

**July
2021**

Edgefield Baptist Association

Organized 1807

Making History with His Story

GameChangers: A start!



Thanks to the generosity of churches within EBA, GameChangers has cleared a lot and set a pad for their second residential home. GameChangers is a Christ-centered recovery facility in Plum Branch designed to offer hope and healing to men working to break the chains of addiction from drugs and alcohol. It begins with the conviction of GameChangers that freedom from substance abuse starts with a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Each day, residents attend 3 one-hour long Bible studies to take them deep into God's word. Residents come to the facility of their own choice to find Godly leadership from counselors and mentors that can help them on a journey to achieve long lasting recovery. Because the current residence which houses 10 men is full with a lengthy waiting list, this new home will provide housing for 10 additional men to be able to enter the program. However, construction costs remain high, so to complete this project, GameChangers would be most grateful for continued contributions to the building fund held at EBA. Construction labor is also needed so if you have men in your church family who enjoy working shoulder-to-shoulder on a worthwhile project, come and join in! If you have questions, would like more details, or take a tour of the campus, please call Rusty Bethune 803.640.5385 or Wil Dalzell 803.634.3301.



SAVE THE DATE!

***Christmas In
August***

Come, Party like it's Christmas Time!
Welcome all GA's, RA's & Children in Action
Join us on August 29th - 3 PM at the Edgefield Baptist
Association Office for Christmas in August!

(Teachers/Leaders look for more information via
email/mail soon.)

**Blessed is the Nation
Whose God is the Lord**

Psalm 33



**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
Ms. Faye Usry

Treasurer
Mrs. Terri Miller

Clerk
Mrs. Vickie Allen

Office Hours
Monday-Tuesday
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Wednesday
8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Scheduled meetings at
the Association Office:**

Prayer Team
Wednesday, July 7
10 AM

**EBAMO 2021
is for
GameChangers
Recovery Ministry**

Give your offering
through your church or
directly to EBA.

Donations received, to
date \$40,969.36

Church News

Little Stevens Creek
Missions' Meal, July 7 at 6:30 PM
featuring Rusty Bethune from
GameChangers

Red Oak Grove
Homecoming July 25 at 11 AM;
Revival July 26-28 at 7 PM
Rev. John Alexander from First
Bethany preaching, and musician
Wallace Watkins

The BIG MOVE is back!

Boston mission trip to assist
King's Hill Church outreach is
September 1, 2021.
Spend 1 day connecting college
students to King's Hill Church by
helping them move into apartments in
their neighborhood.
Contact pastor John Noblin for
details: 864.828.0051 or
john.noblin@yahoo.com

**Speakers Available to meet
with your WMU**

"Responding to Needs: Southern Baptist
Disaster Relief Volunteers Share Hope
and Help During Crises" is an article by
Carrie McWhorter in the July issue of
Missions Mosaic, published by Woman's
Missionary Union.

The EBA Disaster Relief Team has a
number of well-trained volunteers
including men and women. Some of
these are charter members of the team
which was formed over 25 years ago and
have been able to respond to a variety of
disaster situations. We have a list of
volunteers willing to share first-hand
experiences in helping people during
their time of great need.

If your local church WMU would like to
have someone meet and share with your
group, please contact Jackie Ridings,
jackieridings@gmail.com, 864-941-7225;
Debra Armstrong,
debra.arms@gmail.com, 706-840-4472;
or Faye Usry, office@ebamissions.org,
803-637-3309.

**Special days
July**

Birthdays

5 Tim Sanders....Peace Haven
9 Ann Cohen.....Red Hill
17 Mark Abbott....Sweetwater
20 Robert Williamson...Retired
26 Paul Noe.....Sweetwater

Wedding Anniversary

10 Alyson & Mark Abbott.....
Sweetwater
16 Jean & Tom Rogers...Mt Zion
22 Trish & Robert Huffman.....
Mountain Creek
23 Kathryn & Aaron Tripp.....
Edgefield First
30 Jane & Brian Ayers.....
Sweetwater

Pastoral Anniversary

July 1, 2009.....Brian Ayers
Sweetwater
July 1, 2019.....Corbin Herron
Sweetwater
July 5, 2015.....Tim Sanders
Peace Haven
July 19, 2015.....Mark Abbott
Sweetwater
July 28, 2019.....Rob Cohen
Red Hill

