



# Yates Baptist Association

"Working together to advance God's Kingdom"

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Yates Baptist Association is a network of churches working together in mission and ministry for the purposes of church growth and church renewal in the Durham - Chapel Hill Metro area.



Greetings YBA Family,

Happy 2021! Wow, that sounds good. Happy NEW YEAR!!! I hope that you and your family had a great Christmas and New Year. Many people have said that the best thing about the year 2020 is that it is behind us. I have to agree that this past year has been one of the most challenging years that I can remember. But I'm a firm believer that we can and should learn from every situation we go through in life. As we turn the calendar from one year to the next, I am praying that we will find our source of hope in Christ alone. Maybe you're familiar with a song with the same title, "In Christ Alone" that was released almost 2 decades ago. It's a powerful song that says:

*"In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song  
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease*

*My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand"  
My prayer for each of you as we begin this new year is that you will stand on the solid ground of Jesus Christ. I am praying that we will realize that Christ alone can still our fears and provide the comfort and strength we need.*

There are a number of things that I want to share with you today, but the most important one is to say THANK YOU! Thank you YBA family for your commitment to partner together. As your AMS, I want to say thank you from your staff and leadership here at YBA. We have been blown away by your support and efforts during a trying and difficult time. Back in March and April there were many who were forecasting closures of churches and other Christian organizations because of the financial downside of the pandemic. But as we turned the page on December, we have not had any churches to close and most are actually reporting that their finances are holding their own. Despite constant adjustments over this past year, God has greatly blessed us and we are so grateful for your continued faithfulness in our partnership for Gospel Advance. Over 2020 we changed plans multiple times, postponed, rescheduled and canceled events, and even pushed the pause button on the proposed Bylaw changes. But all the changes and adjustments have caused us to take a closer look at who we are and what we are to be about. When you go through adversity, it causes you to have a new perspective. My prayer for each of the churches that are a part of YBA is that we will have a renewed passion for the mission of God.

One thing that 2020 brought about was an important report from the Restart Team. This team was created to help us do a realistic evaluation of where we are currently and where we want to be in the near future. You can read the report in its entirety on our website:

<https://www.yatesba.org>

The YBA Leadership Team has created 4 subcommittees to move forward with the Restart Committee's report. These subcommittees will explore the Restart report and bring back some tangible recommendations to the Leadership Team to present at our Quarterly meeting in July.

The 4 subcommittees are:

- Vision/Purpose and Statement of Faith
- Evaluation of Roles and Personnel
- Range and Scope of the Association
- Plausibility of sale of Lakewood property

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Please be in prayer for this work and for the overall work of YBA as we look to position our Association in the best place to push back darkness and press forward to advance the Gospel.

I also want to give you an update of our upcoming Quarterly meetings. Our January quarterly meeting scheduled for Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup> will be a virtual meeting and it will be available on our Facebook page as well as our YouTube channel. A link will be posted on our website ([www.yatesba.org](http://www.yatesba.org)). We will continue to monitor the situation and make a determination on whether to have our April meeting scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup> as a virtual one or possible to have a hybrid meeting with the option of an in person gathering as well as the option to be a part of the meeting virtually as well.

In closing, I want to share an article that was posted from a former colleague of ours. I found it to be very appropriate for us as we continue to live in uncertain days. This article was written by a missionary pilot with the Wycliffe Bible Translators. He had flown medical supplies to an Indian tribe deep in the Amazon jungle where there had been an epidemic. He was scheduled to return to his wife and family on the evening of Dec. 23, but because of heavy rains and fog, he found himself stranded in that remote village.



He writes: "I slipped on my poncho and trudged through the Indian village, down to the river's edge. The plane was tied against the bank, rocking gently on the rain-splattered water. I crawled out on a pontoon and sat under the wing, feeling desperately sorry for myself. It was Christmas Eve and night was descending on the jungle. There was no way I could get back home. 'Oh, God,' I moaned, 'I'm in the wrong place.' More than anything else I wanted to be home for Christmas. Instead, I slogged my way back to my hut in the little village. I shared some yucca with a couple of Indian children and read them the Christmas story out of my Bible, doing my best to translate it so they could understand a few words of that precious event."

