



From Our DOM
Rev. Joe McDowell



Volume 59, Issue 9
November 2020
“Serving Thirty Local Churches”

Dear Concord Baptist Association Members,
Has the term, “flexible” taken on a fresh meaning to you in the past few months? Have you ever had to be as flexible as you have had to be since the COVID-19 pandemic began? What about your church? I’m sure you have seen your church become flexible with its schedule, its order of worship, its fellowships and so on. Many of our churches found “drive-in” church to be a valuable option to continue worship. Some of our churches are still using “drive-in” church. Some of these churches report an increase in attendance while using the “drive-in” church option. Some of our churches have used live streaming through Facebook and some have used recorded messages. Many churches have used a combination of ways to continue worship and discipleship.

There have been challenges to moving Sunday morning worship back into the church building -- again, flexibility has been needed to complete the work of the church -- discipling members and reaching others with the gospel. I would encourage you, during your next church business meeting, to discuss the various ways you were flexible (and still are) so that the message of Christ could go out from your church. Discuss which of these flexible methods should continue alongside your church’s return to “normal.” The degree of normal will be interesting to observe. Will you actually be able to return to what the church used to do or will there be a new “normal”?

The Association has had to find ways to be flexible, too. We have had many meetings by way of Zoom and have conducted meetings, including the Fall Meeting, by mail.

Pray for the Association! We are trying to make plans for 2021, but as everyone is, we are unsure of what we will be able to accomplish. We have mission trips to SWVA and Jamaica on the calendar for next year, but there is uncertainty about actually being able to go through with them. Also, there is Camp Concord. Pray we will be able to run the camp next summer! I will be praying for your church. I am here to help any way I can. Do not hesitate to use me as a resource.

I am so very glad to be in His Service with you, Joe



**Bland County
Shoe Boxes
Drop Off on
Monday,
November 30 at
Boydton Fire
Department from**

8 AM – 4 PM.

****We are asking each church to donate \$75 to help purchase the oranges, apples and potatoes to be taken to Bland County****

CBA CALENDAR



02 State Line Board of Director’s Meeting, 7:00 PM
17 Pastor’s Conference, 12:00 PM (Noon)



23-25 CBA Office Closed Christmas Day and for Holiday



Happy Veterans Day
To all those who have
Served our country!

Wednesday, November 11

VETERANS DAY

Fall Meeting Update

This year we were not able to hold the fall meeting in person as usual due to COVID, so we did this by mail. We realize that not everyone received the information so we wanted to do an update on what was sent all, for all to see.

- Fresh Expressions seminar was hold in September at Olive Branch Baptist Church with 22 present, representing 5 churches. We plan to have another seminar in 2021.
- COVID Assistance: The Association was able to secure the PPE and The Emergency Relief Loan. Both have been forgiven.
- Voting Matter: There were 2 suggested changes to the constitution; 1) To combine the Administration committee and the Finance Committee into one committee 2) To have the Youth Committee absorbed into the Discipleship Committee. The second thing to be voted on was the nominees for the coming year. The third thing to be voted on was the Calendar for 2021 (knowing that due to COVID, some things/dates may have to be changed). Lastly, the budgets for 2021 for CBA & State Line needed to be approved; both kept the same budget as 2020.
- Ordination: The ordination committee had the honor to endorse Craig Duck, Boydton Baptist, and the ordination service is to be held on October 25.
- New Pastors since the Fall Meeting in 2019; Averett Baptist called Rev. Jimmy Garland La Crosse Baptist called Rev. Korey Henry Sanford Memorial called Rev. Stephen Kendrick
- Missions: Rise Against Hunger was a success this year! Mission trip to SWVA and Jamaica had to be canceled this year but they are planned for 2021. The SWVA mission trip is planned for May 2-7 and the Jamaica mission trip is planned for July 10-17. Pray that we will be able to complete these trips.