**Vacation Bible Schools
around EBA**

Red Oak Grove
July 12-16
6:00 – 8:15 PM
Snack supper 5:30 PM
Concrete & Cranes

Sweetwater
July 19-23
9 AM – 12 Noon
Treasured

**News for the August
newsletter is due by July 19.**

Church Contributions	MTD May	YTD 2021
Antioch	0.00	1,344.79
Berea	75.00	375.00
Big Stevens Creek	300.00	1,500.00
Ebenezer	0.00	2,000.00
Edgefield First	0.00	5,000.00
First Bethany	0.00	2,364.00
Gilgal	0.00	1,500.00
Little Stevens Creek	0.00	600.00
Modoc	0.00	166.94
Mountain Creek	0.00	467.00
Mt. Zion	0.00	400.00
Parksville	0.00	2,913.40
Peace Haven	0.00	1,272.72
Plum Branch	0.00	1,287.04
Providence	0.00	575.00
Red Hill	0.00	1,924.40
Red Oak Grove	0.00	2,700.00
Rehoboth	0.00	1,029.10
Republican	0.00	6,631.49
Sweetwater	1,365.66	3,315.47
Total Receipts	1,940.66	37,566.35
Total Expenses	6,179.13	32,730.40
Designated Accounts		Balance May
Block Party Trailer		187.09
CCC		15,075.54
Hispanic Missions		1,216.43
Disaster Relief		11,781.89
Men's Ministries		14,318.69
WMU		3,565.32
EBA Missions Offering		14,134.62
Investments		
Money Market #1		13,361.50
Money Market #2		10,370.86
Baptist Foundation		13,638.22

“Stand Fast in Liberty” by Tim Shull

When English settlers landed at Jamestown in 1607 their first act was to kneel and dedicate themselves and this new continent to God who created it. Our spiritual forefathers came to the new world in order to worship God and practice their faith without fear of persecution. The hearty souls who sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 fled from tyranny and oppression. In the Mayflower Compact they proclaimed they had come to the new world for “the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith.” The first public building our forefathers erected was a church and their first public exercise was the worship and praise of God. As the colonies prospered the people fell away from God. The descendants of the first settlers became more concerned with increasing their wealth and comfortable lifestyles than being faithful to God and His Word. The spiritual atmosphere deteriorated. Churches were dying, and many went off in strange spiritual directions.

Then something amazing happened: In the 1740’s, Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, John Wesley, Shubal Stearns, and others began to preach in brush arbors, in the churches, in the streets and in the fields. The Colonies were set afire spiritually. So many people came to Christ the era was known as THE GREAT AWAKENING. This focus dramatically affected the men and women who founded this nation. Daniel Marshall was one of these. He entered what is now Edgefield County in 1762 and started churches that also started churches that still proclaim the gospel today. God used this in the birth of this nation. The environment was undeniably spiritual at the time of the American Revolution. In declaring independence from an earthly power, our forefathers made a forthright declaration of dependence upon and commitment to Almighty God. They wrote about “the laws of nature and nature’s God” as their authority. “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed **by their Creator** with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” The closing words of this great document declares: “And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of **divine Providence**, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.”

The U.S. Constitution was ratified only with the promise made to Baptists that there would soon be a Bill of Rights, the first of which would insure that “congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Some today will declare incorrectly that the First Amendment promises freedom of worship. But “freedom of worship” and “the free exercise of religion” are not the same thing. Freedom of worship is a dilution, a watering down of our First Amendment rights. Our adversary the devil (and the politicians who work for him) would love nothing better than for churches to stay inside the walls of their buildings, content to feel fortunate to feel free to worship as they please. Baptists who brought influence upon our founding fathers knew that true Christianity is not just gathering for worship. The free exercise of our faith means getting out in our communities and engaging people with the love of Jesus. The Christian citizen is not withdrawn, cloistered inside church walls, afraid of offending someone with the good news of Christ. A Christian citizen is out of the box, looking for ways to engage in community and civic life and thereby share the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. “Stand fast in the liberty by which Christ has made us free.” (Galatians 5:1).

Most people incorrectly think that the phrase, “separation of church and state,” is in the Constitution. It is not. The phrase, “wall of separation between the church and the state,” was originally coined by Thomas Jefferson in a letter to the Danbury Baptists on January 1, 1802. His purpose in this letter was to assuage the fears of the Danbury, Connecticut Baptists, and so he told them that this wall had been erected to protect them. The metaphor was used exclusively to keep the state out of the church’s business, not to keep the church out of the state’s business, nor to keep Christians from active and public citizenship. I am asking every Christian citizen in EBA churches to “stand fast in liberty” and sign up for CCC-365 (Churches Changing Communities – 365 Days a Year) and join us as we freely share the love of Jesus.

Email office@ebamissions.org or call 803-637-3309 to request your CCC-365 sign-up form.

Looking Ahead

"Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34

Event	Date	Location
WMU Church Leadership Development	August 13-14	Camp LaVida
Disaster Relief Unit Leader Update	August 24	TBD
WMU Fall Association Meeting	September 16	Edgefield First Baptist
Executive Committee Meeting	September 20	EBA
State Disaster Relief Training	October 9	Lake Murray Baptist Church
Fall Semi-Annual Meeting	October 17	Big Stevens Creek Baptist

Edgefield Baptist Association
985 Highway 25 North
Edgefield, SC 29824

Non-Profit Org.
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 Edgefield, SC
 29824

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Edgefield Baptist Association

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Red Hill Baptist Church
Amphitheater
dedicated in memory of
Alleen Miller

