



# Madison Baptist Association

“Assisting churches in fulfilling their mission, and providing them opportunities for fellowship and to work together in advancing the kingdom of God”

THURSDAY,  
MARCH  
02,  
2017

Jesus said, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matt. 6:19-21) People can be possession-oriented, especially in prosperous cultures like the one in which we live. The Pharisees of Jesus’ day “were lovers of money.” (Luke 16:14) It’s been said that John D. Rockefeller had three simple rules for anyone who desired to become rich: (1) Go to work early (2) Stay at work late (3) Find oil. Well, most of us won’t be like “The Beverly Hillbillies” (remember that show?) and discover oil on our property. But Jesus didn’t say we can’t have any possessions. His emphasis was upon stockpiling or hoarding material possessions to the point that they become the heart-felt goal or focus of our lives. There were people in the Bible who possessed great wealth (such as Solomon, Abraham, Job), but the Bible makes it clear that “the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil...” (I Tim. 6:10) Thus, it is a matter of priorities and measuring things against eternity. Jesus tells us that “treasures on earth” are just merely temporary, they are impaired by time and can also be stolen. And on top of that Paul reminds us, “we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.” (I Tim. 6:7) Jesus commands his disciples/followers to stop storing up/gathering treasures on earth. Instead, we are to continually store up treasures in heaven. Such heavenly treasures are of eternal value; they cannot be lost, stolen, or suffer decay. But how do we store up treasures in heaven? We are saved by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Our salvation is secure in Him, through His finished work on the cross and His resurrection from the dead. Now, as God’s children the Bible says, “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works....” (Eph. 2:10) It is by works of faith for the Lord that we benefit His kingdom here on earth and lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven. God has given every believer one or more spiritual gifts, along with other talents and abilities that are to all be used for God’s glory! As we serve Him using these talents we also store up for ourselves eternal treasures in heaven. Peter mentions “an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.” (I Pet. 1:4) The Bible also speaks of various crowns that faithful believers will receive. Paul writes of the imperishable,

spiritual, resurrection body that all Christians will one day receive (I Cor. 15:40-58). I believe there are other “treasures” awaiting us in heaven that we cannot even imagine what they consist of. “For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.” (I Cor. 13:12)

Your Director of Missions,  
Charlie

## Save these VBS dates!

### Directors 101 Meeting

Thursday, March 23  
6:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.  
@ the MBA

### VBS Clinic

Saturday, April 22  
8:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.\*  
@ Farley Community Church\*\*



\*new clinic schedule! \*\*new venue!

**University Baptist Church** would like to invite you to hear Bill Barker, National Missionary with the North American Mission Board, National Director at Appalachian Regional Ministry and Mississippi River Ministry, on **Wednesday, March 22, 2017**. The service begins at 5:45 p.m. in the fellowship hall at the rear of the church. Bill will be sharing about these ministries (though which the Christmas Backpacks are collected and distributed).

A collection of hats, gloves, and scarves will be taken up to assist with items needed in Appalachia; please bring donate-able items to the service.

- Mar 9 ..... Minister’s Conference
- Mar 9-11 ..... Disaster Relief Training  
Central Park Baptist, Decatur
- Mar 12 ..... Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar 23 ..... VBS Directors 101 Mtg  
(MBA, 6:00 PM)



WHERE: **Willowbrook Baptist Church** 7625 Bailey Cove Rd. Huntsville, AL 35802  
WHEN: **Thursday, June 15, 2017 @ 6:30pm**  
COST: **\$20/General Admission, \$25/Artisan Circle**

Tickets available now at the Madison Baptist Association. Group rates are available; call 256-536-0015 for more info!



## WinShape Camps for Communities

June 26 - 30, 2017

7300 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, AL

Discounts! Save up to \$40 by registering during March 12-18 (Beginning at 12:01 am EST) 21 skill choices will be offered! See our YouTube video @ ‘WinShape Camp 2016 Huntsville, AL’.

For children who have **completed** Grades 1 - 9 this year! WOW! 472 kids attended last year. Register at winshapecamps.org. Cost: \$199 per camper. Only \$50 to register...Balance due by May 26, 2017.

Like us on @Huntsville WinShape Camps for Communities  
Full & partial scholarships are available at WhitesburgBaptist.org/Winshape

### Minister’s Conference

Thursday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.

The guest speaker will be Rev. Jarman Leatherwood, pastor of House of Hope and Restoration. His topic will be, “Surviving Difficult Seasons of Ministry.”

Fellowship and lunch will take place after the conference. Lunch will be provided for \$5 per person. We hope to see you there!

### Madison Baptist Association, Inc.

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Closed on Fridays

