

**May
2020**

Edgefield Baptist Association

Organized 1807

Making History with His Story

**Executive Committee
Tuesday May 19
7 P.M.**

**All Pastors & Lay
Representatives &
Program Leaders &
Committee Chairmen
are encouraged to
attend.**

Edgefield Baptist Association Missions Offering EBAMO



At the Executive Committee meeting on May 19, we will hear a presentation from Rev. Craig McDaniel about his upcoming mission trip in October to Kenya and his vision for a well and church building in the village of Ewaso Ngiro.

Our Missions Development Committee is leading the association to prescribe that this year's Edgefield Baptist Association Missions Offering go to this endeavor. We can reflect upon Acts 1:8 and the multi-location commission of our Lord, "You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth", and recall that in recent years our EBAMO has been for a local venture, a regional cause, a cross-cultural opportunity, and a national partnership.

What's missing from our 'here, there and everywhere' Acts 1:8 obedience is an international project. The well in Ewaso Ngiro, Kenya is that opportunity for our association to engage in international missions, so we invite churches and individuals to give through the EBAMO for this cause.

**Edgefield Baptist
Association**
985 Hwy 25 N
Edgefield, SC 29824
803.637.3309

Director of Missions
Rev. Tim Shull

Moderator
Rev. Tom Rogers

Vice-Moderator
Rev. Tim Sanders

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.

**Scheduled meetings at
the Association Office:**

Executive Committee
Tuesday, May 19
7 P.M.

Newsletter Folding
Wednesday, May 27
9 A.M.

Children's Missions

The Children's Missions organizations raised a total of \$803.71 for the duffle bag project for DSS.

The WMU leadership team will purchase supplies and assemble the bags. Thank you for your support.

- Susan Keck

CCC 2020 Churches Changing Communities

After ten years of working together in CCC, we are forced by the pandemic to consider cancellation for this summer. Each year in order to be ready for CCC, we begin our preparation in February. Our construction team leaders visit potential sites, homes needing repair, to assess whether that job can be done in CCC. It takes all of February through May for us to be ready. We do the specifications and budgets and order materials so that the week of CCC is organized mass chaos instead of just mass chaos. Similarly, advance planning and arrangements for ministry sites are made in the spring as well. But the pandemic has prevented these vital preparatory activities.

So, in consultation with our Missions Development Committee and leaders who have been instrumental in CCC in the past few years, our Director of Missions has recommended that we cancel CCC for this summer. This recommendation will come to the Executive Committee on May 19.

Perhaps we can carefully choose a couple of Saturdays in the fall to conduct Days of Service. We could invite our churches to survey needs in their communities and suggest & host projects and then encourage all to participate.

While it will be disappointing not to have CCC this year, we must affirm that Jesus is Lord, not our calendar. He will show us and empower us to serve Him by doing deeds of kindness and sharing words of witness.

Special Days May

Birthdays

08 Alyson Abbott.....Sweetwater

Wedding Anniversaries

10 Tim & Karen Sanders.....Peace
Haven

16 Eric & Cheryl Bruton.....Big
Stevens Creek

Church Events

Some churches present their worship service and Bible studies online, on Facebook, YouTube, or other platforms.

Some churches are having outdoor or drive-in worship services.

Some churches are providing written sermons and studies.

EBA Facebook page attempts to promote what our churches are doing, so let us know.

Many plans are not yet made for May or the summer, but once your church makes its decisions about gatherings and summer events like VBS, please let us know.

Prison Ministry

Please pray for our jail ministry, the staff and inmates. Please pray for our prison ministry, the staff, inmates, and Chaplain Hankerson. Right now, the Chaplain is the only face-to-face ministry that they have during this coronavirus shutdown. Ask God to bless the on-going witness of Christ in the prisons.

Summer Ministry to Migrant Workers

This year we will not gather a large group to distribute the ministry health kits and the invitations to ESL/meal/worship. A few missionary individuals will deliver the kits. We may not begin the program on the first Sunday in June. This is still to be determined.

