



## Piedmont Baptist Witness

Serving the Churches of the  
Piedmont Baptist Association  
[www.piedmontbaptist.com](http://www.piedmontbaptist.com)

Phone: 864-859-9906 or 864-859-8229

August 2020

Staff: Robert Dickard, Director of Missions  
Chris Jordan, Missions Min. Coord.  
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One of Charles Dickens' novels begins with these words: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Dickens wrote those words about the French Revolution but they could certainly be written about 2020. Covid 19 has changed the world in many ways. Church attendance is down, baptisms will be down this year. Sunday School, small groups, and Bible study groups have largely been suspended. People feel more isolated and alone. It's nearly impossible to visit friends and family in the hospital and retirement/nursing homes. There is a big "however," however. Churches are finding creative ways to do evangelism. More churches are live streaming their services. This pandemic may have deepened our prayer life, and intentional acts of kindness are being shown to people in all walks of life. It has caused us to refocus on things that really matter.

The people of Jeremiah's day focused on the problem - Babylon was at their door. They stared disaster in the face. The "however" was that Jeremiah saw the hand and face of God through it all. When the Jews were about to be taken into captivity, Jeremiah actually bought more land, saying that they would return and that God was to be trusted. He is faithful.

So, whether you see 2020 as the "best of times" or the "worst of times" remember that all time is in God's hand. And so are you as a child of God. Let's be ready to reflect the likeness Christ and be like Jesus in whatever time we live.

The PBA Pastors' Fellowship in August will be the third of four sessions this year. The first was on church revitalization. The second was on evangelism and special events. This one will be on bi-vocational ministry, led by James Wiles.

**Date: Tuesday, August 11**

**Time: 10:00am**

**Place: Easley First Baptist Main Sanctuary**

At this point, we plan to adjourn to Silver Bay for lunch. If that changes, I'll let you know.

This is for pastors and staff. I hope to see you there.

Robert



What crazy and uncertain times in which we are living! We are figuring out social distancing, masks, canceled events, and online platforms as we create a new normal for our everyday lives. Our worlds are bombarded by messages of civil unrest, political upheaval, and skewed information that changes on a whim. Yet in the middle of all this turmoil is God's church...you and I. We have the unique opportunity to be a voice of reason, a voice of faith, a voice of reconciliation, and a voice of truth to the people in our circles of influence. Let me encourage you to stand on the Word of God during these uncertain times. Hebrews says Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. We have a firm foundation to carry us through the shifting times in which we live, and we have the opportunity to exemplify Christ to all who are looking at us during this time. Make sure you look to and point to Jesus as the answer to the problems of our world. He never promised us comfort; He promised us presence. As we learn new ways to be the church, the presence of the Holy Spirit will go before us and guide us, so if you don't know what lays ahead, that is ok. Allow your new standard to be resting in His presence and walking by faith with each new day.

If there is any way we can help you from our office, please let us know. On a side note, **the Upper SC State Fair that was scheduled for the beginning of September has been canceled this year.** Thank you to all that have been involved in the past, and we are looking forward to 2021 as the world will once again come to our community.

Blessings:  
Chris





## Treasurer's Report

June 2020

Contributions from Churches .....	17,928.40
Other .....	.61
Total .....	17,929.01
Total Spent in June .....	29,996.40
Difference .....	12,067.39

Monthly Budget Required .....	25,484.00
Budget Required thru June .....	152,904.00
Receipts to date .....	134,816.46
Budget Deficit .....	-18,087.54

