

www.PBAMissions.org
Facebook.com/PBAMissions

Joel Fletcher, Director of Missions
Email: joelfletcher.pba@gmail.com
Cell: (434) 250-9962

Billie Freeman, Office Administrator
Email: billiepba@gmail.com
Office: (434) 792-7678

OUR MISSION: *Strengthening our churches to engage our communities with the gospel.*



Mark your calendars. The dates for this year's Impact Mission Camp in Danville are **July 16-22**.

Our Mission Team will be arranging lunches for the work sites as the date gets closer.

We are currently in need of a **Construction Coordinator**. Their main responsibility is to organize our work sites, order construction materials, and guide the team leaders throughout the week with their projects.

A stipend for this position is paid for by the association and mileage is reimbursed. This is an ideal position for someone with construction and/or handyman experience. Contact our DOM, Joel Fletcher for more information at (434) 250-9962 or email joelfletcher.pba@gmail.com.



Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with Operation Christmas Child 2022. We could not do it without you! All the churches and people who helped pack boxes, provide lunches, and loaded crates onto the truck were so appreciated.

We collected 6,102 shoeboxes at the PBA. As a Central Drop-off site 15,648 boxes were loaded onto the trailers.

These boxes were distributed all around the world. Bibles were included in each box along with other gift items. We pray these are instrumental in bringing children to the Lord.

Bless you all,

Jo Ann Bell, OCC Central Drop-Off Coordinator
Starlette DeVall, OCC Administrative Assistant



MISSION SOURCE

A Publication Of The Pittsylvania Baptist Association



February

- 21 Executive Committee Mtg**
7:00pm (PBA office)
- 22 BGAV President Meet & Eat**
12:00pm (PBA office)

March

- 21 WMU Directors Mtg**
4:00pm (PBA office)

April

- 18 Spring Meeting**
6:30pm (Calvary Baptist)

Office Hours

Mon—Wed: 9:00am - 2:00pm



2022 Year End Financials

Received: \$56,414.39
Spent: \$42,074.87

from

THE DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

I begin this new year here with a renewed sense of excitement and passion to see us accomplish more together in 2023. We launched a new ministry last year known as “Students and Transitions” (see the update inside) and it will establish deeper roots of impact this year. Impact Mission Camps are slated to return to the area in July. Together, with the hard work of the WMU and their ever-growing ministries, we will be sow seeds of the gospel throughout our region.

I recently met with a local pastor who will be revamping and redesigning our website and incorporating the PrayerZones initiative in the coming months. I’m excited about getting this up and running soon.

We are hosting a few important meetings I’d like you to consider attending. Our **Executive Committee Meeting** is on February, 21 (pastors and church reps) along with our **Spring Meeting** in April.

Pastors of our BGAV Churches are invited to a **luncheon** hosted at the office on Wednesday, February, 22. The newly elected president of the BGAV, Rev. Wayne Faison and Southside’s Field Strategist, Rev. Tom Stocks, will be here. Please RSVP directly to tom.stocks@bgav.org to let him know if you’ll be coming. Lunch will be catered by O’Kelley’s.

Press on! -Joel Fletcher, Director of Missions



The **WMU Directors will meet Tuesday, March 21st at 4pm** in the PBA

basement. A light meal will be served. We will plan for our annual meeting which will be held at Sharon Baptist Church later in the spring. We will also discuss ongoing ministries including Klothes4Kids, Impact Mission Camp, Students in Transition, Operation Christmas Child, and the cake ministry. Don't forget to collect in your churches for Klothes4Kids. We hope to see you at the meeting on March 21st.



Mission Houses Needed

Does your church have a mission house available for missionaries on furlough? On occasion we get asked if any of our churches have one. We’d like to have an updated list of possible houses. Please contact our office and let us know if you do.

welcome

We welcome Reverend Donald Shields as pastor of Shockhoe Baptist Church. Donald is a Chatham native and has spent the past 37 years serving churches in Virginia, North Carolina, and Kentucky.

STUDENTS IN TRANSITION UPDATE

The Students in Transition ministry is now operating in most of our county schools. We really appreciate all the churches that are helping with this.

We still have a couple of schools where plans are not complete, but we hope that will happen before the end of this school year.

The biggest effort has turned out to be in the elementary schools with children having day to day needs for emergency clothing and a few toiletries. Following is a list of items we need:

- **New underwear in all sizes** (children 4T and up). This will be the most continual need. Churches who are paired with schools may want to keep the items at their church for quick access.
- **Gently used clothing, especially in smaller sizes** (size 4T through 14) Active wear and sweat pants work best as they will accommodate more sizes. The need is greater for boys' clothing, too. Again, if you are working with a school, you may want to keep a tub stocked at your church to be ready.
- **Toiletry items** such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, hair brushes, soap, and washcloths are needed.
- **Belts** have been requested by the high schools. These are for boy's and men's sizes.
- We can use a few boxes of **sandwich bags** (for bagging the socks and underwear individually).
- **Socks** in smaller sizes, especially for boys, can be used.

The list of items may change as more schools are added. We will keep you posted and update the list as needed.

