**MIDDLE DISTRICT MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

In the early 1980’s the Executive Board of the Middle District Missionary Baptist Association named the Baptist Training Union and Ushers Auxiliary the Official Training Arm of the Association. At this time, Dr. B. L. Rich was Moderator, Dr. Carroll Midgette served as President of the Baptist Training Union, and Deacon Alex Brown served as President of the Ushers Auxiliary. The Baptist Training Union and Ushers Auxiliary established a department of Christian Education and has charged it with the responsibility of organizing, formulating, supervising and directing the implementation of a program of Christian Education which will encompass the entire associational spectrum.

In obedience to the decree of the our Lord, “Study to show thyself approved unto God, . . . II Timothy 2:15.”, and in response to the charge set forth by the Executive Board of the Middle District Association and the Baptist Training Union and Ushers Convention, the Department of Christian Education embarked upon its journey to design a curriculum commensurate with the department of Christian Education of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and applicable to youth and adults which speaks to the needs of all our churches, small and or large; all of our people, unsaved and Christians; which stresses the importance of developing the whole person, strives toward preparing one through inspiration and education, that includes the teaching understanding and training for a better life in Christa and service for Christ as taught in the Holy Bible.

The Department of Christian Education has accepted the challenge and feels that a program of first rate can be designed and built with flexibility for growth and situation demands. We expect to exhaust the overwhelming supply of available resources, human, audio visual, books and other new modern ideas necessary to help stress the wellbeing, the faithful living and the fruitful service.

The Christian Education Committee consisted of the following:

 Elizabeth Williams Young, Director/Chairman

1. President Daughters of Zion, Beatrice Fennell
2. President Ministers & Deacons, Rev. E. H. Stevenson
3. President Missionary Auxiliary, Lucille Mack
4. President Sunday School Convention, H. C. Powers
5. Asso. Gen. Supv. William J. Brunson

Laura Baker

Juanita Boney

Alex Brown, President Ushers Auxiliary

Rev. Alphonso Fullwood

Vivian Gray

Ulysies A. Johnson

William N. McGuire

Annie Matthews

Carroll Midgette, President B. T. U. Auxiliary

Carrie Newkirk

J. T. Newkirk

Louetta Parker

Ralph Parker Sr.

Rev. C. W. Pate

H. C. Powers

Louise Simpson

Leola Smith

Luetta Williams

 At Large: Ludie Washington

 Lillian P. Shaw

* This committee was appointed by the Executive Committee of the Middle District Missionary Baptist Association.

**Department of Christian Education Objectives**

1. To foster and perpetuate Christian Education throughout the Middle District Missionary Baptist Association.
2. To provide training/workshops at the Institute Building in Burgaw, NC through which present Associational workers may receive instruction appropriate for the positions held. Such training may be conducted by our department personnel or through the Department of Christian Education of the General Baptist State Convention of NC or others.
3. To provide a library of suggested literature for associational auxiliaries (B.T.U., Sunday School), Missionary, Church Officers, etch.) where churches may send representatives, to preview and where possible secure sufficient number of copies of some such training manuals and guides that may be sold to our churches.
4. To provide sufficient audio visual equipment necessary for training purposes and demonstration as to the effectiveness of their use and recognition of the essential role audio visual aids play in education.
5. To produce a filmstrip with tape presentation of the history and work of the Middle District Missionary Baptist Association that will adequately inform our members as to:
6. Founding and Founders
7. Purpose and or Objectives
8. Doctrine/Philosophy
9. Officers (past to present)
10. Obligations, responsibility, and service
11. To utilize our institute facilities to provide planned ongoing training.
12. To train, to learn, to grow in knowledge, wisdom, and understanding thus proving ourselves better Christians with faithful living and fruitful service.

**1980 –**

***“Training Makes The Difference”***

***Training is Who We Are and Training is What We Do!!!***

***Upon these strong shoulders, we stand!!!***