



From Our DOM
Rev. Joe McDowell

Volume 59, Issue 6
August 2020
"Serving Thirty Local Churches"

Dear Association Members,

I pray all is well with you and yours! COVID restrictions have begun to ease, but the virus remains active and dangerous for many. As I write this, my family is in the middle of a fourteen day self-quarantine. Our youngest daughter and family are with us until the first of August, then they will be moving to Okinawa. So, while we are isolating ourselves, we are enjoying time together before their deployment. We are praying no one else will come down with the virus. We are asking God for this miracle.

Some of our churches are meeting inside in their sanctuaries. These churches are doing a good job trying to social distance and sanitize. Some of our churches are continuing drive-in church. This has been very successful for many of our churches. Some have had a good number of guests at these drive-in services. Progress is being made, albeit not yet "normal."

We have scheduled next year's Jamaica Mission Trip (July 10-17) and next year's trip to Southwest Virginia (May 2-7). We are also working to get our various ministry committees re-activated. We are pressing forward with our fall training which will be a "Fresh Expressions" seminar on September 24 at 6:30 PM at Olive Branch. This will be a good and practical seminar!

We are unsure how the Fall Meeting on October 27 will be conducted. This meeting is usually large enough that it could create problems with social distancing. We are working and planning what this meeting will look like if restrictions remain, or if restrictions should be lifted by then.

Our Concord Baptist Association emphasis week was supposed to have been May 17 - 24. We did not pursue the emphasis due to the coronavirus restrictions. The restrictions were fairly new at that time and some churches were

not meeting at all. We will target the week of August 30 - September 6 for our emphasis week. We will send out prayer guides for distribution as the emphasis begins. Thank you, churches, for your continued support of the Concord Baptist Association.

We are working to have the "Annual" ready for distribution in January 2021 and we will continue to target January as the month for the "Annual" to be ready. There are two reasons for this change. First and foremost, the "Annual" will be more useful from January to December as opposed to April to March. Also, the spring meeting will continue to take on a new look as it would have this year if we had not had to cancel it.

These have been unusual times, but we have learned much about the church, holding church meetings, and reaching out to those who need Jesus. As life begins to become more normal or if a new "normal" is born, I encourage all of our churches to put into continued practice those things that have proven to be successful in reaching the unchurched and those who need Jesus.

Blessings to you all!
As always, I am thankful to be in His service with you,
Joe

Fresh Expressions Workshop

Thursday, September 24 at 6:30PM
Olive Branch Baptist Church

Gannon Sims, Director of Ministry Formation for Fresh Expressions will lead the conference hosted by the Concord Baptist Association. Be inspired, learn, and discover new ways to share the unchanging story of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We can impact our region in a 'fresh' way to 'express' the gospel with 'fresh expressions' of church. Church leaders, this is for you. All are welcome!

CBA CALENDAR

August

- 03 State Line Board of Director's Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 13 Youth Committee, 7:00 PM, CBA
- 20 Discipleship Committee, 7:00 PM, CBA



- 07 Labor Day (CBA Office closed for holiday)
- 07 State Line Board of Director's Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 13-20 Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions Emphasis/Week of Prayer
- 15 Pastor's Conference, 12:00 PM (Noon), CBA, Lunch Provided, CBA

OCTOBER

- 05 State Line Board of Director's Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 15 Administration & Finance Committees, 7:00 PM
- 20 Missions/Evangelism Committee, 6:30 PM, CBA
- 22 Executive Team Meeting, 7:00 PM, CBA OFFICE
- 27 Concord Baptist Association Fall Meeting, 5:00 PM, Liberty Baptist Church

CBA MEETINGS

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 13, 2020, 7:00 PM

DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 13, 2020, 7:00 PM

MISSIONS/EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 6:30 PM

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEES

Thursday, October 15, 2020, 7:00 PM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers, Chairpersons of committees, Pastors, and church lay person (representative) from each church (visitors always welcome) will meet together on

