

Concord GRAPEVINE

“SERVING THIRTY LOCAL CHURCHES”

Comments from our COM

MIKAYLA BARNES

Dear Concord Baptist Association Members,

We are upon the holiday season, as we gear up for the season, while we are busy shopping, decorating and trying to attend many events, I hope we take the time to sit, reflect and celebrate the birth of baby Jesus. I know, I will take the time to appreciate all that I have because of our Lord and Savior. Without the birth of Jesus on Christmas eve, we would not have the relationship with God that we have. Jesus Christ would have never died for our sins. What a Blessing!!

I have included a calendar at the end of this month's Grapevine to include some of our churches holiday functions. Please continue to share your church events and I will update the calendar to share.

Our first CBA Serve Day is this weekend (December 1-2) handing out free hot chocolate at South Hill's Hometown Christmas. We will be set up near Edward Jones on Friday from 5:00 - 8:00 PM and Saturday from 10:00AM - 6:00PM. If you are interested in signing up to serve, please reach out to me or sign up on our website/facebook. If you have already signed up, I will be reaching out on Thursday, November 30. We cannot wait to share God's love!

Lastly, Impact Mecklenburg was such a success last year that our team has been rolling with plans for 2024! We are so excited to share that we will be hosting an Alternative Spring Break Impact in Mecklenburg! This will be April 1-5 and it will be a shorter week and a small week. We are still looking for a church to host this week of Impact, if you would like to learn more, please contact me! Another really exciting thing for Impact Mecklenburg 2024 is that First Baptist Church and First Christian Academy will be our location for the summer Impact (June 16-22)! This is such an incredible opportunity to continue the work in our community. We are still looking for jobs for 2024 Impact, if you know of someone in you community that could use the support, please reach out for an application or find it on our website!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all,

Mikayla Barnes



TO STAY UP TO DATE ON
ALL CBA NEWS, FOLLOW
OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

facebook.com/concorderbaptistassoc
OR SCAN THIS CODE:



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GRAPEVINE BY MAIL?

FILL OUT THE SIGN-UP FORM ON
PAGE 6 AND SEND IT BACK TO
THE OFFICE BY MAIL OR EMAIL.

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER

- 01-02** CBA SERVE DAY South Hill Hometown Christmas
- 03-09** International Missions, Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- 14** Executive Committee Meeting, 7:00PM
- 22-26** CBA Office Closed for the Holiday

JANUARY

- 01** New Year's Day (Office Closed)
- 08** Impact Mecklenburg Team, 6:00PM
- 08** State Line Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00PM, CBA
- 16** Pastor's Conference, noon, location TBA
- 18** Missions/Evangelism Committee Meeting, 6:00PM

Check the CBA Calendar on the last page for more community and church events!

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS OFFERINGS GOAL OF \$10,000 TO BE DIVIDED AMONG THE FOLLOWING:

• FOREIGN MISSIONS	20 %
• STATE LINE/CAMP CONCORD	30 %
• IMPACT MISSION CAMPS	20 %
• CBA LOCAL MISSIONS	25 %
• DISASTER RELIEF	5 %
TOTAL	100 %

INVESTORS CLUB

As an investor, you play an important role in the operations of Camp Concord through annual giving. It is through support like yours that we are able each year to maintain and improve the buildings, programs and ministries of Camp Concord. The State Line Board of Directors deeply appreciates your donations. In 2022, around 200 campers attended Camp Concord. We had numerous re-dedications during the season. Many campers were able to attend because of your support through camperships. Would you consider investing in the future of our children by first of all praying and then giving financially?

