

September
2018

Edgefield Baptist Association

Organized 1807

Making History with His Story

Association Churches Make A Difference for The Kingdom: Summer Migrant Ministry



Every Sunday evening for 3 months workers from 6 migrant camps had an opportunity to come together for worship, a meal, and English classes.

This was made possible through a cooperative effort of association churches with Providence making available their facilities, 12 churches providing meals, and 4 churches providing drivers and transportation. Trained ESL instructors from 4 churches worked with a total of 33 workers from Mexico on the basics of conversational English.



Pastor Cris Negrete led worship services and presented the plan of salvation each Sunday evening.

As a result, nine men made professions of faith this summer. Please pray for them as they travel home to Mexico and share their faith with their families and friends.

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 11
7:00 P.M.

2018 Edgefield Baptist Association Missions Offering

Our missions offering this year is dedicated to helping our Spanish language congregation with constructing their worship center on their new property. Iglesia Bautista Getsemani, led by Pastor Cris Negrete, has raised money, purchased property, and made plans for this exciting new ministry center. **The EBAMO received thus far is \$7,777.77.** We encourage individuals, groups, and churches to continue to give to this important missionary opportunity.

**Edgefield Baptist
Association**
985 Hwy 25 N
Edgefield, SC 29824

Director of Missions
Rev. Tim Shull

Moderator
Rev. John Alexander

Vice-Moderator
Rev. Tom Rogers

Ministry Assistant
Mrs. Jackie Ridings

Clerk
Ms. Faye Usry

Treasurer
Mrs. Terri Miller

Office Hours
Monday-Tuesday
8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
Wednesday
8:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

OFFICE CLOSED
September 3
Labor Day Holiday

**Scheduled meetings at
the Association Office:**

Prayer Team
Monday, September 10
6:30 P.M.

Executive Committee
Tuesday, September 11
7:00 P.M.

Missions Development
Monday, September 17
Light Supper at 6:30 P.M.
Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

**News for October
Newsletter is due by
September 17**

Seafarer's Ministry

Caps, devotional literature, and adult Bible study material are due by noon on Wednesday, October 17.

Christmas Prisoner Packets

CPP are due at the association office by noon on November 14. Approved list of items: 1 black non-retractable pen; one writing tablet no larger than 5" x 8"; 1 adult toothbrush, factory-sealed; 2 rolls of hard candy like Mentos; 1 bar of soap 3.2- 6 oz.; one toothpaste 4-6 oz.; 5 first-class #10 stamp-embossed envelopes. Place in a one-gallon zipper bag.

Everyone who wishes to distribute packets on December 4 at Trenton Correctional Institution must contact Ron Creswell at 678-787-2291 by the end of September to be on the approved list of visitors.

Enjoy Singing? Then Join the Community Choir

Rehearsals (2 hours) in September:
Saturday, September 15 at 10 A.M.
Sunday, September 23 at 5:30 P.M.
Location: Edgefield First Baptist
Music and CDs are provided. Please
contact Travis Brian at 637-3139.

Association Fall Semi-Annual Meeting

Sunday, October 21
3:00 P.M.

Edgefield First Baptist Church

Association Sermon
by Rev. Aaron Tripp

Meal following the worship service.

Operation Christmas Child Collection Week: November 5-12

New Drop Off Location:
Edgefield First Baptist Church

More details coming next month.

Special Days September

Pastoral Anniversaries

Paul Noe (6 years) Sweetwater
Robert Huffman (7 years) Mountain
Creek
Tim Shull (4 years) EBA
Tom Rogers (5 years) Mount Zion

Church Events

Berea: Old-Fashion Sunday on
September 23. Wear old fashioned
clothes and lunch after service.

Edgefield First: Bible Study of
"What Matters Most" begins
September 17 at 7 P.M. in Fellowship
Hall.

Mountain Creek: Dr. Tony Hopkins
will speak at the 11 o'clock worship
service on September 30 for
Homecoming. Special music and
Wallace Watkins guest pianist.
Visitors are invited and welcome to
stay for lunch.

Mount Zion: Homecoming and
190th Celebration Service on
September 9. Our EBA Director of
Missions will be presenting the
message for the morning worship
service. Everyone is invited.

Plum Branch: Revival Services
September 23-26 at 7 P.M. with Rev.
Bryant Sims preaching and Earl
Hartley guest musician.

Providence: Brian Hipp has
resigned as pastor effective the end
of August.

Annual Church Profile Completion Date: October 10

Faye Usry, Association Clerk, is
available to assist churches with the
ACP. She will be at the association
office on September 17, October 1,
and October 8 during office hours.
Call her at 803-480-5217 or email
her at usryfaye@gmail.com if you
have questions or need assistance
with entering data online.

**Financial Report
July 2018**

Church Contributions	MTD	YTD
Antioch	0.00	1465.60
Berea	75.00	600.00
Big Stevens Creek	300.00	2100.00
Ebenezer	0.00	2000.00
Edgefield First	0.00	6600.00
First Bethany	2265.00	2265.00
Gilgal	0.00	2500.00
Little Stevens Creek	0.00	1250.00
Modoc	0.00	176.45
Mountain Creek	89.00	704.90
Mt. Zion	250.00	550.00
Parksville	1037.00	3965.20
Peace Haven	0.00	1052.55
Plum Branch	1168.48	2419.23
Providence	0.00	1150.00
Red Hill	1042.88	4970.85
Red Oak Grove	0.00	2580.00
Rehoboth	732.00	2160.00
Republican	0.00	13505.19
Sweetwater	413.18	2478.46
Various Donations	150.00	3407.50
Total Receipts	7522.54	57900.93
Total Expenses	4986.08	41935.04
Designated Accounts		Balance
Block Party Trailer		-12.91
CCC		6622.98
Hispanic Missions		1616.43
Disaster Relief		9411.05
Men's Ministries		10935.78
WMU		2325.61
EBA Missions Offering		9616.65
Investments		Balance
Money Market #1		13348.24
Money Market #2		10360.57
Baptist Foundation		12955.90