Thursday, October 22, 2020 7:00 PM, CBA

**Associational Missions Emphasis/
Week of Prayer
August 30 – September 6**

CBA CONTRIBUTIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH June 2020

CHURCHES	CBA CONTR.	ASSOC. MISS.	STATE LINE
ANTIOCH	0.00	0.00	0.00
AVERETT	2,003.66	0.00	600.00
BETHANY	4,500.00	0.00	300.00
BETHEL	1,700.00	0.00	200.00
BETHESDA	2,600.00	0.00	0.00
BLACK BRANCH	241.00	0.00	0.00
BOYDTON	0.00	0.00	0.00
CLARKSVILLE	531.00	0.00	1,051.00
CONCORD	1,037.95	0.00	500.00
EBENEZER	0.00	0.00	0.00
EPHESUS	375.00	0.00	100.00
FIRST, CHASE CITY	833.00	0.00	0.00
FIRST, SOUTH HILL	500.00	0.00	948.00
GRAVEL HILL	800.00	0.00	900.00
JAMES SQUARE	1,446.00	0.00	0.00
JEFFRESS	325.00	0.00	0.00
LA CROSSE	923.00	0.00	0.00
LAWRENCEVILLE	1,316.00	0.00	0.00
LIBERTY	987.00	0.00	0.00
MOUNT HOREB	2,500.00	0.00	750.00
MOUNT VERNON	1,314.00	0.00	0.00
NEW HOPE	1,752.63	0.00	0.00
OLIVE BRANCH	3,652.00	0.00	3,652.00
REEDY CREEK	0.00	0.00	0.00
SANFORD MEM.	2,434.08	0.00	695.02
TABERNACLE	651.00	0.00	0.00
UNION CHAPEL	2,376.93	0.00	1,901.14
UNION LEVEL	0.00	0.00	0.00
WARFIELD	200.00	0.00	0.00
WYLLIESBURG	800.00	0.00	100.00



Total CBA Budget for Year: \$104,179.00

**Ministers and Wives
Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Birthdays

Rev. Jackie Wray – August 12
Rev. Donnie Edmonds – August 30

Anniversaries

Rev. & Mrs. Michael Reynolds – August 7
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen DeOrnellas – August 9
Dr. & Mrs. Wayne Guynn – August 11
Rev. & Mrs. Ronnie Campbell – August 16

Church News

Please be in prayer for all our churches especially those without pastors at this time

Church news is due on the 15th of every month

Antioch

Since Easter Sunday, we have enjoyed drive-in worship together in our parking lot on Sunday mornings. Our deacons prayerfully evaluated and re-evaluated the options and chose to re-enter the sanctuary on Sunday, July 19 with many precautions, and continue to offer the drive-in option for those who are not comfortable being inside. We continue to hold to our mission of loving God and loving neighbor...and at this time, we are loving our neighbors best through mask-wearing and physical distancing. Our days have been filled with phone calls, sending cards, grocery shopping for those who need it, and seeking to be the church even in these uncertain times. We hope to be a reminder to our community and world that God is our refuge and strength, and that God is with us in the midst of this strange season.

Averett

We continue to hold drive in worship service on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM and Bible study in the fellowship hall on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. Both of these services are available online on Averett Baptist Church's facebook page. Adults on Mission met Monday, July 6th. We had a lot of catching up to do since we have not met the past 3 months. Mission Dignity Sunday will be August 30th. This is an opportunity for us to help those who have served in many of our smaller churches and could not put away money for their retirement years. Adults on Mission will meet again on August 3rd, at 3:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Pray for the children, teachers, parents, bus drivers, cafeteria workers and all personnel involved in the opening of our schools. Stay safe.

Ephesus

We are continuing at Ephesus to have our Sunday morning drive-in worship service, but have begun to meet at 9:00 AM when it is a bit cooler. The 11:00 am service on the internet stays the same. In an effort to keep everyone safe from the virus, we are not holding services indoors at this time. Our contribution to the Bread Box for the month of June was \$445.00 plus any individual items brought directly to them by our members. We continue to pray for our sister churches as we learn to deal with the new normal. We pray, too, for our church motto from II

Thessalonians 3:1 that the gospel will speed ahead and be honored.

First, Chase City

We have had very well attended parking lot services over the past few months. We plan to go back into the church on Sunday, July 19th, with temperature screening upon entering the building. The worship service will continue to begin at 10:00am. We will still be broadcasting over the radio for any one not yet comfortable about entering the building. Pastor Tom is still live streaming the Wednesday night Bible Study and Frances Castle is sending a message out to all her "Kids On A Mission" group. Our Special Activities Committee celebrated Father's Day by giving out a Mustard Seed keychain with a scripture from Matthew 17:20 to all the fathers in attendance.