### Contributions from Churches (Note: Some churches give quarterly)

	Jan-June 2020	Jan-June 2019
Agape	1,708.79	1,751.29
Arial	1,664.00	1,868.00
Bishop Branch	3,364.99	5,759.06
Brushy Creek	6,000.00	6,000.00
Calumet	666.00	1,004.00
Calvary Hill	4,803.52	4,631.80
Cannon Memorial	1,458.38	1,250.04
Catechee	2,145.45	2,174.00
Cedar Rock	1,230.11	1,886.17
Central First	2,193.00	2,278.00
Connection Fellowship	390.00	382.50
Corinth	600.00	1,217.58
Crosswell First	2,291.65	500.00
Easley First	4,300.02	4,300.02
East Clemson	1,257.45	1,209.54
East Side	2,250.00	2,250.00
Elljean	506.35	612.59
Enon	691.19	828.58
Esperanza	.00	.00
Faith	300.00	300.00
*Fellowship Comm	.00	100.00
Flat Rock	3,454.62	3,811.86
Geer Mem.	2,341.44	1,947.89
Georges Creek	371.02	788.67
Glenwood	1,554.11	1,553.37
Graceway	.00	.00
Hunt's Mem.	1,800.00	1,800.00
Jones Ave.	3,871.96	3,872.49
Liberty First	1,750.00	1,750.00
Mountain Springs	5,430.81	4,326.09
Mt. Airy	4,800.00	4,800.00
Mt. Carmel	5,385.69	3,829.14
Mt. Moriah	1,500.00	1,500.00
Mt. Pisgah	6,000.00	6,000.00
Mt. Tabor	.00	87.00
Norris First	4,500.00	4,400.02
Park Street	56.00	189.00
Pendleton St.	242.34	288.50
Powdersville First	6,224.54	5,783.25
Refuge	999.96	1,200.00
Rice's Creek	1,123.45	919.62
River Road	223.16	856.16
Rock Springs	26,573.04	22,791.83
Ruhamah	.00	.00
Siloam	7,135.30	5,414.10
Six & Twenty	1,400.00	1,400.00
Slabtown	1,562.00	1,613.00
Smith Grove	600.00	500.00
The Neighborhood	.00	200.00
Trinity Point	.00	.00
Wren	594.06	461.76
Total	127,314.40	122,386.92

\*Not a member of PBA

**Pastor/Staff Lunch**  
**Tuesday, August 11, 2020,**  
**11:30am**  
**Silver Bay, Easley.**



### Birthdays:

- 4 Eric Olson, Minister of Music, Siloam
- 4 Waverly Ann Williams, wife of Minister of Youth & Families, Easley First
- 13 Gerry Bates, wife of Minister of Youth, Mt. Moriah
- 14 Chris Jordan, Missions Ministries Coord., PBA
- 20 Myra Gibson, wife of Minister of Music, Rock Springs
- 21 Doug Goss, Pastor, Six & Twenty
- 26 Lisa Shorter, wife of Pastor, Mt. Airy
- 27 Micah McMinn, Asst. Minister of Music, Brushy Creek
- 28 Pamela McAlister, wife of Pastor, Geer Memorial
- 30 Hannah Dutton, wife of Minister of Youth, East Side
- 31 Tina Corn, Minister of Children, Easley First

### Wedding Anniversaries:

- 1 Jeff & Jennifer Smoak, Pastor, Bishop Branch
- 1 Shawn & Bonnie O'Shields, Pastor, Crosswell First
- 3 Greg & Taylor Nelson, Minister of Youth, Rock Springs
- 6 Jeff & Suzanne Whiten, Assoc. Pastor/Min. of Music, Bishop Branch
- 7 Stuart & Stacey Houston, Minister to Families, Rock Springs
- 8 Jimmy & Renee Sanders, Media Minister, Brushy Creek
- 9 Hank & Gerry Bates, Minister of Youth, Mt. Moriah
- 10 Wayne & Kathy Holcombe, Minister of Activities, Rock Springs
- 12 Hayden & Haley Crumpton, Minister of Youth, Mt. Pisgah
- 19 Joshua & Jessica Hughes, Pastor, East Side
- 25 Zach & Leslie Shaw, Pastor, Jones Avenue

### Staff Anniversaries:

- 1996 Keith Shorter, Pastor, Mt. Airy
- 2008 James Wiles, Pastor, Hunt's Memorial
- 2012 Robert Dickard, Director of Missions, PBA
- 2013 Chad Campbell, Pastor, Mt. Pisgah
- 2014 Doug Goss, Pastor, Six & Twenty
- 2017 Randy Smith, Pastor, Pendleton Street
- 2018 Robert Fowler, Pastor, Glenwood



**Faith** is in need of a pianist. If interested contact Randy Lusk at 864-419-2819.

