



From Our DOM
Rev. Joe McDowell

Volume 60, Issue 1
February 2021

“Serving Thirty Local Churches”

Dear Association Members,

Many are saying 2020 will be a year to remember. I think that is very true. My grandchildren will remember 2020 like I remember 1969, when Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first humans to land on the moon, with Armstrong being the first to step on the moon. They will remember 2020 and some years to come like I remember the span of the Vietnam Conflict. All that to say though 2020 has passed, the challenges of the COVID-19 virus have not ended. The number of cases of COVID are again on the rise and our area is seeing it's highest number of COVID cases since this all began. Your church has probably faced attendance challenges, ministry challenges, income challenges and so on.

Your church has made some innovative steps to meet some of these challenges by social distancing during worship, using "drive-in" church, recorded and live messages broadcast via the internet, etc. You have had to keep up with members through phone calls, chats, mail, and texts. Church has felt different! I hope, as all of you, that 2021 will see a curtail of the virus so that we can return to "normal." I'm not sure "normal" will ever be exactly the same as it was before the pandemic.

I challenge you (your church) to continue with some of the methods you have used during the pandemic even if they do not seem to be needed. I believe drive-in church, broadcasting of services, etc. should continue if when the day comes we can return to worship in the church building as we did before. The different methods of "having church" has in some cases brought more guests to our churches than they have seen in years. The methods we have used can continue to be methods to reach out to the unchurched. We will be planning another Fresh Expressions seminar in 2021. The hope will be to broaden the scope of this seminar to assist our churches carry forward with new and innovative ways to reach out into our communities.

The Association will begin routine meetings. We will meet both in person and via Zoom. We will social distance and wear masks for as long as that is suggested by our president and our governor. For anyone who does not feel comfortable coming to meetings in person, Zoom will be available for attendance. I encourage you, if you are on a committee, please attend meetings. It is important for the Association to have input from committee members as we seek to be innovative where needed and work to complete the normal activities and ministries too.

We have the SWVA partnership mission trip scheduled May 2-7. Be on the lookout for more information. Let us know if you would like to go. The Jamaica trip is on the calendar for July 10-17; however, we are not, at this time, planning for this trip. Unfortunately, unless pandemic threats and restrictions make a major change soon, the Jamaica trip will not happen.

We are working toward summer camping weeks at Camp Concord, realizing we may need backup plans to cope with ongoing restrictions.

We are developing a new ministry to First Responders.

The Association is working with the Fellowship of Christian Firefighters International in this endeavor. If you are a First Responder please get your contact information to the Association office.

As always, I am here for you and for your church. I would be happy to assist in any way I can.

I am thankful to be in His ministry with you,
Rev. Joe McDowell, DOM

WEATHER ADVISORY

The Concord Baptist Association office will be closed in the event of snow and / or ice that makes transportation unsafe. Information on weather related closings will be announced on local radio stations. Please call ahead to make sure the office will be open.

CBA CALENDAR

(CBA = Concord Baptist Association, South Hill)
(All meetings at CBA unless otherwise noted)

February

- 01** State Line Board of Director's Meeting, 7:00 P
- 08-14** WMU Focus Week
- 18** Discipleship Committee, 7:00 PM

MARCH

- 01** State Line Board of Director's Meeting, 7:00 P
- 07-14** Week of Prayer for North American Missions, and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 09** Pastor's Conference, 12:00 PM (Noon), CBA

CBA MEETINGS

DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 18, 2021, 7:00 PM

MISSIONS/EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 6:30 PM

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEES

Thursday, April 15, 2021, 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, April 22, 2021 7:00 PM, CBA