"That night, under my mosquito net, I, too, had a visitation from God -- something like those shepherds must have had on the hills of Bethlehem. There were no angels, and no bright light, but as I lay there in my hammock, desperately homesick, I felt I heard God say: 'My son, this is what Christmas is all about. Jesus left heaven and on Christmas morning He woke up in the "wrong place"-- a stable in Bethlehem.' Christmas means leaving home, not going home. My only begotten Son did not come home for Christmas--He left His home to be with you."

"I opened my eyes. Overhead, through the mosquito net, I could see the brown, palm-thatch leaves which formed the ceiling of the lean-to. Beneath me was the hard-packed dirt floor. All around was the sound of gently falling rain.

"But out there in the darkness, were men, and women, boys and girls, tiny babies--all part of this Indian tribe. I was there, away from home on Christmas Eve, because Jesus left His home on Christmas Eve. I was there because He said, 'As the Father hath sent Me, even so, send I you.' That night I realized Christmas is God's ultimate missionary outreach."

May we live every day to celebrate Christmas!! May we seize every opportunity to be examples of the true meaning and message of Christmas all year.

Remember I shared earlier in this article about the song, "In Christ Alone". The last two stanzas say:

*There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day! Up from the grave He rose again.  
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am His and He is mine, Bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

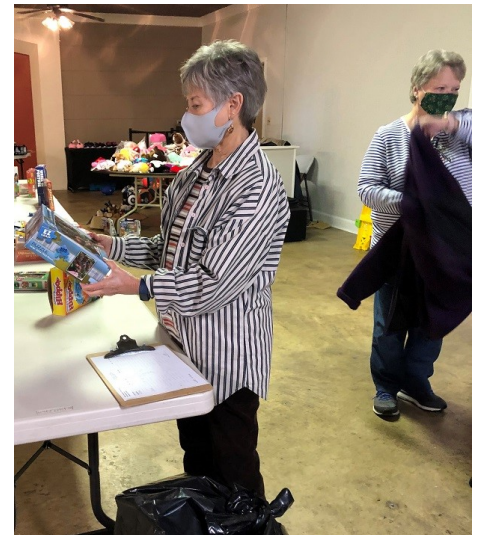
*No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand.  
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

I love the ending of this song and how it builds and crescendos with the words "Up from the grave he rose again!" As we begin 2021, may we be reminded that we stand for something. May we stand for the Gospel, may we stand for the mission, may we stand together in the power of Christ alone!

For His Glory,  
Marty



# Scenes from the 2020 Christmas Toy Store



**A special "Thank You" to Revolve Church for hosting this year's Christmas Toy Store. Thank you to all the volunteers, and to each and every one who made donations. Because of you, YBA had another fruitful Christmas Toy Store!**



# More Scenes from the 2020 Christmas Toy Store





# YATES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY GATHERING



**Tuesday, January 12 at 7 PM**

Join us as we worship together virtually. This event can be viewed from our Facebook page or YouTube Channel. A link will also be posted on our website:  
**[www.yatesba.org](http://www.yatesba.org)**

## THANK YOU YBA CHURCHES FOR THE COOKIES

On December 17, we received approximately 3,000 homemade cookies which were delivered to the Baptist Children's Home (Kennedy Home). The children and house parents were so grateful for your generous donation Christmas goodies!



*[Michael Bond and Clara Murray (Temple) counting and packing cookies.]*



### CALENDAR OF YBA MEETINGS

#### JANUARY

Nominations Committee.....Jan. 7, 10am  
 Associational Leadership Team..... Jan. 11, 10:00am  
 Annual Missions Celebration Committee .....Jan. 12, 10am  
 Quarterly Associational Virtual Meeting ..... Jan. 12, 7pm  
 MLK Holiday (YBA Office Closed) .....Jan. 18  
 Finance Committee.....Jan. 27, 11am

#### FEBRUARY

Nominations Committee..... Feb. 4, 10am  
 Associational Leadership Team..... Feb. 8, 10:00am  
 Annual Missions Celebration Committee ..... Feb. 9, 10am

#### CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

#### IRS issues standard mileage rates for 2021

The Internal Revenue Service issued the 2021 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on January 1, 2021, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- ◆ 58 cents per mile driven for business use
- ◆ 18 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes.
- ◆ 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations.

