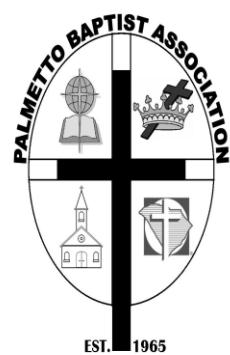


This newsletter was made possible by your gifts to Associational Missions through your local church. Thank you!



## Palmetto Baptist Association

*“A Body of Churches Being His Hands and Feet”*

Palmetto Baptist Association  
PO Box 7  
Williamston, SC 29697

E-Mail: [office@palmettobaptistsc.org](mailto:office@palmettobaptistsc.org)  
Phone (864) 847-7348  
Web site: [www.palmettobaptistsc.org](http://www.palmettobaptistsc.org)  
Operation Care  
(864) 847-7090

Director of Missions  
Rev. Mike Baker  
Office Hours: 9:00 am. – 12:00  
Monday – Wednesday

Secretary/Bookkeeper - Missy Gardo  
Hours: 8:30 am. – 12:30 pm. Mon-Thur.

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Unless you've been under a rock, you are aware that we've come into the A.I. age. Artificial Intelligence! A.I. is pretty much a metaphor for all humans until they reach the age of 22 years. 😊 Psychologists say that's when the human brain is fully mature and developed. 😊 Remember when you didn't know anything about life? We knew artificial stuff from books. You've lived a while now and have moved beyond A.I. that to – E.O. Empirical Observation! I call that intelligence by surviving life's obstacles and observing those who didn't. Sometimes I'd like to just see some C.I. Common Intelligence! More and more I understand God's S.I. Supernatural Intelligence! Never let us forget that He was the original A.I. Ancient Intelligence! “The Ancient of Days Before there were Days!” I know how it will end. I know who will end it and why. The Bible tells us the whole story; Beginning to end. I trust the Holy Bible and live my life relative to it. Let's be about knowing Jesus and making Him known! 6.5 billion people on earth don't know Jesus Christ as Savior! I've seen 400 million of them up close!

I'm proud to be part of this associational ministry that opens doors to tell others locally about the way to eternal life in Christ. This year, I've had the great privilege to share deeply with 98 people in conversations because of the ministry PBA supports; Operation Care. I counsel. I help find Jobs. I help connect them to our pastors. They encounter Jesus! This past year, two nice people in their mid-fifties came to Christ before they got groceries into the car! One was a 56-year-old black guy who told me “no one has ever explained it to me like that before!” I've had the opportunity through 13 years of this ministry, to hear 45 people from several races come to Christ in and out of the lobby. Many others who volunteer had encounters in real time with people who needed more than food. I appreciate all who give their spare time to make Christ known. A special thanks to Jimny Bryant for loading, hauling, and unloading at Operation Care and the Back Packing room! PBA church members from five churches came to the Williamston Park to invite passersby to their church and share Christ with them. Bill West, our PBA EV Director has two professions of faith while sharing around the area. Big Creek's folks are giving clothes to hundreds of men, women, and children along with a hug and a witness. PBA ladies from several of our sister churches pack weekend bags for five elementary schools to feed 250+ kids per weekend! (A huge lift by faith!) God provides each month for this expensive ministry of love. Call Beverly Adkins for information. Tabernacle Baptist continues to reach out to many trapped in drug addiction. Hillcrest builds ramps around the south in Jesus' name! Cedar Grove and Whitefield churches “knock on doors” reaching many for Jesus! Pastor Ryan Steed provides the “BEST” associational Sunday School clinic in SC! Another is one coming in September. Joel Lopez did a great job at TnT! The children's event planned by Dianna Murphy and team was a huge success! The PBA WMU led by Annette Drake and Ashley Steed are off and running! Open Door Fellowship has “opened her doors” to the Hispanic ministry. I could go on and on! A BIG thanks to all!

This June, we will be sending a team of our pastors to Panama on a vision trip to work alongside the McVeys who are IMB workers there. They will discover opportunities for our Churches to return there and go “On Mission” for Christ. (Hey, it's a four-hour flight!) I'll be asking our churches to “pitch in” to help with the expenses of the trip for the group. I'm calling them the “Fabulous Four!” A return trip is planned for October 2026. Pray for and about that. Lastly, in the next two weeks I will deliver to all our pastors a “Who's Your One” kit to help guide our folks to join in with the NAMB nationwide plan to help members find, pray for, and win one soul to Jesus this year. Listen for your opportunity to participate. It's a terrific idea! There are so many ways for you to be involved and little space here to tell you. Please come by, see Missy Gardo or me, or call to find how to plug into ministries that will be blessings to you and many others!