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION for 2023

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amount of Contribution: _____ \$25.00

_____ \$50.00 _____ \$100.00 _____ Other \$ _____

CBA CONTRIBUTIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023 AS OF NOVEMBER 27

CHURCHES	CBA CONTR.	ASSOC. MISS.	STATE LINE
ANTIOCH	1,525.00	0.00	1,000.00
AVERETT	3,606.00	635.00	725.00
BETHANY	4,500.00	585.00	300.00
BETHEL	1,350.00	430.00	180.00
BETHESDA	2,600.00	2,090.00	300.00
BLACK BRANCH	854.04	0.00	0.00
BOYDTON	2,000.00	0.00	2,600.00
CLARKSVILLE	240.00	1,285.00	975.00
CONCORD	6,887.15	753.00	550.00
EBENEZER	375.00	0.00	0.00
EPHESUS	1,500.00	0.00	960.00
FIRST, CHASE CITY	1,666.70	280.00	0.00
FIRST, SOUTH HILL	1,000.00	345.00	1,580.00
GRAVEL HILL	800.00	200.00	900.00
JAMES SQUARE	5,649.07	560.00	700.00
JEFFRESS	800.00	0.00	0.00
LA CROSSE	3,431.01	170.00	100.00
LAWRENCEVILLE	806.68	0.00	0.00
LIBERTY	1,757.00	0.00	0.00
MOUNT HOREB	3,500.00	550.00	1,342.45
MOUNT VERNON	0.00	55.00	500.00
NEW HOPE	4,505.73	430.00	340.00
OLIVE BRANCH	5,745.82	0.00	5,745.82
REEDY CREEK	0.00	0.00	0.00
SANFORD MEMORIAL	2,849.69	0.00	814.21
TABERNACLE	2,975.09	555.00	0.00
UNION CHAPEL	4,774.83	0.00	3,769.86
UNION LEVEL	0.00	0.00	0.00
WARFIELD	0.00	0.00	0.00
WYLLIESBURG	200.00	270.00	335.00
TOTALS:	65,898.81	9,223.00	23,717.34

TOTAL CBA BUDGET FOR YEAR 2023: \$90,023.00

Church News

BETHEL

Choir rehearsals are going on now for their Christmas program. They will do their singing on Sunday, November 26th.

The Christmas play practice starts after worship on Sunday, November 19th and the children will have pizza before the practice. The Christmas play is on Sunday night, December 17th at 7 p.m. We had our Thanksgiving and Christmas lunch combined on Sunday, November 26th. Thanks to the Baptist Men that put our new sign with the church's name on it on Hwy. 92, There are no midweek Bible studies during the week of Thanksgiving. In this season of Thanksgiving, please remember to give thanks to God for all the little things He does for us as well as the Big ones. Hope everyone has a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

EPHESUS

The youth had a fun evening on October 28. They met for dinner and a scavenger hunt, where they looked for (and found) the 400 candy ghosts that had been hidden in and around the church. On Sunday, October 29th, we began a home fellowship and prayer time at the home of Steve & Barbara Correll. They also served dinner for those who were able to attend. On November 4th, the church held its Deacon & Wives dinner. We had our WMU meeting on the 7th, during which we reported on the visitation ministry we have begun. Several of the ladies went to see some of the shut-ins of the church and community. Our Senior Adult Ministry met on the 13th at Wilson's for a delicious Thanksgiving dinner and our guest speaker was Jim Hoefler. He delivered a very nice program dealing with the importance of prayer. He told of the answered prayer in his life. For the month of October, we donated 122 lbs of food to the Bread Box and received a nice thank you from them.

We are now back in our lovely renovated sanctuary. Although we were thankful for our Family Life Center where we met during the time we were displaced, it is so nice to be back and able to have the Hanging of the Green service on the first Sunday in Advent, December 3rd, and the Nativity Service on the 4th Sunday. We plan to have our Senior Adult Ministry meeting at Wilson's on December 11th, where they will serve a special Christmas dinner.

EPHESUS CONT.

May all our sister churches enjoy a blessed Advent season as we celebrate the first coming of our Lord and Savior, and may we await his second coming with eagerness, knowing that each day brings us closer. In the meantime, may the gospel speed ahead and be honored.

