Elder Stephen Pleasant, born in 1779 entered the ministry in 1824, and was a Primitive Baptist Elder. His convictions led him more toward the missions ministry, and after receiving some literature concerning missions, he sought to distribute it, and was met with such severe opposition from the Primitive Baptist Church that he either had to leave, or denounce his belief in missions. With strong convictions and a deep faith, he left the Primitive Baptist Church and led in the formation of Clement Missionary Baptist Church in Person County, North Carolina.

He became their first pastor. Later he was to become the founder of the Beulah Association, and become its moderator from the time of its founding until his death in 1852. Clement has remained a member of the Beulah Association through the years. A lasting tribute was rendered Reverend Pleasant a few years ago in the erection of a monument at his grave site in the Clement Church cemetery by the Beulah Association.

The association was formed in 1834, with only three churches which, in the, aggregate, contained but 157 members; it increased to thirteen churches, and upwards of 1000 communicants. The young community was in the same counties of the Country Line fraternity, from which they were driven out by the passage of a set of stereotyped resolutions by the old body, which proscribed all the societies of the day, religious newspapers, etc., as being incompatible with what they called old school principles.

This growing interest supported an itinerant minister, who acted as a colporteur and missionary among the feeble churches, and in the destitute parts of their own bounds. A number of selected Elders within the association became missionaries within the counties that it encompassed and were known as the Presbytery. They were well grounded in Baptist doctrine and their job was to help establish new churches. Some of the more prevalent Elders were Elias Dodson, F. M. Jordan, Julius Terrell, Charles Duncan, T. D. Casstethens, C. C. Haymore, James Lewellyn, John H. Caudle, and Robert Gourley as well as others.

The Association continued to grow from its inception to thirty-one churches, and ranged over nine counties in North Carolina. These counties and churches are as follows: Ephesus Meeting House in Person, Mt. Airy Baptist Church in Surry, Madison Baptist Church in Rockingham, Summerfield Baptist Church in Guilford, Beulah Baptist Church in Caswell, Mills Creek Baptist Church in Person, Clement Baptist Church in Person, Elm Grove Baptist in Guilford, Kerr's Chapel in Caswell, Milton Baptist Church in Caswell, Yanceyville Baptist Church in Caswell, Mount Olive Baptist Church Stokes, Greensboro Baptist Church in Guilford, Beaver Island Baptist Church in Rockingham, Lewisville Baptist Church and Waughtown Baptist Church in Forsyth. The Cane Creek Baptist Church from Orange County was the largest church in the Association at its beginning. Mount Olive Baptist Church was a member of the Beulah Association from 1851 until 1886. The following Elders served Mount Olive during that period of time: Denson Ashburn Poindexter, John H. Caudle, Pinkney Oliver, Robert Gourley and Rufus W. Crews. In 1886 Mount Olive left the Beulah Association and joined the Pilot Mountain Baptist Association.

The Beulah Association is still a viable organization with a total of thirty-five member churches in the year 2010. They are very much a part of the Southern Baptist Convention and the State Baptist Convention of North Carolina as of this writing. (LEB)