



## Pastors Day at the Capitol

February 26  
Register:  
<https://goo.gl/uWhxGj>

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## POINTS FROM THE MISSIONARY'S PEN...

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

What a blessing it is to have churches who are so willing to assist with ministry needs. One such church is Walkerville Baptist who hosted our annual Pastor/Deacon training on January 5. The folks at Walkerville did a superb job of seeing that the training event went well through their hospitality and preparation of food along with just making all who attended feel right at home. A hardy thanks to Pastor Greg Carter for working with us at the association to set up the videoing of this event. If you were not able to attend the meeting, I would recommend that you contact Greg about purchasing a copy of the training. Mike Griffin (who lobbies for Georgia Baptist at the capital) brought us up to date on issues and legislation that will impact us all as churches of the association and most of all our children. Bro. Harrison Smith brought an informative presentation of the impact of gender issues facing our churches. He represents an organization of lawyers called Alliance Defending Freedom that assists churches and individuals on issue of gender, homosexuality, and religious liberty.

Please know that as your associational missionary I am always grateful to our pastors and lay leaders when they say, "Bro. Don if there is anything I can do to assist you please let me know." I know these statements are often said in passing and little thought is given to how important it is and most helpful to our ministry when a leader takes seriously the training events of the association. If you are not directly asked to help us in this vital work of associational missions then please help us by your participating in events that will help you

and your church be on the cutting edge of ministry. If you as a pastor cannot come to an event then send someone or several people to participate. As you know we have tried to plan events that are of "no cost" to our churches. Even when a training event was being planned for our churches that would have cost participants \$100 or more if attended outside the association we have absorbed the cost for you by your church giving to the association. I am so grateful for the churches of the association who are able to give generously to assist the vast number of churches in the association that may not be able to give as generously as others to this Christ Centered work. And I am most blessed when I see so many of our smaller churches being greatly blessed by the generous giving of larger churches and (not to miss the fact) that so many of our smaller churches are such a blessing to others by their sacrificial giving. So much has been accomplished and is being accomplished by each church carrying their part in giving and in ministry.

I sincerely see among churches a spirit of revival and concern for the lost in their communities. This concern always leads to a deep yearning through prayer for the salvation of those who are walking in darkness. And it always leads to action of visiting in the community and by so doing impacting so many who need the gracious and forgiving love of Christ. Jesus said, "Go..." some translate this "As you Go..." Going can and must be a part of every healthy church to reach the unreached... But it is not to be the only effort of the church "Going..." We

must (all of us) be going daily in the home, the market place, the everyday ventures into the community we live in; that is a must for us to reach this lost world. As you go to Walmart, to the doctor's office, to events at school, to meetings of the community...be prepared to share your faith in the living Lord. "Go..."

The church in its reaching must be prepared to teach and care for those who are touched by the awesome grace of God. It is with this intent in mind that we as churches must develop small groups to assimilate the new Christians into the fellowship of the church through a strong discipleship atmosphere. One of the key tools for doing just that is Sunday School small groups. Some of our churches may call it something besides Sunday School and may even meet at different times of the week but the principle is still the same of seeking to disciple the saved and reach the lost.

What a great association God has given us by His grace to equip, enable, serve and, encourage churches through prayer/worship, evangelism/missions, and discipleship/ministry.

Remember we shall see Him very soon so stay focused on serving Jesus.

Till We See HIM

Bro. Don

## CHURCHES SEEKING PASTORS

Remember these churches in prayer as they seek pastors:

Liberty	Spring Hill
Mt. Calvary	Youmans Chapel

## NEWS AND INFORMATION:

- There were 186 people at the 50th Anniversary Celebration (Annual Meeting) held at Sweat Memorial Baptist on January 24. The following churches were represented: Bethel, Beulah, Bristol, Calvary, Camp Pinckney, Central, Community, CrossPoint, Emmanuel, FBC Blackshear, FBC Folkston, FBC St. George, Hacklebarney, Hephzibah, Hickox, Hoboken, Jamestown, Lees Chapel, Lulaton, M.A.L.L, Mershon, Millwood, Newbern, Patterson, Pine Grove, Pineview, Pleasant Hill, Pleasant Valley, Second, Set Free, Shady Grove, South Gate, Sweat Memorial, Twin Rivers, Walkerville, West Carswell, Whosoever, Winokur, Youmans Chapel
- There were 31 people at the Pastor/Deacon Training on January 5 at Walkerville Baptist. The following churches were represented: Beulah, Bristol, Camp Pinckney, Central, FBC Blackshear, Haywood, Lulaton, Manor, Mershon, Midway, South Gate, Sweat Memorial, SweetWater, Twin Rivers, Union, Walkerville.
- February 1-2: Man-Up Conference, Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Baxley. Contact Rick Cason (912-237-3546) or Rick Brown (912-278-1438).
- February 7-8: Kids Ministry Summit, Jekyll Island Club Hotel. Register at [gabaptist.org/kids/](http://gabaptist.org/kids/).
- February 15-16: Bainbridge Ministry Trip, contact the POBA Office to participate
- February 16: Children's Missions Day, FBC Reidsville, 10:00 am—3:30 pm, \$15. Register at [gabaptist.org/childrensmissionsday](http://gabaptist.org/childrensmissionsday).
- February 26: Pastors Day at the Capitol, 10:00 am—2:00 pm. Speaker: Robert Jeffress, Register: <https://goo.gl/uWhxGj>
- March 1: GBMB Church Safety Workshop, Northside Baptist in Valdosta, 9:30 am—2:30 pm, Visit: <https://goo.gl/649cVa> to register.