FIRST BAPTIST, SOUTH HILL

At First Baptist Church South Hill the preparations for Advent and Christmas began in November. Items were collected for the Bland County Shoebox mission. Items were collected to bring Christmas morning to those less fortunate. Hygiene items were collected for the annual Northington Work Center Sock Stuffing Christmas. The First Christian School collected items and filled shoeboxes for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. A special chapel service was held to bless the shoe boxes and recognize the students for their participation.

The church this year will be participating in the town lamp decorating contest. The lamp post we will be decorating will be in front of the association office. On December 3rd, we will participate in the South Hill Christmas Parade. We will have a group walking along side of the First Christian School float handing out candy canes with a tag attached providing information about our church. Because we are at the end of the parade route, we will have hot chocolate available for those that need a warm beverage. On Sunday, December 10th, our choir will present the cantata, "Silent Night" by Greg Adams during our regular worship time of 11:00 A.M. We are also planning a living nativity this year. Sunday evening, December 24th at 5:00 PM, we will come together to welcome the Christ child at our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service.

JAMES SQUARE

Hopefully you had a great Thanksgiving, shared with friends, family, and loved ones! We had a fantastic Thanksgiving service Wednesday the 22nd and now James Square is busy preparing for Christmas and all the many activities and ministries associated with this glorious day. Our youth have been working on their Christmas program scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd. Our annual BBQ supper starts at 6pm with the childrens program to follow... and if we're lucky, Santa will show up, too! The choir has been hard at work practicing for their Christmas Cantata, led by Brooke Morefield, that will take place during the worship service Sunday, December 10th at 11am. Please join us for either or both of these events, you will surely be blessed by being there. We continue to be thankful for our choir members, musicians, and sound technicians. The Elizabeth Spence Circle met on November 6th, Baptist Women's Day of Prayer, for their monthly meeting. The circle is currently collecting shoe boxes filled with toiletries, treats, and toys for those less fortunate in Bland County, VA. They recently collected blankets for Brunswick County Department of Social Services to give to those in need. Every Wednesday at 6:45pm we continue to study the Book of Genesis at Bible Study- all are invited to attend! Fall is here.... most everyone enjoys this time of year. Let us remain thankful for our many blessings ... and may the cooler weather cause you to have a warmer heart! Merry Christmas and remember.. Jesus is the reason for the season!!

LAWRENCEVILLE

Busy is the word for Lawrenceville Baptist Church at this season of the year. We participated in the town's Trunk or Treat and were able to offer candy and love to more than 300 trick or treaters. On November 5, the Praise and Thanksgiving Concert was held featuring Music Director Kaye Brewer, former organist Jill Stempel and the church choir. The piano duets were magical and the spirit of the Lord was certainly in the building. A reception followed and the event was so well attended. What a blessing music offers. The Thanksgiving luncheon was held on November 12 and a tribute to Veteran's was observed during the morning worship service. Christmas is coming. The LBC choir and bell choir will perform during the morning service on December 1 T 11 A.M. A service is also planned for Christmas Eve. The church has collected 96 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. What a joy to share God's love with others all over the world!! Merry Christmas to all and blessings in 2024.

LA CROSSE

La Crosse Baptist Church will be hosting a Smokey Wilson Concert on Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 6:00PM. All are welcome! Refreshments will follow the concert.

MOUNT HOREB

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, from Mt. Horeb Baptist Church.

We had a great Sunday on November 5 as we baptized 8 new Christians who have accepted Christ their Lord and Savior. Our pastor is teaching a book called "Living In Christ" by the Late Billy Graham and Franklin Graham during the Sunday school hour. Our Sunday school attendance has improved by 15 and worship service attendance has improved by about 20. The Lord gets all the praise and glory.

In November, on the 8th, we had supper that was hot dogs roasted on our fire pit following with Bible Study. In November our youth will decorate the church for Christmas. On November 22rd at 7:00PM, we will have Thanksgiving Eve Service at Mt. Horeb Baptist Church with Dr. Michael Blythe, pastor of Salem Methodist Church as our guess speaker. This is a tradition that has been taken place for a number of years.