The Myth of Greener Grass by Tim Shull

Perhaps you have heard the expression, “the grass is greener on the other side of the fence.” It is a proverb of a human tendency to enviously covet what we can’t have or don’t have. Years ago, I saw a cartoon depicting four cows at the corner of four fenced pastures, each one with his head through the wire, grazing in a pasture not his own. As a pastor, I have tried to bloom where God planted me and not be yearning for a bigger or better or greener place to serve. As a husband, I have kept my commitment to cherish my own wife and not desire another woman. As a parent, I have been careful to help our children be the best that they can be without comparing them with others. Greener grass is a myth, a lie from the devil.

Remember, you don’t know what it’s really like on the other side of the fence. The grass may appear to be greener, but that might be so because, as Irma Bombeck said, it is growing over a septic tank. You don’t know the struggles and battles of that seemingly successful pastor or happy marriage or perfect parents. Also, and more importantly, we are commanded to Not Covet and instead to follow Paul’s example to learn to be content and thankful whatever our circumstance. (Phil. 4:11). *“Godliness with contentment is great gain.”* (see 1 Tim. 6:6-10). *“The attractions of this world, the delights of wealth, the search for success and lure of nice things come in and crowd out God.”* Mark 4:19 (LB). *It is better to be satisfied with what you have than to always be wanting something else.* Ecclesiastes 6:9 (LB)

I’ve written and preached this message since early in my ministry, before there was an internet. But now, the temptation to obsessively compare ourselves, our spouses, our children, our homes, our cars, our vacations, and our churches to others is very strong. Theodore Roosevelt said, “Comparison is the thief of joy.” Many allow their joy to be stolen by the myth of greener grass that they see online.

There is now a new clinical term in psychology called, “Facebook Depression” where “frustrated achievers” become aware of their “relative deprivation”. In her book, “I’m Happy for You (sort of...not really)”, Kay Wyma says that Obsessive Comparison Disorder is the new OCD. She describes “our compulsion to constantly compare ourselves with others, producing unwanted thoughts and feelings that drive us into depression, consumption, anxiety, and all-around discontent. OCD encourages us to stay up late on Pinterest or Facebook, pouring through

all 348 pictures of our friends’ or frenemies’ ‘My Life Is Better than Yours’ album. Then, it sends us to bed, wondering why we feel so anxious.” We can fall prey to jealousy or low self-esteem because our family or our ministry or our church doesn’t seem to be living as well as others appear to be. We forget that these postings are highlights. And trying to “keep up with the Joneses” is never a good idea. We spend money we don’t have to buy stuff we don’t need to impress people we don’t like. And we start to crave the affirmation that social media may provide. But what if, in response to our posting or pictures or sentence sermons or blogs, we don’t get the Likes or Loves or Shares or Comments or Retweets that we hoped for? Do you take it personally?

Don’t fall for it, friend. Use social media to praise God and thank Him for your family and your church. Use any method you can to draw people to your church, moreover to Jesus. Be Christ-like online and don’t push people away with harsh political pronouncements. Don’t compare your spouse or your kids or your marriage or your church to anybody else’s. How do I find contentment in a culture of comparison? ~~CRL-ALT-DEL~~. Control and resist the temptation to compare. Accept God’s Alternate way, rejoice in and be thankful for what you have. Delete this world’s way of thinking and be transformed by the renewing of your mind. His plan for you is good, acceptable and perfect.

Looking Ahead

Event	Date	Location
Children in Action Day	Sept 22	Connie Maxwell
Immersion 101 & 102	Sept 24-25	The Cove Asheville
Creative Arts Ministry Workshop	Sept 29	Fairforest Church Spartanburg
Getty SING! Workshop and Free Concert Contact Janet Altman at 800-723-7242.	Oct 18	Columbia FBC
Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer: Prayer & Peanuts	Nov 4 3:30 P.M.	Edgefield Baptist Association
Churches Changing Communities 2019	July 7-12	Edgefield FBC

More information is available at the EBA Office (803.637.3309 or jackie@ebamissions.org) or the South Carolina Baptist Convention (1.800.723.7242 or www.scbaptist.org).

Visit us at www.ebamissions.org

Email us at either jackie@ebamissions.org or tim@ebamissions.org

Like us on Facebook at Edgefield Baptist Association

"For we don't dare classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. But in measuring themselves by themselves and comparing themselves to themselves, they lack understanding."

2 Corinthians 10:12

Edgefield Baptist Association
985 Highway 25 North
Edgefield, SC 29824

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29824

Return Service Requested

MISSIONS IN 3D

Discernment | Diversity | Discipleship

**Season of Prayer for State Missions and Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions
September 2018**



Thank you for the 72 backpacks and duffle bags filled with hygiene items and school supplies that were delivered by Susan Keck (right) to the Edgefield County DSS office for use in our local communities.

WMU Fall Pizza Party

Thursday • September 13th • 6:30 PM

Edgefield First Baptist Church



All Mission Groups invited

WMU, Acteens, RA's, GA's, Mission Friends, etc.

RSVP for your group September 7th:

email Terri Miller at terri@edgefieldfirstbaptist.org

or call/text Susan Keck at 803-480-1852