February Scripture Writing Plan

Each of the scriptures below takes ten minutes or less to copy out. Commit to spending ten minutes each day listening to God's voice as you simply copy these texts out of your Bible.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Day 1- Mark 12:28-31 | Day 15- Deuteronomy 11:13-15 |
| Day 2- Luke 6:27-36 | Day 16- Deuteronomy 11:18-23 |
| Day 3- Romans 12: 9-16 | Day 17- Matthew 22:37-40 |
| Day 4- Romans 13: 8-10 | Day 18- Matthew 5: 43-45 |
| Day 5- 1 Corinthians 13: 1-7 | Day 19- John 13: 34-35 |
| Day 6- 1 Corinthians 13: 8-13 | Day 20- John 14: 15-21 |
| Day 7- Ephesians 4:1-6 | Day 21- Romans 5: 1-8 |
| Day 8- 1 Peter 4: 7-11 | Day 22- Romans 8: 28-30 |
| Day 9- 1 John 4: 7-12 | Day 23- Micah 6: 8 |
| Day 10- 1 John 4: 13-16 | Day 24- 1 John 2: 15-17 |
| Day 11- 1 John 4: 17-21 | Day 25- 1 John 3: 1-3 |
| Day 12- John 15: 9-13 | Day 26- Hebrews 10: 24-25 |
| Day 13- John 3: 16-21 | Day 27- Deuteronomy 6: 4-9 |
| Day 14- Deuteronomy 10: 12-19 | Day 28- Luke 10: 25-28 |
| | Day 29- Choose your own |



Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law
Psalm 119:18

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CBA CONTRIBUTIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH December 2020

CHURCHES	CBA CONTR.	ASSOC. MISS.	STATE LINE
ANTIOCH	1500.00	0.00	1,250.00
AVERETT	4,808.00	720.00	600.00
BETHANY	4,500.00	249.00	300.00
BETHEL	1,700.00	0.00	200.00
BETHESDA	2,600.00	0.00	0.00
BLACK BRANCH	764.00	0.00	0.00
BOYDTON	0.00	0.00	0.00
CLARKSVILLE	1,738.00	580.00	2,467.00
CONCORD	4,239.00	50.00	500.00
EBENEZER	1,500.00	185.00	0.00
EPHESUS	1,125.00	200.00	100.00
FIRST, CHASE CITY	2,000.00	205.00	0.00
FIRST, SOUTH HILL	1,200.00	0.00	1,896.00
GRAVEL HILL	800.00	532.00	900.00
JAMES SQUARE	6,101.00	414.00	600.00
JEFFRESS	835.00	0.00	0.00
LA CROSSE	2,486.00	275.00	100.00
LAWRENCEVILLE	3,455.00	0.00	0.00
LIBERTY	2,368.00	0.00	0.00
MOUNT HOREB	2,500.00	250.00	750.00
MOUNT VERNON	3,007.00	50.00	100.00
NEW HOPE	5,349.00	0.00	300.00
OLIVE BRANCH	7,813.00	375.00	7,813.00
REEDY CREEK	0.00	0.00	0.00
SANFORD MEM.	5,907.00	105.00	1,689.00
TABERNACLE	2,721.00	380.00	0.00
UNION CHAPEL	4,825.00	0.00	3,860.00
UNION LEVEL	300.00	0.00	0.00
WARFIELD	200.00	0.00	0.00
WYLLIESBURG	800.00	210.00	100.00



Total CBA Budget for Year: \$104,179.00



Birthdays

- Mrs. Sarah Guynn – February 1
- Dr. Thomas Cribb – February 5
- Mrs. Rebecca Newton – February 16

Wedding Anniversaries

- Rev. & Mrs. Rodney Spears – February 4

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

Averett

Averett continues to worship together on Sunday mornings at 10:00 through drive in, Facebook live and also in the fellowship hall. You can sit in your vehicle and listen to Pastor Jimmy's message on 88.7 FM. We are practicing social distancing, wearing of face masks, temperature checks and sanitation of our church so those who wish to come inside the fellowship hall will feel safe. Our Wednesday night Bible study is held in the fellowship hall at 7:00. Pastor Jimmy's Bible study, January 13th, was from Acts 19:1-10. This service is also available on Facebook live.

Adults on Mission will meet Monday, February 1st, at 3:00 PM in the fellowship hall.

Bethel

Happy New Year everyone. Hope you all had a great Christmas even though it was a little different. Dec. 20 the Fellowship Comm. did a Christmas lunch drive-thru style.