In December, we look forward to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering as a way we can spread the gospel around the world. Our Women On Missions collected shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse. Also, our Deacons and Women On Missions are preparing Christmas Baskets for the shut-ins in our community. Our youth will be putting on a Christmas play on December 17th at 7:00PM and we will have a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:00 PM on the 24th of December.

In January & February our pastor will be preaching on current events that are happening in the USA, Israel, and future events facing the world. He will be using the Book of Daniel, Christ's prophecy in Matthew 24 & 25, Book of Revelation, Prophets, and Apostles. These messages will begin on January 7, 2024, if God willing.

All meetings and services are to the glory of God.

OLIVE BRANCH

We have been and will be active in serving and celebrating Jesus' birth this Advent and Christmas season. We collected several gifts and toys for the Bland County Ministry Center. Additionally, the children who meet on Wednesday nights brought gifts and packed 49 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes as their November mission. Some from our church will help at the CBA Serve Day handing out hot chocolate to the participants in South Hill's Christmas Town. Our youth will be assisting the Salvation Army by bell ringing at Walmart on Saturday, December 2nd. Our church goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering is \$2,500 this year.

Our Mets seniors ministry will have an outing on Sunday, December 10th. They will have lunch together after the morning service then attend the performance of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Jr. at the Colonial Theatre in South Hill. They will also have their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, December 14th. At that meeting the children's chorus from La Crosse Elementary will perform at the church. Also, in the evening at 6:30pm the men will have their quarterly men's meeting with a cookout and a message from Rev. Carl Bagley.

Our youth and children continue to meet on Wednesday nights. They will take a short break at the end of December and first of the New Year. Our youth will also end 2023 by attending the Light the Night youth gathering on Thursday, December 28th at New Hope Baptist Church in South Hill.

You can always find out what is going on at Olive Branch Baptist Church by going to our website, obbblackridge.com, viewing our church app on your mobile device, following us on Facebook, or watching our worship services on YouTube.

Christmas Services

- **December 10** – Christmas Cantata. We will celebrate the morning with a breakfast together at 9 am. Then at 10:30 am the Sanctuary Choir will present the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah.
- **December 24** – 11 am – We will celebrate Jesus' birth with a special worship service. Also, at 6 pm we will have a Candlelight Christmas Eve service.

GRAPEVINE

A Newsletter of
 Concord Baptist Association
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 South Hill, VA 23970
 Phone: (434) 447-7240
 Webpage: www.concorderbaptistassoc.org
 Mrs. Mikayla Barnes, Coordinator of Missions
 Mr. Steve Whitten, Moderator
 Mr. Grover Cleveland, Vice Moderator
 Mrs. Sandra Ittner, Ministry Assistant

Published Every Month EXCEPT January and July. Suggestions and news contributions welcomed

**Reminder: There is NO January Grapevine!
 Deadline for February Issue
 Will be Monday, January 22, 2024**

CBA DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

3 James Square - Youth Christmas Program @ 6PM
La Grosse - Smokey Wilson Concert @ 6PM

4

5

6

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8

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10 James Square - Christmas Cantata 11 AM
Olive Branch - Christmas Cantata 10:30AM
First, South Hill - Christmas Cantata at 11AM

11

12

13

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15

16

17 Bethel - Christmas Play @ 7PM
Mt. Horeb - Youth Christmas Play @ 7PM

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22

23

24 Olive Branch - Special service at 11am @ Candlelight service @6PM
First, South Hill - Candlelight Service @ 5PM
Mt. Horeb - Candlelight Service @ 6PM

25

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27

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29

30

31



1 CBA Serve Day(s) serving hot chocolate at Hometown Christmas 4-8PM (sign up today)

2 CBA Serve Day(s) serving hot chocolate at Hometown Christmas 10am-6PM (sign up today)

International Missions: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.....

14 Executive Board Meeting Christmas celebration and refreshments 7PM @ CBA

Office Closed

Office Closed

Office Closed

28 Light the Night Gathering - New Hope (SH) @ 6PM

We apologize if we have missed your church events. Please share and as people ask, we will update them! Thank you!

