



# 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  
01,  
2018

Before coming to Huntsville to serve as your Director of Missions I served full-time on various church staffs from 1979-2012, primarily as the Senior Pastor. While here in Huntsville since August of 2012 I have visited in all of our 89 MBA churches and talked to numerous people, including pastors, church staff, and their spouses. Based on these conversations and the personal church experience of my family, I have come to realize that many times the needs of a pastor's wife are overlooked/neglected by the church and sometimes even by her own husband. I don't have statistics to share with you on this subject nor do I have a bunch of examples, so I must speak in general terms. But I do believe what I write is accurate overall, though it is certainly not always the case. Though the primary focus of this article is upon the pastor's wife, much of it could also be applied to all church ministers/families. First of all, there is “the call” to serve in a new church. This is exciting for the pastor's family yet it can also be stressful. I know it was always harder for my wife Susan (by the way, the “pastor's wife” does have her own name/identity) to move than it was for me. She would really be attached to our home, community, and surroundings, and to pack up and leave it all to “start over” was a tough experience. I believe many other pastors' wives feel the same way, as well as their children especially if they are older. The move to a new church could also mean a job change for the pastor's wife if she works outside the home. This can add to the stress and time of adjustment related to going to a new church field. Then, before the pastor's family even arrives on the field, some in the church have already picked out a place(s) for her to serve. Why she can be our new WMU President or teach an adult ladies Sunday School class. But what if that is not her “giftedness” or where she wants to serve in the church? How can she really just “be herself” in the church without trying to live up to the expectations of others? It's a hard hill for her to climb if she cannot be accepted for who she is and what she is capable of and interested in doing. One of her biggest jobs seemingly goes unnoticed by most people in the church: the calling of supporting and praying for her husband who is the one who was hired by the church anyway. If the pastor's family is not strong/unified, then it will certainly affect his ministerial work for the Lord. As some look at what the pastor's wife should be doing in the church and how she should be behaving, she can have an entirely different perspective as a wife and a mother. Her husband preaches/teaches on Sundays and Wednesdays, serves as an ex-officio member of all church committees, meets regularly with his staff, works closely with the deacons and church council, casts a vision/direction for the church, visits everyone in their

home and the hospital, studies a lot throughout the week, calls/visits prospective members, participates in men's ministries and other church groups/meetings, helps plan special church events, and gets called home early from a vacation to do a funeral. And the pastor's wife wonders, “Will I ever get to see my husband, and have him spend quality time with me and the kids?” All the while, some in the church take notice of how the pastor's wife is dressed and are concerned about her children's imperfect behavior. Folks, let's remember that all pastors' wives are people too, just like the other ladies in the church. They need to be ministered to, just like everyone else, and to have Christian friends who love them and accept them. A healthy “first family” is good news for the church family, who is to be loved and led by the pastor-shepherd. “So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.” (Gal. 6:10)

Your Director of Missions,  
Charlie

### Annual RA Racers

FBC Huntsville (600 Governors Dr)



Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> Registration: 1PM; Races: 2 PM  
If you'd like to find out more details about Royal Ambassadors and the RA Racers or the RA race please call **Dwight Sisk** at 256-714-2401.

This will be Dwight's final year to manage the RA Racers Event. To honor his faithful, long time service (22 years!), there will be a special **ALUMNI RACE!**

All past RA Racer participants (including adults) are encouraged to dust off their old Racers and come race!

### Grab Your Passport...

We're Going on a Mission Expedition!



**MBA Children's Event**  
For all Children 1st—6th Grades

**Saturday, March 3, 2018**  
**10:00-1:00**

**University Baptist Church**  
809 Jordan Lane, Huntsville, AL  
Please use the CDC entrance—this is the door on the left side of the church.

Lunch will be included—  
But you must call and register  
RSVP by February 26—  
Call, text, or email  
Pam Helton 256-655-8601  
Bjtvgcd@aol.com

**Mission Project**  
We are collecting new, unexpired canned foods and non-perishable foods for local food banks!

Featuring Speakers from Russia, Japan, and Africa

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8 HCSB)



Sponsored by: MBA Woman's Missionary Union/Women's Ministry

Feb 27	Minister's Conference
	VBS Directors' Meeting (MBA, 6:30PM)
Mar 3	WMU Children's Event (University Baptist, 10AM)
Mar 4	RA Racers Event (FBC Hsv, Register @ 1PM; Race @ 2PM)
Mar 6	Minister's Conference
Mar 10	Camp MACOBA Work Day

### Minister's Conference Schedule of Speakers

\*Unless otherwise specified, the Minister's Conference will be held at the Madison Baptist Association Office and the fellowship time will begin at 10:00 AM, with the meeting beginning at 10:30 AM.

Feb 27	Russell Medley
Mar 6	Rev. Al Phillips
Mar 13	Dr. Doug Walker, Legacy Bible College



Dr. Larry Inman, pastor of All Nations Baptist Church, has written an article entitled, *Grandparents Helping Grandchildren in Time of Divorce*. The article is featured in the March issue of *Mature Living*.



**Camp MACOBA WORK DAY**  
Saturday, March 10th  
8:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.  
Lunch will be provided.  
Call the MBA for more info.

Baptist Campus Ministries' annual rummage sale will be March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7-11 a.m. They are still accepting donations for the rummage sale. So, in your spring cleaning, consider donating your unwanted items to help our students go on summer missions. No clothes, please. Donations can be dropped off at 450 Sparkman Drive. Call 256-837-9140 to schedule pickup of large items.

**GEAR UP!  
GET READY!  
GAME ON!**

Classes will be held for Directors, Music, Missions, Recreation/Snack, Crafts, Preschool, Kindergarten, 1-2 Grade, 3-4 Grade, and 5-6 VBX.

VBS Clinic North:  
Meridianville FBC  
4/24/18 @ 6:30 p.m.  
VBS Clinic South:  
Whitesburg Baptist  
5/1/18 @ 6:30 p.m.

### Galilee Baptist Church

(4262 Old Hwy 431, New Hope)



All are invited to join in for 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday night singing on Saturday, March 31, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Special guest singers will be the **Heartfelt Trio** from Danville, Alabama. Come out for a night of music and worship—and bring someone with you!

### Madison Baptist Association, Inc.

Dr. Charlie Howell, Executive Director of Missions  
Rev. Ron Lynch, Church Ministry Director  
Regina Berry, Financial/Administrative Assistant  
Denise Panter, Receptionist/Publicist/Clerk  
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Office Hours: 7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
Monday-Thursdays Closed on Fridays