We held the Deacon ordination for our new deacon, Donald Abernathy. It was held outside with all the deacons standing around the sidewalk six feet apart. We congratulate Donald and wish him well.

There isn't too much going on right now except everyone is trying to stay well. Please everyone be in prayer for our country and hope that 2021 will be better for us. With God, nothing is impossible.

Ephesus

Although the weeks of Advent brought changes to our Sunday morning worship services, we at Ephesus, celebrated the coming of our Lord and Savior in meaningful ways. We had the lighting of the Advent candle and a different and unique Nativity service. Now, as of the first of the year, Ephesus has felt the need to cancel church services for two weeks, as a precautionary measure. Incidents of Covid were found in the area of Smith Cross Road, necessitating this measure. Hopefully, we will be

able to resume our Sunday morning worship on January 17th. We are still collecting for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and at this point we are slightly short of our goal of \$2020. We continue to support the Bread Box with grocery items as well as monetary donations, and pray that in the New Year the gospel will spread rapidly and be honored.

First, South Hill

We continue to meet in person each Sunday morning, but without Sunday School. Our Interim Pastor, Dan Peters, is doing a wonderful job of filling in. We have an FM transmitter and all are welcome to attend in person or virtually in either of our parking lots at 11:00 A.M. Our Pastor Search Committee has been hard at work and have narrowed down prospective candidates to one. He will preach his trial sermon on Sunday, January 31st. Members may meet him on Saturday, January 30th and there will be a question and answer session. This is an exciting time in the life of our church!

Sanford Memorial

We are currently having both Sunday School and the church service with Sunday School meeting at 9:45 for children, youth and adults. The service meets at 11 and, currently, I am preaching through the book of Daniel so if anyone in the Brodnax/South Hill area would like to hear some prophecy, now is the time to visit Sanford Memorial Baptist Church.

Wylliesburg

We do Q & A every Sunday at 10 am and worship at 11. We offer inside and outside services, via the radio receiver. Also we have Bible study on Wednesdays at 7 pm.



**CBA 2020-2021
Annuals are now
available at the
Association office**



*Many Thanks to the volunteer
who helped with the December/January Grapevine:
JoAnn Bowers*



Camp Concord News

It's hard to believe, but summer will be here before you know it and we are already getting ready for camp!! Dates are being planned so if you know of any children who are camp age, please encourage them to come. We have opportunities for Preschool through 12th grade.

We are very blessed to have the opportunity to work with children and youth in teaching them and encouraging them to follow Christ. Camp Concord is OUR mission field and I personally want to thank EVERYONE in the association for all of your support in the past. As we look forward to a new camping season, please begin to pray for our board, camp directors, summer missionaries, volunteers, and children that God will do a mighty work at the camp this summer. As in the past your support is needed--supplies, donations, volunteers---but most of all your prayers!

If your church is interested in learning more about this wonderful ministry, please contact the association office or Wanda Williamson at 434-917-0960. We appreciate all the help that has made this camp a success, and what God wants it to be!

****Please understand that due to COVID, at this time we are unsure if we will be able to have Camp this summer. We are working hard as if we are going to have Camp, but we know that depending on restrictions we may not be able to. Please know that we will keep everyone updated as much as possible****



FELLOWSHIP OF
CHRISTIAN
FIRE FIGHTERS

Attention: First responders

We would like to know who you are! Please contact the Association office by email rnewton@concordbaptistassoc.org, by phone 447-7240, or simply mail this form back to the Association at 121 S. Mecklenburg Avenue, South Hill, VA 23970.

NAME: _____

DEPT SERVING: _____

CHURCH: _____



GRAPEVINE

A Newsletter of

Concord Baptist Association

121 S Mecklenburg Avenue, South Hill, VA 23970

Phone: (434) 447-7240

Webpage: www.concordbaptistassoc.org

Rev. Joe McDowell, Director of Missions

Dr. Stephen DeOrnellas, Moderator

Mr. Steve Whitten, Vice Moderator

Mrs. Rebecca Newton, Office Manager

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

**Deadline for March Issue
Will be Monday, February 15**