“Operation Christmas Child” shoe boxes collection dates will be November 16-23 at La Crosse Baptist Church

CBA CONTRIBUTIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH September 2020

CHURCHES	CBA CONTR.	ASSOC. MISS.	STATE LINE
ANTIOCH	1500.00	0.00	1,250.00
AVERETT	3,606.00	0.00	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	527.00	0.00	0.00
BOYDTON	0.00	0.00	0.00
CLARKSVILLE	1,315.00	145.00	1,835.00
CONCORD	3,153.00	50.00	500.00
EBENEZER	0.00	0.00	0.00
EPHESUS	750.00	200.00	100.00
FIRST, CHASE CITY	1,333.00	0.00	0.00
FIRST, SOUTH HILL	800.00	0.00	1,264.00
GRAVEL HILL	800.00	0.00	900.00
JAMES SQUARE	4,671.00	414.00	600.00
JEFFRESS	675.00	0.00	0.00
LA CROSSE	1,886.00	275.00	0.00
LAWRENCEVILLE	2,233.00	0.00	0.00
LIBERTY	1,579.00	0.00	0.00
MOUNT HOREB	2,500.00	250.00	750.00
MOUNT VERNON	2,104.00	0.00	100.00
NEW HOPE	3,901.00	0.00	300.00
OLIVE BRANCH	5,513.00	375.00	5,513.00
REEDY CREEK	0.00	0.00	0.00
SANFORD MEM.	4,494.00	105.00	1,284.00
TABERNACLE	2,135.00	380.00	0.00
UNION CHAPEL	3,671.00	0.00	2,937.00
UNION LEVEL	0.00	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



Rev. Joe McDowell – November 16
 Rev. Lee Foster – November 18
 Mrs. Megan Foster – November 18

Minister Anniversaries

Rev. Steve Battaglia – November 1
 Rev. Stephen Kendrick – November 10

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

It has been a beautiful fall season in Red Oak! We are continuing 11am worship on Sundays as we have for the last couple of months by offering two options for our folks - joining us in the sanctuary (with masks, distancing, and other safety measures in place) or tuning in from the parking lot as we utilize an AM transmitter. On October 11, we celebrated 186 years of God's goodness with a wonderful Homecoming worship led by former beloved pastor, Rev. Rodney Barwick. He offered us a powerful and challenging word as we move ahead into the future.

ACC (Antioch's Caring Christians) found a creative way to continue ministering in Jesus' name during these days. On October 21, they held a drive-through donation to collect items for the Ronald McDonald House at Duke. They plan to hold a similar event on November 11 to benefit the Selah Center in Clarksville. If you would like to drop off items, you are welcome to do so between 12-1pm at the picnic shelter behind the church.

Our congregation and community were invited to an outdoor Fall Festival on October 25. Games and activities included a costume contest and distanced pumpkin painting. We were all thankful for the opportunity to have some safe fellowship!

It is easy to become discouraged in this long and ever-changing year. Life's trials do not stop with a pandemic. But we press on, believing that God is present and walking with us. We at Antioch will continue striving to focus on loving Jesus and loving our neighbors. Indeed meaningful opportunities lie ahead in the season of Thanksgiving and Advent as we celebrate Emmanuel - God with us.

Averett

The youth and young adults continue to stay busy at Averett. We cooked our annual stew on Saturday, October 10th as a fundraiser for our youth. We weathered the rain and had a great day of fellowship. We continue to collect items for the Bland County shoebox ministry. We are currently working on making homemade Christmas tree ornaments to place in each box that Averett sends to Bland County. We have held two dates already to work on these and have made and packaged 100 ornaments so far. We will schedule another date to work on making some more. Pastor Appreciation Sunday was observed on Sunday, October 11th. The Recognition committee

honored our pastor, Rev. Jimmy Garland with a gift certificate for some horseback riding lessons as this is something that he enjoys and we honored his wife, Vanessa by sending a \$50 donation to the Emma Quire Mission Center, where she used to be director before coming to Averett. The youth are going shopping for the Bland County shoe boxes on Oct. 25th The youth are sponsoring a Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 31st to be held at Averett beginning at 5:30pm.