Donated items can be left in the deck box by the back door at the PBA office. Please let Billie Freeman (PBA office) or Gail Swanson (434-724-1120) know if you plan to drop items off so we can move them inside.

Also, please let us know if you are a host church and you need items to replenish your supplies. We can leave the items in the deck box or make arrangements to get them to you. You may also wish to come by the office when Billie is in (M-W) and pick out what you want to restock. Again, thank you so much for your help.

To date, we have the following churches paired with schools:

- Chatham Baptist - Chatham High, Middle, and Elementary
- Blairs Baptist - Southside and Twin Springs Elementary
- Vandola Baptist - Brosville Elementary
- Willis Memorial - to assist Vandola Baptist as needed
- Sharon Baptist - Tunstall High and Middle
- Melville Avenue - Stoney Mill Elementary
- Liberty Baptist - Union Hall Elementary



A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to Gail Swanson, Billie Freeman, Elizabeth Shorter, the WMU, Missions Teams, host churches, and ALL who have donated items to launch this viable ministry to the children and families in our community.

KENTUCKY UPDATE



Following the tragic flooding in portions of Kentucky late last summer, churches in our association stepped up to help in any way they could. Together we provided:

- Two vans full of flood relief supplies (food, cleaning supplies, and paper products).
- A team returned with tools and paneling to help Harvey Bend Baptist after having its building submerged in nearly 8 feet of flood water.
- A van full of winter clothing and blankets to help those in need as the winter temperatures arrived.
- On our fourth trip we delivered the remaining winter clothing items along with a 21 boxes of books donated by Caswell County 4H for a school in Letcher County that lost the contents of its library in the flood.

Through this all, Rev. Bob Thurman and State Line Baptist has been instrumental in helping with the teams and transportations of the supplies. Thank you!

The following was written by Jason Austin, the son-in-law of Rev. Charles and Gail Swanson of Melville Avenue Baptist. Jason joined us on the construction trip and wrote this for Melville's newsletter but it was too good not to share.

Pretty Green Hills

Sound and scenery synchronized as I entered Kentucky on Hwy 23 and listened to the song Pretty Green Hills by Dave Evans on the radio. I was traveling to join other participants with the Pittsylvania Baptist Association on a mission trip to Clayhole, KY. Our goal was to help rebuild a church that was damaged by the summer flooding.

I learned of the trip through my wife Lucinda. She had a conversation with her mother, Gail Swanson, who mentioned the project and that I might be helpful to the group. When Lucinda relayed the message, I immediately thought of Frank Harvey, a member of Melville Avenue Baptist Church. I was inspired by his leadership in volunteering with God's Pit Crew and participating in similar trips.

My first encounter with flood damage came from a wrong turn in Hindman, KY. I ended up on West Main St. where I saw several buildings boarded up and people about with tools in hand. I got reoriented eventually finding my way to SR 476. I crossed over the ominously named Troublesome Creek, and the toll of the flood became more apparent. There was scattered debris, bridges washed away, and a damaged elementary school; however, it wasn't until I turned the curve just past the school that I understood the magnitude of the flood.

As I drove the car, I could see Troublesome Creek about 30 to 40 feet down a steep bank below the road. After studying the creek for a few moments, my attention was drawn to plastic bags, vines, and other items entangled on a power line that was approximately 10 to 15 feet above the car. That equates to an approximate average of 47.5 feet. This was unlike any flood that I've witnessed, and the damage got worse—collapsed structures, homes removed from foundations, cars upended; destruction was ubiquitous, but so, too, was the presence of the pretty green hills.

After the somber journey on SR 476, I arrived at Bethel

Mennonite Camp late Thursday afternoon. This was the location where I met up with the other PBA volunteers. Camp leaders graciously opened the camp to house volunteers and to be a distribution center for flood relief supplies. In fact, if you donated supplies to the PBA flood relief drive, Bethel Mennonite Camp is where they were brought.

Our work at Harvey Bend Church began the next day. Two men ran errands for various supplies. Two worked to build picnic tables. The ladies helped clean a refrigerator. I worked with another PBA volunteer and the pastor of the church to hang wall paneling. As smaller tasks were completed, efforts were focused on the paneling. By the time our group departed for home Saturday around 1 p.m., we had finished the walls of the sanctuary.

This building withstood the fury of the hollow, but inside of the block walls was ruin. With every reason to permanently close the doors, Harvey Bend Church is pushing to reopen. People can be like the building; outwardly appearing to withstand the brute force of life in the valley only for there to be ruin and brokenness inside. To those suffering quietly, seeking a relationship with Jesus helps to reframe and manage the brokenness. As the Apostle Paul writes, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14 NIV).

Will Harvey Bend Church succeed? If so, how many members will return? There are many hours of hard work and uncertainty that remain. What is known, however, is that one small group of people assembled to complete a few small jobs to help this church step forward in the name of Jesus. In doing so, God's people boldly declared that together we shall serve in this place, for it is in this place that He allows us to serve. And from this broken place, we shall one day be called home—ushered by His mighty hand from the torrent of the valley to the sun-filled tops of those pretty green hills. -Jason Austin