



Dover Baptist Association

"a resource and ally for churches and their leaders"

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Steven K. Allsbrook, Executive Director of Missions

January 19, 2009

TO: Dover Baptist Churches

FROM: Steve Allsbrook and Leroy Williams, Project Coordinator

RE: Bluefield College Cottage Remodeling Project and 2009 Partnership Missions Project Information Meeting

Don Carter and Leroy Williams will host a **Partnership Missions Project Information Meeting at New Bethesda Baptist Church, 9019 New Bethesda Road, Mechanicsville on Sunday, January 25 at 2:00 p.m.** This meeting will address several possible projects, including a project at Bluefield College, that church teams or individuals might consider helping with.

Bluefield College Cottage Remodeling Project

Dover Baptists have accepted the responsibility of helping Bluefield College remodel an old house into a married student family's home. Bluefield is a Virginia Baptist school, and many Dover churches have benefitted from the work of its graduates. Bluefield has asked alumnus Leroy Williams to coordinate the effort that will transform four old cottages into modern housing.

Materials for each of these cottages will run an estimated \$25,000. Our Executive Committee approved raising enough to remodel one cottage. The Association will accept gifts from churches and individuals and, if necessary, make up any difference between those gifts and the total needed by taking the money from Dover's reserves.

The Association requests that every Dover church designate February 2009 as "Bluefield College Cottage Remodeling Month." We ask each Dover church to take a special offering for this project. Your church might consider a goal of five dollars per person based on your church's average Sunday attendance. New Bethesda, the church where Leroy is a member, has set a goal of \$2,500 to lead the way. We suggest that the offering be taken during February and forwarded to the Dover office by March 1. Dover will forward the total offering to Bluefield College, and the college will buy the materials.

As Project Coordinator, Leroy will supervise the efforts of other volunteers who will work on a week-by-week basis next June. May 31-June 6, the first week's volunteers begin demolition, rewiring, replumbing and hanging drywall. The next week's volunteers will complete those tasks June 7-13. During the third and fourth weeks, June 14-20 and 21-27, volunteers will paint, trim, and install flooring, cabinets, and appliances. The college will provide lodging and meals for volunteers. In addition to the priceless gift of time, the only cost to volunteers will be getting to and from the beautiful mountain setting of Bluefield.

We are also soliciting volunteers from Dover to give a week in June to work on this project. Anyone from skilled craftsmen to those with few skills and a willingness to work at any task can help on this project.

Leroy will schedule groups and individuals for each week in June. Please send a representative to the meeting on January 25. If no one can represent your church that day, please e-mail Leroy Williams at LDW7336@aol.com or call him at 804-779-2104 or 804-467-8065 to volunteer or get more information.

Asking for someone's time always means asking for a personal sacrifice, and, given the current economic climate, collecting money for any special project qualifies as duty "above and beyond." Please know that any contribution of time or money will help. Think of the difference a remodeled home will make to generations of future Bluefield College married student families, one of whom may serve a Dover church, maybe even yours. Gifts of time and money will also benefit the people that the other projects featured at the meeting on January 25 will help. Thank you for sending a representative to learn more and for inviting the people of your congregation to share in meeting these needs!