Bethel

Starting the first Sunday in November Pastor Rodney will be holding only one service for everyone. The worship hour will start at 10:30 a.m. for the ones inside the church and the ones that still want to be in their cars. The outside group will be able to hear him on the radio.

Sunday, Oct. 11 we selected our deacons for the coming year. Ballots were given to each one as they drove up outside and the ones inside were given their ballots as well. Our deacons for the next three years are Charles Layne, Phillip Pritchett and Donald Abernathy. Donald will have to be ordained in the coming weeks.

We also observed the Lord's Supper on Oct. 11. Those inside and outside participated with already sterile juice and cracker in sealed containers.

We welcome one of our members, Carolyn Carter, home after spending about two months in the hospital. Carolyn is doing much better and glad to be home. Prayers have gone out to Carolyn all this time and we know prayers work.

October is Pastor Appreciation month so please thank your pastor for what he does for the church as well as the community and the members. We praise God for sending us Rodney and his wife Angela to us and we thank them for all they have done and continue to do.

We continue to pray for all those who are sick and shut in and we give God all the glory. We continue to pray for our country and our president. These are disturbing times we are going through, but by the grace of God He will get us through this. We just have to keep praying.

Ephesus

Ephesus received a thank you from the Bread Box for our donation of 28 food items in August plus a cash donation of \$134.00., plus 28 items and \$360.00 for the month of September. Our present plan to have worship service in the Family Life Center was realized on October 11th at 10 AM. Masks were worn and social distancing was observed by having seating placed eight feet apart, more than six feet mandated. We are so grateful to God

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for our Family Life Center that gives us the space we need for our safety. We are discussing plans to have Sunday School resume following the morning worship service for those interested in remaining for that. Little by little, we will be expanding ways to return to normalcy.

First, Chase City

We recognized our Pastor, Tom Cribb, in September in honor of his six year anniversary here at First Baptist and in October for Pastor Appreciation Month. Beginning in November we will start our Sunday Worship service at 11:00am instead of 10:00am. Thanks to the efforts of Joyce Conner we are once again participating in Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child". Our "Kids On A Mission" group is looking forward to once again filling the boxes for "Operation Christmas Child". We are also collecting for the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots". First Baptist is also collecting and donating candy to the town for it's Halloween Event for the children of our community. We are still streaming Wednesday Bible Study on Facebook.

James Square

Thanksgiving is a special time for families to give thanks and celebrate the many blessings God gives us every day. The James Square church family will gather together on Sunday, November 1 at 10:00 AM inside for bible study and Sunday School. At 11:00 AM we will meet in the sanctuary again for our worship service. All social distancing and guidelines will be done to keep everyone safe. As we count our many blessings, we give God all the honor and praise for the things he has done! "Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always." 1 Chronicles 16:11 Drive in services are also still available on FM 88.9. Our prayers are for every church and church family in our association.

La Crosse

As we come into the third month of our new Church year we still are social distancing and wearing face masks. Prayer Services and Business Meetings are now being held at church and by teleconferencing for the convenience of all church members. We look forward to meeting for Sunday School and having other meetings in the near future. In October we collected for World Hunger Sunday a total of \$100.00 on the 11th. On October 18 our pastor, Reverend Korey Henry, was the guest speaker at his former church in Rolesville, North Carolina. We were fortunate to have Hunter Coy, one of our church members,

to fill in for Pastor Henry. Hunter did an excellent job of preaching an overview of the gospel of Matthew. Since October is Pastor Appreciation Month we will present our pastor a love gift on Sunday, October 25 for his love and dedication to our Lord and our Church family. Due to the coronavirus our Community Thanksgiving Service and supper with the La Crosse Methodist Church has been cancelled. We will, however, participate in "Operation Christmas Child" in November. The children and adult volunteers will meet on November 7 at church to pack boxes. Other options include individuals packing boxes and bringing them to church, or giving money to purchase items for boxes or giving money to cover postage for boxes. "Shoebox Dedication Sunday" will be November 15. Four messengers to represent our church at the Associational Fall Meeting were elected at the monthly Business Meeting. These included Ruth Lynch, Betty Puryear, Gale Spain, and Betty Thomason. We pray for a Blessed Thanksgiving for all!