## Yates Baptist Association Senior Adult Luncheon

**Has been cancelled for February due to COVID-19.**

**We hope to be able to resume these events in the near future.**



*Happy* **NEW YEAR**

*You crown the year with Your goodness,  
 And Your paths drip with abundance.*

PSALM 65:11

# Associational Missions



# Nov 2020

## ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS 2020

CHURCHES	NOV	YTD
Agape Reconciliation	\$ -	\$ 594.00
Antioch	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Bahama	\$ 631.77	\$ 7,822.07
Bells	\$ 270.84	\$ 3,667.23
Berea	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Bethesda	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Braggtown	\$ 228.98	\$ 2,116.66
Calvandar	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Calvary	\$ 250.78	\$ 3,761.62
Cedar Fork	\$ -	\$ 1,375.81
Cresset*	\$ -	\$ 860.08
Dayspring	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Durham Memorial	\$ -	\$ 8,602.84
Ebenezer	\$ 218.66	\$ 2,661.74
Edgewood	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Faith	\$ 250.00	\$ 2,750.00
Faith Community	\$ -	\$ -
First Hillsborough	\$ 359.08	\$ 4,407.15
Gateway	\$ 580.86	\$ 2,904.62
Global Gates	\$ -	\$ -
Glory of Christ Fellowship	\$ -	\$ -
Gorman	\$ 333.33	\$ 3,666.63
Gospel	\$ -	\$ 470.13
Great Faith	\$ -	\$ -
Grey Stone	\$ 50.00	\$ 600.00
Guess Road	\$ 627.57	\$ 7,528.12
Hanmaum	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Harvest Glen	\$ -	\$ 1,920.00
HillSide	\$ -	\$ -
Hope Valley	\$ 425.87	\$ 5,705.09
Iglesia Bautista Monte Carmelo	\$ -	\$ -
Iglesia Bautista La Fe	\$ -	\$ -
Iglesia Cristiana Emanuel	\$ -	\$ 3,063.40
Immanuel	\$ 559.26	\$ 6,905.24
Lawrence Road	\$ 369.27	\$ 4,483.94
Leesville Road	\$ -	\$ 1,186.86
LifeSpring*	\$ -	\$ 1,333.60
LifeZone	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Lord's Wing Korean	\$ 75.00	\$ 967.00
Lowe's Grove	\$ 720.77	\$ 7,344.34
Lystra	\$ -	\$ 500.00

## ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS 2020 ~ Continued

CHURCHES	NOV	YTD
Mision Cristo La Solucion	\$ -	\$ -
Mosaic	\$ -	\$ 1,126.35
Mount Carmel	\$ 157.29	\$ 2,459.97
Mount Gilead	\$ -	\$ -
Mount Hermon	\$ 286.64	\$ 3,464.47
Mount Moriah	\$ 300.00	\$ 900.00
Mount Pisgah	\$ -	\$ 626.00
NC Myanmar	\$ -	\$ 400.00
New Freedom	\$ -	\$ -
New Jerusalem	\$ -	\$ 3,300.00
North Durham	\$ -	\$ -
Olive Branch	\$ -	\$ -
Page Road	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Park View	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,100.00
Plainview	\$ -	\$ 4,476.00
Red Mountain	\$ -	\$ 750.00
Restoration Church	\$ 50.00	\$ 300.00
Ridgecrest	\$ 666.67	\$ 8,946.37
Rose of Sharon	\$ -	\$ 2,050.00
Sunrise	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00
Temple	\$ 200.24	\$ 2,637.79
The Church at NC	\$ -	\$ -
The Point-Chapel Hill	\$ -	\$ 500.00
The Point-Espanol	\$ -	\$ 500.00
The Summit	\$ 404.17	\$ 4,237.51
University	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Waypoint	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Yates	\$ 1,130.36	\$ 9,293.58
Church Missions Giving	\$ 13,547.41	\$ 149,466.21
Other Contributions	\$ 8,116.54	\$ 36,000.87
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 21,663.95</b>	<b>\$ 185,467.08</b>

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Monthly Budget Needs:	\$ 22,854.33
Nov Receipts:	\$ 21,663.95
Total Receipts To Date:	\$185,467.08
Budget Needs To Date:	\$251,397.67
<b>Difference:</b>	<b>\$ (65,930.59)</b>