Financial Report March 2020

Church Contributions	MTD	YTD
Antioch	796.86	796.86
Berea	75.00	225.00
Big Stevens Creek	300.00	900.00
Ebenezer	0.00	0.00
Edgefield First	0.00	0.00
First Bethany	0.00	0.00
Gilgal	0.00	0.00
Little Stevens Creek	0.00	0.00
Modoc	0.00	377.32
Mountain Creek	95.00	188.00
Mt. Zion	0.00	0.00
Parksville	687.70	2029.00
Peace Haven	0.00	0.00
Plum Branch	0.00	951.90
Providence	0.00	575.00
Red Hill	0.00	1018.40
Red Oak Grove	0.00	2700.00
Rehoboth	0.00	477.00
Republican	0.00	4598.25
Sweetwater	0.00	904.57
Various Donations	0.00	48.24
Total Receipts	1157.70	16689.54
Total Expenses	6607.31	20528.35
Designated Accounts		Balance
Block Party Trailer		187.09
CCC		14915.54
Hispanic Missions		1616.43
Disaster Relief		9377.17
Men's Ministries		12318.69
WMU		2710.61
EBA Missions Offering		938.62
Investments		Balance
Money Market #1		13359.30
Money Market #2		10369.15
Baptist Foundation		13355.06

“Conquer and Prevail” by Tim Shull

As each local church carefully decides how it will incrementally return to gatherings of believers, we do so with sound judgment and wise leadership. Do not confuse our careful approach borne out of love for our members and neighbors as an attitude of timidity, anxiety or fear. We are not afraid.

Jesus said, *“Upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.”* Matthew 16:18. “Upon this rock...” He was not referring to Peter (Petros) when He said this. He was referring to Himself (Petra). “My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness...On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.”

What about “gates of Hades”? Let me ask you, are gates offensive weapons or are gates defensive structures? Does a general say to his troops, “Let’s get all the gates we have and go attack the enemy.” No, gates are defensive not offensive. Christ sees His church as on the offensive, prevailing against the very gates of Hades – sin, death, hell and the grave – with the love of Christ as our powerful force. Death, sickness and the grave are put on defense; they cannot prevail against Christ’s church on the offensive with love, joy, peace, faith, power and victory as our weapons.

There is an old hymn called “Hold the Fort”. I love old hymns but not this one. This song pictures the church as hunkering down in fear, afraid of interacting with the world we are called to reach. Like a little old lady waving her hanky, “Help us, Jesus! Come get us! We’re holding the fort! We’re barely holding on! We can’t make it much longer!” The hymn goes,

“See the mighty host advancing, Satan leading on;
Mighty men around us falling, courage almost gone!
Hold the fort, for I am coming, Jesus signals still;
Wave the answer back to heaven, ‘By thy grace we will.’”

This survivalist mentality has gripped many churches before a pandemic came along. They concentrate on what it takes to merely survive, not thrive. But Christ’s vision for His church is not timid anxiety and worry. Christ calls His church to be living, active and on the move, proclaiming the gospel of our Lord by doing deeds of kindness and sharing words of witness in

Christ calls His church to be living, active and on the move, proclaiming the gospel of our Lord...

His name. I prefer another old hymn over “Hold the Fort”.

“Onward Christian soldiers marching as to war, with the cross of Jesus going on before! Christ the royal master leads against the foe; Forward into battle, see His banner go!

At the sign of triumph Satan’s host doth flee; On then, Christian soldiers, on to victory! Hell’s foundations quiver at the shout of praise; Brothers, lift your voices, loud your anthems raise!

Onward Christian soldiers marching as to war; with the cross of Jesus going on before.”

In Romans 8, Paul gives a dramatic list of things that cannot separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. We could add a pandemic to the list. *“In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”* Romans 8:37. Conquer and prevail in Jesus’ name.

Looking Ahead

Event	Date	Location
Disaster Relief Training Statewide	Oct 10	White Oak Conference Center
EBA Fall Meeting	Oct 18	Little Stevens Creek BC
ONWARD One Day Worship Leader Conference	Nov 9	Trinity BC Cayce



Email us:

jackie@ebamissions.org
tim@ebamissions.org

Office Hours

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

“Upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:18

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985 Highway 25 North
Edgefield, SC 29824

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 29824

Remember to be faithful in giving to your local church during these unusual days.

Edgefield Disaster Relief Chainsaw Team

responded to help clear downed trees resulting from the Easter tornadoes. Ricky Miller, unit leader, had a team of 17 volunteers on April 22 in Neeses. Fisher Miller joined a team on April 21 in Neeses and Bud Parker worked with another team on April 28 in Greenville. Disaster Relief volunteers bring help, hope, and healing to those affected by disasters.