Lawrenceville

Lawrenceville Baptist Church is ready to be thankful for all blessings. Our church members have been safe during the Pandemic and we have practiced social distancing and taken precautions when meeting inside the church. We continue to feel blessed with many guest speakers as we search for our new forever pastor. We will have a Thanksgiving celebration luncheon on November 22 after our service and then begin to decorate for Christmas. Our church clean-up day was a great success in October and the hard workers enjoyed a hotdog lunch afterwards. Our church is looking great and uncluttered as many hands made swift work of the clean-up job. We are thankful at this time of year for many blessings during a year of chaos and anxiety. God has brought us this far and will continue to bless us throughout the holidays. Happy Thanksgiving to all!!

Olive Branch

It has been a while since we've updated the Association on what the Lord is doing at Olive Branch. We began meeting in-person again for worship on June 9th. We also record our morning worship services and have them available on our church website, obbcblackridge.com, our YouTube channel, RightNow Media, and on Facebook later in the week. We started in-person adult Sunday classes in August, and then added our children and youth classes in September. Our Wednesday night youth ministry, Young Church (YC) started meeting in person in August and continues to meet each Wednesday night

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from 7:00-8:30 pm. Our Wednesday night children's ministry began meeting in September and continues to meet each Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 pm. We have yet to add our nursery and toddler care ministries. On August 16th we held a creation seminar led by Steve Levinson. We had the honor of hosting the Associations' Fresh Expression's Seminar on September 24th. We had a Baptism Service on October 18th where three people were baptized. Since September we have welcomed ten new members. Our youth will attend a Fall Retreat at Camp Willow Run October 23-25 and we will have a community wide Trunk or Treat for children in 1 – 5th grades on Wednesday October 28th from 6:30-8:30 pm. In November we will have a child dedication service on November 8th. Also, we will have a pandemic adjusted Thanksgiving Luncheon on Wednesday, November 25th for our area's adult homes. Instead of the residents coming to Olive Branch, we will make food and deliver to the adult homes.

Sanford Memorial

Sanford Memorial Baptist Church has been meeting every Sunday since June 7th with one service at 11 in the sanctuary. Sunday School has been meeting as well at 9:45. I have just finished preaching through some of the passages in the NT on the topic of sanctification and plan on starting in the book of Daniel on October 25th. We are also starting up Wednesday night Bible study again beginning October 21st. We will be looking at the cults, which are defined as those that teach heresy. The first cult looked at will be the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Tabernacle

Sunday morning services have been moved back to 11 AM inside with social distancing as well as drive in for those that do not feel comfortable coming inside yet. Mask are asked to be worn inside. We continue to have very good attendance.

Our services are live through FM transmitter on 92.1 FM. We are putting our service on Facebook as well as Bible Study that is being held at church inside the sanctuary each Wednesday at 7 PM with Lee starting a study on the book of Revelation. Sunday Services and Wednesday night are on Tabernacle Baptist Church, South Hill, VA Facebook Website.

Sunday school classes have started back with social distancing. The Golden Circle Adult class is meeting at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall and the Agape Adult class is meeting at 10:15 AM in the sanctuary unless otherwise announced.

Your contributions can be mailed to H.P. Thomas, 1212 Chalk Level Road, South Hill VA or be placed in the offering plates in church.

Our Deacons have met and business meetings have been held outside our church around and under the picnic shelter. New deacons, Karen Harris, Cynthia Higgins and Ed Parham, were elected.