## FEBRUARY PRAYER FOCUS

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

Waynesville: Joe Carr (Jan)  
 West Carswell: Jimmy Thrift (Ida)  
 Whosoever: Trey Keene (Amanda)  
 Williams Chapel: Mike Aldridge (Sheila)  
 Winokur: Charlie Dunn (Shirleen)  
 Youmans Chapel: Jerry Chancey  
 Astoria: Bryant Bishop (Angie)  
 Beulah: Matt Tuttle (Jennifer)  
 Bold: Teke Dixon (Michelle)  
 Bridge: Chris Roberts (Kami)

## MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS:

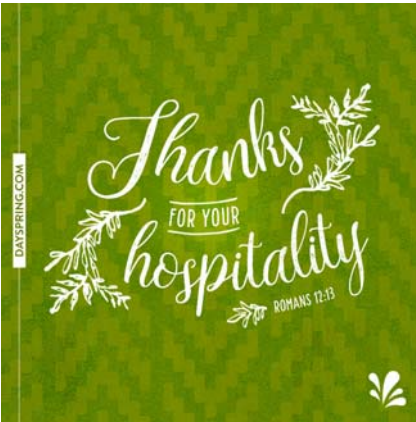
The following IMB missionaries from Georgia have birthdays during the month of February. Please remember to pray for them throughout the month. Please remember to pray for Last Frontier Personnel that we are unable to list here.

2/1 Mrs. Karen Pearce, Global Strategic Advance  
 2/3 A C, East Asian Peoples  
 2/6 Mrs. Ramona Reese, American Peoples  
 2/8 Mrs. Elizabeth Bundrick, Sub-Saharan African Peoples  
 2/11 B H, Northern African And Middle Eastern Peoples  
 2/11 J H, European Peoples  
 2/11 M M, East Asian Peoples  
 2/13 J R, South Asian Peoples  
 2/15 J K, European Peoples  
 2/17 M H, Northern African And Middle Eastern Peoples  
 2/19 R C, South Asian Peoples  
 2/20 Rev. Bob Gellerstedt, East Asian Peoples  
 2/24 Mr. Frank Harrison, American Peoples  
 2/26 M H, South Asian Peoples  
 2/26 K L, Sub-Saharan African Peoples  
 2/27 C S, East Asian Peoples

## PROPHECY CONFERENCE AT LULATON

Lulaton Baptist (18581 Hwy 82, Nahunta) will hold a Prophecy Conference March 17-20, 2019. The speaker will be Pastor David Beal, pastor of New Beginnings Baptist in St. Cloud Florida and Director of Seaside Missions. Special Music by Jerry & June Weathersby. Sunday 11:00 am & 6:30 pm, Monday—Wednesday 6:30 pm. Topics presented will include: the Rapture of the Church, the Judgement Seat of Christ, the coming Tribulation, the Antichrist, and much more!

## THANKS TO SWEAT MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH



The association thanks Sweat Memorial for the excellent meal and extra efforts that made the 50th Anniversary of the POBA an exceptional meeting.

We would like to thank all of those who sang in the

choir and provided special music for this time of exalting our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. A special word of thanks to Dr. Freddie Smith for bringing the message of the hour and challenging us to live out in our personal lives the sacrificial life of Christ.

And last but always not least we want to thank all of the churches of the association who sent representatives and members to the meeting to share in this glorious time together.

## WMU ANNUAL INSPIRATION MEETING



The WMU Annual Inspiration Meeting will be Monday, February 11, 2019 at Beulah Baptist Church, beginning at 7:00 pm. This year's speaker will be Beth Ann Williams, Executive Director of Georgia Baptist Women.

A love offering will be taken up for City of Joy church plant in Union City, NJ.

## 55+ SWAP SHOP TOUR WITH BENNY PATE

**February 19, 2019**  
**Calvary Baptist Church**  
**10:00 am—12:00 pm**  
**Registration \$10**

The 55+ Swap Shop Tour is designed with the Senior Adult church leader in mind. Join Benny Pate to discuss the importance of good methods for a successful ministry to adults over 55. You will also share ideas with each other and learn what is working in this vital ministry of the church. Call 800-746-4422 ext 286 to register.

## 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.

### XV. The Christian and the Social Order

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

*Exodus 20:3-17; Leviticus 6:2-5; Deuteronomy 10:12; 27:17; Psalm 101:5; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 8:16; Matthew 5:13-16, 43-48; 22:36-40; 25:35; Mark 1:29-34; 2:3ff.; 10:21; Luke 4:18-21; 10:27-37; 20:25; John 15:12; 17:15; Romans 12-14; 1 Corinthians 5:9-10; 6:1-7; 7:20-24; 10:23-11:1; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Philemon; James 1:27; 2:8.*

## LETTER FROM BOWEN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Greetings in the name of our wonderful Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. We are praising the Lord for his continued blessings on us here in SW Georgia. God has been and is faithful to us, and we are so grateful.

