

# President's Message

By President Jason Aultman

Greetings to the churches of the BMA of America! I hope 2016 has gotten off to a wonderful start and proves to be a year that overflows with God's abundant blessings on you and your church family.

I wanted to remind you that on April 25–27 we will gather in beautiful Gatlinburg, Tenn. for the annual meeting of our national association. I hope you will make plans to be there for what I believe will be an enjoyable and exciting few days together.



As an added feature at last year's meeting, opportunities were offered to attend workshops on various topics. The hope was that this would provide attendees a time to receive practical instruction and help, allowing us all to return to our fields of ministry better equipped to serve and lead effectively. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and we look forward to offering additional workshops at the upcoming meeting. Of course, these are provided in addition to the times of conducting business and opportunities to gather for worship.

A preliminary schedule for the meeting in Gatlinburg is on page 8 of the Jan. 13th *Baptist Trumpet*. I trust this overview will be helpful to you in planning your schedule and travel.

If the Lord returns before April 25, I will see you in Heaven. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you in Gatlinburg!

# It's Time To Make Your Reservations!

## When:

The 2016 session of the Baptist Missionary Association of America will meet April 25-27 at the Gatlinburg Convention Center in Gatlinburg, Tenn.

Registration packets are being printed and should be in the mail to each church by the end of next week. Although work is being done on providing online registration, it will not be available for this year's meeting. All church letters should be mailed by April 15 to pre-enroll your messengers.

The Committee on Arrangements has made its review and plans for the 2016 annual Association meeting. The facilities and hotels are looking forward to our meeting there. There is plenty of space for all of our meetings and lodging.

We hope that you will make your reservations early. Most of the hotels can make your reservations either by phone or online, but you must identify that you are with the Baptist Missionary Association of America.

**Glenstone (Headquarters Hotel): \$85 (800-362-9522) Group code: BMA 16; 2 block walk**

**Edgewater: \$95; (800) 423-9582; 2.5 block walk**

**Graystone: \$95; (800) 451-9202; 5 block walk**

**Gillette: \$95; (865) 436-5601; across from convention center**

**Bearskin: \$90; (865) 430-4330; 4 block walk**

**Old Creek: \$90; (865) 430-7200; 3 block walk**

**Clarion: \$114; (865) 436-5656; 2 block walk**

**CourtYard (Marriott): \$129 & \$139**

## We Need Your Help!

When the BMAA Committee on Arrangements contracts with a convention center to host our annual meeting, the rental fee is normally tied to the number of hotel rooms we expect our attendees to use during the meeting. The rental fee in Gatlinburg is contingent upon our use of rooms blocked at the designated hotels. The rental fee will increase by the daily cost of each room not used.

The Committee on Arrangements has negotiated terms in Gatlinburg that will allow the conference center space to be greatly reduced if we use the total number of rooms blocked at the designated hotels/motels. Please help us fill these first to cap the cost of the rental space.

Our association has had to pay extra in the past years because many of the blocked hotel rooms were not used. Please help us avoid a situation like that this year. We appreciate your help.

— BMAA Committee on Arrangements: Leon Carmical, Charles Attebery and Jackie Manasco