Our WOM has been meeting in September and October with programs on State Missions and a guest speaker from the Selah speaking. Our WOM continues with our mission projects each month for our community.

Harvest Offering is now being collected for repairs and maintenance that have been done to the parking lot.

Wylliesburg

Our playground spaghetti supper on Fri., 10-9, was a great success. The equipment has been delivered and the men of the church will be erecting it in the next couple of weeks.

"Youth Sunday " will be observed on Nov 22, with the annual Thanksgiving meal to follow. The WMU is collecting supplies for its "Missions for Military" project this month. Our annual Homecoming meal was held on Oct 18, kicking off the week's revival, October 18-21. The church chose this occasion to recognize Rev Billy Jack Tatum in observance of Pastor Appreciation Month, presenting him with a gift from the church.

We're
ThankFUL
for
YOU!

*Many Thanks to the volunteer
who helped with the October Grapevine:
JoAnn Bowers*



*May each of you have a
very blessed
Thanksgiving! From
the staff of the
Association:
Joe & Rebecca*

CHURCH SERVICES

Averett- We are doing drive-in church Sunday mornings and Facebook live. Wednesday night Bible study is inside in the fellowship hall and on Facebook live.

Bethany- Is still meeting outside with Drive In Church, at 10 a.m., and also using Facebook.

Bethel- Starting the first Sunday in November Pastor Rodney will be holding only one service for everyone. The worship hour will start at 10:30 a.m. for the ones inside the church and the ones that still want to be in their cars. The outside group will be able to hear him on the radio. We have not started back doing Sunday School yet. We have Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am and one at 7:00 pm that night.

Bethesda- Is meeting in person. Social distancing and mask. They clean and disinfect after each service.

Concord- Is having Sunday School at 10:30 and Worship at 11:00. Both are abbreviated.

Ephesus- Starting on October 11th at 10 AM we are having services in our Family Life Center. Masks were worn and social distancing was observed by having seating placed eight feet apart, more than six feet mandated.

First Baptist, Chase City- Is meeting in the sanctuary starting at 11 AM. They are broadcasting to the parking lot and street around them, the services live through their FM transmitter on 89.9 FM. They are also broadcasting the service on Facebook Livestream and a Bible Study each Wednesday on Facebook Livestream.

Gravel Hill- Is meeting outside with masks heavily suggested. They bring lawn chairs and have a 10:00am service in the shade. They also offer connection to their service through teleconference phone calls.

James Square- On Sunday, November 1 at 10:00 AM we will be inside for bible study and Sunday School. At 11:00 AM we will meet in the sanctuary again for our worship service. All social distancing and guidelines will be done to keep everyone safe

La Crosse- Is gathering together from 11AM to noon with limited contact and social distancing. Masks are encouraged but not required.

Lawrenceville- Our church services are held on Sunday morning at 11 a.m.

Liberty- We are meeting outside, For September we're meeting at 10:00am and in October we'll meet at 11:00am. No Sunday School or any other activities for now.

Mt. Horeb- Is meeting in the sanctuary and the service begins at 10:00 AM to around 10:30 AM Their Sunday Morning Worship Service and their Wednesday Night Bible Study are online at www.mthorebbaptist.com.

New Hope- Is meeting at 10 am each Sunday morning. Services are being live streamed on Facebook. The children are meeting in Campbell Hall spaced out.

Reedy Creek- In-person Sunday School and Worship Services, 10am and 11am respectively, each Sunday

Sanford Memorial- Is having Sunday School starting at 9:45 AM and we are meeting in the sanctuary with the service beginning at 11 AM.

Warfield- Is meeting in the sanctuary, the service starts at 11:00 a.m. They also record the sermon and post it on their YouTube Channel for those who cannot, or choose not to, attend.



**Remember...
Sunday Morning,
November 1**

GRAPEVINE

A Newsletter of

Concord Baptist Association

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Published Every Month EXCEPT January and July.

Suggestions and news contributions welcomed

Deadline for December/January Issue

Will be Monday, November 16