Please express our appreciation to your Association, for the wonderful love gift. Also, we are thankful for you all caring for us in partnering with us. Words are not sufficient to express how grateful we are for all the prayers, phone calls, and words of encouragement to us. Things have improved greatly through the help of so many coming and helping us with the massive cleanup. The churches in Bowen Association have been overwhelmed by all of the prayers and all of the help. Praise the Lord!

Please continue to pray for us as we continue on for our Lord.

Your servant in the Lord,  
Bro. Ken Cloud, Director of Missions

## LISTENING SESSION WITH GBMB'S THOMAS HAMMOND

Thursday, February 28, 2019  
Central Baptist Church  
6:00 pm

On February 28, our Executive Director of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board, Thomas Hammond, will be conducting the last of the Listening Sessions across the State of Georgia. He wants to hear the heart-beat of Ministers in Georgia.

It will be a roundtable setting where pastors and staff will share their input with him as God leads Thomas in the days ahead. Your input is of tremendous worth. Please plan to attend Central Baptist Church on Thursday, February 28 at 6:00 pm in Waycross for this Listening Session with Thomas Hammond.

Pastors are our heroes. Churches are our priority. Georgia is our mission field. (Mike Everson)

## PASTOR'S DISCIPLESHIP ROUNDTABLE

Wednesday, February 20, 2019  
11:00 am—2:00 pm  
Lighthouse Baptist Church  
(4770 Sardis Church Road, Macon)

Cost: FREE

The goal of the Pastor's Discipleship Roundtable is to introduce the process for creating a disciple making culture developed by Bill Hull. He is a recognized national and worldwide leader in field of discipleship. Bill's passion is to help the church return to its disciple making roots and he considers himself a discipleship evangelist.

A meal will be served, and several testimonies will be shared that highlight the benefits of The Bonhoeffer Project. Bill will cover the details and there will be time for Q&A. At the end of the roundtable the pastors will be invited to join a year-long cohort that will assist them in developing a customized disciple-making process for their church.

If you have questions about this event, please contact Carla Foster at [cfoster@gabaptist.org](mailto:cfoster@gabaptist.org) or 770.936.5270. This is a FREE event and will include lunch, but you must register for the event. To register, go to [tinyurl.com/rt-macon](http://tinyurl.com/rt-macon).

For more information on the Bonhoeffer Project, go to [www.thebonhoefferproject.com](http://www.thebonhoefferproject.com).

## MORAL & CIVIC CONCERNS

(Debra Giddens) For those of you who live in State House District 176, there will be a special election on February 12, 2019 to elect a new State Representative. Jason Shaw was elected on November 6, 2018; however, he received an appointment to the Georgia Public Service Commission and that has left a vacancy in District 176. If you live in District 176, please remember to vote on February 12.

## SING AT NEW UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

New Union Baptist Church in Alma will be having a sing on March 31, 6:00 pm with the group Calvary's Cross. All are welcome to attend!



# Piedmont Okefenokee Baptist Association

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# CALENDAR

## February

- 5 NAMB Luncheon for Pastors, Valdosta
- 7-8 GBMB Kids Ministry Summit, Jekyll Island
- 11 WMU AIM Meeting
- 14 Valentine’s Day
- 15-16 Bainbridge Ministry Trip
- 16 Children’s Missions Day
- 16 State RA Derby
- 19 Senior Adult Swap Shop
- 24 The Gathering (Youth)
- 26 Pastor/Staff Prayer
- 26 Pastor’s Day at the Capitol
- 28 GBMB Listening Session
- 28-2 Training Retreat for Georgia Baptist Women’s Ministry Leaders

## March

- 1-2 POBA RA Camporee
- 8-9 GBMB VBS Clinic, Lyons
- 10 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 15-16 State RA Camporee
- 19 Administrative Team Meeting
- 21 Sons of Jubal, Sweat Memorial
- 24 The Gathering (Youth)
- 26 Pastor/Staff Prayer

## April

- 11 POBA VBS Clinic
- 12-13 Bainbridge Ministry Trip
- 14 Palm Sunday
- 16 Administrative Team Meeting
- 19 Good Friday, office closed
- 19 Bro. Don’s 20 Year Anniversary with POBA
- 21 Easter
- 23 Pastor/Staff Prayer
- 25 S Night
- 27 WMU Spring Gathering
- 28 The Gathering (Youth)



## Celebrating in February

*Active pastors/staff & their spouses celebrating this month*



### Birthdays

- Trent Long –7
- Larry Finley—9
- Phil Jordan—10
- Sonia Delk—11
- Greg Benfield—19
- Monroe Gill—20
- Tammy Carson—22
- Barbara Patterson—22
- Sherri Hall—23
- Daniel Harris—23

### Anniversaries

- Tommy & Jana Youmans—16
- Randall & Edie Gunter—21



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