James Square

James Square will continue holding Drive-in Worship Services. Starting Sunday, July 12, 2020, members can stay cool and listen via Radio FM 88.9 at 11:00 AM to the message Pastor Donnie Edmonds gives each Sunday. Beautiful hymns are heard prior to the service. Choir Director Kim Weaver lines up the special music each Sunday. May God continue to bless James Square!

La Crosse

La Crosse Baptist continues to social distance and wear face masks as we worship on Sunday mornings. We have not yet resumed Sunday School but hope to do so soon. Our pastor, Korey Henry, continues to preach on the Old Testament book of Genesis focusing on God as the Creator as well as the "Great I Am". On Wednesday evenings Pastor Henry is leading in a study from the book of Psalms. This is done through teleconferencing. In looking forward to a new Church year, we have formed our Nominating Committee under the leadership of Mrs. Joy Hofler and our Finance Committee under the leadership of our Treasurer, Mr. Steve Spain. These committees will be working in July and August to bring before the church the following: leaders, teachers, and officers as well as a Financial plan for the new church year. This will take place at the August Business Meeting. We are very excited

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CHURCH NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

that the arrival of "Baby Henry" is getting closer, scheduled to arrive around August 11. Chrystal, our pastor's wife, was presented baby gifts and gift certificates by the Church family at the Worship Service on Sunday, July 19. Korey and Chrystal have four daughters, Evelyn, Felicity, Layna, and Melody plus one son, Hezekiah. They have chosen to keep the gender of their sixth child a secret, But no matter the gender he/she will be greatly loved! We look forward to the time that the covid virus will be behind us. We know that God is in control and He will never forsake His children.

Lawrenceville

God is good at all times. Lawrenceville Baptist Church continues to find ways to praise the Lord during these trying times. After having wonderful drive-in services, LBC has moved back inside to our beautiful sanctuary. We are not having Sunday School at this time but worship services each Sunday at 11 a.m. We have truly enjoyed sermons from some great speakers including Shane Bost, Caleb Couch and many times from Tucker LaForce. LBC continues to pray for our nation and our church, those who have suffered Covid 19 or other health issues this summer, those who are lost without knowing Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Blessings to all!

Sanford Memorial

Here is the church news for the Grapevine: Sanford Memorial Baptist Church resumed church services on June 7th and Sunday School, for adults and children, on July 5th. I am working on a few things as we continue through the COVID period. I would like to implement an evangelism strategy for the church in order to help members share their faith in Christ more, I am also praying about a young adults class and would like to start Facebook live for the church services in order to expose the church to more people in the area. While COVID has, no doubt, set some things back, we are trusting in the Lord's guidance and believe that He will see us through this period stronger than ever. I am reminded that we all grow when challenged. If everything were easy, we would never grow in the Lord since we would never seek His face.



Many Thanks to the volunteers who helped with the June/July Grapevine: Naomi Jamie, Miriam and Rebekah Land



SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

Bravery

- Day 1: Deuteronomy 31:6,8 Day 17: Isaiah 41:13
Day 2: 2 Samuel 10:12 Day 18: Matthew 10:28
Day 3: 1 Chronicles 17:25 Day 19: Mark 5:36
Day 4: 2 Chronicles 15:7 Day 20: Acts 4:29-31
Day 5: Ezra 7:27-28 Day 21: 1 Corinthians 16:13
Day 6: Psalm 27:1-3 Day 22: 2 Corinthians 10:1-2
Day 7: Psalm 27:14 Day 23: Ephesians 3:8-13
Day 8: Psalm 56:3-4 Day 24: Ephesians 6:10
Day 9: Psalm 62:6-8 Day 25: Philippians 1:20
Day 10: Psalm 118:6 Day 26: Colossians 1:11
Day 11: Proverbs 14:26 Day 27: 2 Timothy 1:7
Day 12: Proverbs 18:11 Day 28: Hebrews 13:6
Day 13: Proverbs 28:1 Day 29: James 5:8
Day 14: Isaiah 35:4 Day 30: 1 Peter 3:5-6
Day 15: Isaiah 40:26 Day 31: Revelation 2:10
Day 16: Isaiah 40:29

Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to meditate and reflect on God's Word. Write down what you have gleaned from each day's scripture.

The Ruffled Mango

GRAPEVINE

A Newsletter of

Concord Baptist Association

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Mr. Steve Whitten Vice Moderator

Mrs. Rebecca Newton, Office Manager

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Suggestions and news contributions welcomed

Deadline for September Issue

Will be Friday, August 14