Thanks for helping and supporting in Jesus' name!  
Rev. Mike Baker, Director of Missions  
(864) 847-7348

Contributions from the PBA Churches  
Year: October 2025 – September 2026  
Reporting: December 2025

Churches	Receipts	Year-to-Date
Beaverdam	219.00	624.54
Big Creek	491.24	1,341.66
Calvary	235.08	884.68
Cedar Falls	250.00	250.00
Cedar Grove	-	250.00
Columbia	166.67	500.01
Friendship	-	552.93
Hillcrest	1,100.78	2,954.09
Macedonia	-	-
New Hope	-	-
Open Door	204.86	485.69
Piedmont Heights	189.66	582.78
Pelzer First	83.33	249.99
Revive Church	-	-
Riverside	-	913.00
Tabernacle	233.33	699.99
Washington	1,200.00	1,800.00
Waycross	-	-
West Pelzer	185.24	513.74
White Plains	447.72	1,477.09
Whitefield	306.90	1,183.34
Williamston First	999.00	1,998.00
Fuente de Vida PBA Hispanic Church	200.00	300.00
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>6,512.81</b>	<b>17,561.53</b>

Balance Brought Forward <u>Total All Accounts</u> December 1, 2025	\$ 60,120.35
Total Receipts from Churches	\$ 6,512.81
Deposit- SCBC Assistance- Operation Care	\$ 1,550.00
Deposit- Designated Account: Hispanic Church Mission	\$ 600.00
Deposit- Designated Account: Operation Care Ministry	\$ 2,936.02
Deposit- WMU	\$ -
PBA Total Disbursements: Designated & General Fund for 12/31/2025	\$ (9,478.28)
<b>Total all accounts: Designated &amp; PBA Operations 12/31/2025</b>	<b>\$ 62,240.90</b>

**\*DESIGNATED FUNDS ACCOUNT BALANCE:**

Hispanic Church Mission	\$ 23,735.46
ESL Mission	\$ 2,508.60
WMU	\$ 703.90
Operation Care Ministry	\$ 21,714.90
<b>Total Designated Accounts December 2025</b>	<b>\$ 48,662.86</b>

\*\* PBA Operations General Fund December 2025

*Designated Funds Total	48,662.86
**PBA Operations General Fund	13,578.04
<b>Total PBA Funds for December 2025</b>	<b>62,240.90</b>

Thank you for supporting PBA

**Associational Senior Adult Luncheon**

March 10, 2026 at Columbia Baptist Church, 11321 Augusta Road, Honea Path, SC 29654. Program starts at 10:00 AM. Please call the PBA with your attending number by March 5<sup>th</sup>. Host church will provide the meal. Churches are asked to bring 2 door prizes.

**Annie Armstrong Easter Offering & Season of Prayer for North American Missions**  
**March 1-8, 2026**

What is the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering? The offering was started in 1895 by Woman's Missionary Union® (WMU) to benefit the work of the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board). In 1934, it was named in honor of Annie Armstrong, a bold missions advocate and WMU's first national executive leader. Today, more than \$2 billion has been donated by Southern Baptist churches and individuals to support thousands of missionaries in church planting and compassion ministries. Because of this sacrificial giving, millions of lives have been and continue to be transformed by the power of the gospel. *Your gifts move the mission forward.* Your prayers and gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering provide support for thousands of missionaries. New churches are being planted in unreached communities and needs are being met. [www.namb.net](http://www.namb.net)

**Birthday – Anniversary – Wedding**

**February Birthdays**

14, Dr. Billy Dickerson, Interim Pastor of Friendship

27, Mrs. Margaret Clayton, wife of Piedmont Pastor

**February Pastoral Anniversaries**

15, Rev. Ryan Steed, Pastor of Riverside - 11 years

**February Wedding Anniversaries**

2, Rev. & Mrs. Trey Haning, Pastor of Williamston 1st

12, Rev. & Mrs. Lloyd Robinson, Pastor of Open Door

**March Birthdays**

3, Rev. Terry Greer, Pastor of Macedonia Baptist

18, Rev. Richard Burton, Pastor of New Hope

19, Rev. Trey Haning, Pastor of Williamston First

**March Pastoral Anniversaries**

1, Rev. Brandon Couch, Pastor of Beaverdam - 4 years

**Women of Strength Conference**

Saturday, February 28, 2026. Tabernacle Baptist Church. Doors will open at 9:30 AM for registration and check-in. Light refreshments served in Social Hall. For information contact the church at (864) 947-6464.

**Palmetto Baptist Associational WMU  
Mission Study and Salad Supper**

Monday, March 2, 2026 6:30 PM

Tabernacle Baptist Church

519 Anderson Street, Pelzer, SC 29669

All Churches Welcome!

Please bring a salad to share, host church will provide dessert and drinks. Speaker: TBA

If you would like more information on

PBA WMU please contact:

Annette Drake, WMU Director at (864) 934-5622

Ashley Steed, Assist. Director at (618) 237-1816

**Mission Encounter & Annual Meeting**

Friday, March 20 2026, Check-in 3:00 PM

Saturday, March 21, 2026, 9:00 AM -3:00 PM

Pinecrest Baptist Church

1285 Ashley Hall Road, Charleston, SC 29407

An event for all who love missions to strengthen their faith and find their place in missions.

General Sessions: Missionary Speakers from IMB & NAMB. Worship. State Convention & WMU Speakers.

ASL Interpreters available for each General Session upon request. Breakout sessions will be offered!

For more information: [www.scwmu.org](http://www.scwmu.org)