



**From Our DOM**  
**Rev. Joe McDowell**

**Volume 59, Issue 8**  
**October 2020**  
**“Serving Thirty Local Churches”**

Dear Association Members,

I pray all is well with you, your family and your church in this COVID-19 crisis. This crisis has had impact on every one of our Churches, as well as on the Association. I believe our churches have responded in innovative and responsible ways. The Association has tried to respond appropriately, too. We have worked to continue ministry while holding in-person meetings to a minimum. We have had many online meetings, communicated with various committees via email and snail mail. Our first major in-person event is the Fresh Expressions Seminar. At the time of this writing, that seminar is still a couple of weeks away. I hope the November edition of “The Grapevine” will have a great report on this seminar.

The Fall Meeting will not be held in the normal way. Through discussions with our Moderator, Stephen DeOrnellas; our Vice-Moderator, Steve Whitten; Rebecca; and, myself it was determined we will conduct the Fall Meeting by way of mail. This format worked well for our last Executive Committee meeting. Our pastors and messengers will receive a detailed report on the Association that will include reports on the past months of the Association work, planning for future Association work, financial status, the budget for 2021 and our ministry plans for 2021.

The Administration and Finance Committee will meet to plan the budget for 2021. The Constitution/Resolution Committee has meet via Zoom and email and has prepared a constitutional amendment that will be submitted for approval through the Fall Meeting mailer. This amendment, if passed, will join the Administration and Finance Committees into one committee. If passed, it will also make the Youth Committee part of the Discipleship Committee. These steps will streamline the Association a little more and will be an effective way to move forward to conduct ministry and business.

The Ordination Committee met earlier in the year, prior to COVID-19 restrictions and continued meeting through email and will be meeting at the Association office to interview a candidate for ordination. With this small group social distancing can be accomplished in the Association office.

Our 2020 mission trips had to be cancelled due to the virus; however, we will be able to hold the “Rise Against Hunger” event. At the time of this writing, we have exceeded our

monetary collection goal! Our churches came together in a wonderful way to make this effort successful.

We are planning to return to SWVA and Jamaica in 2021. We already have collected many items for the Jamaica trip. Between what we had collected for the 2020 trip before it was cancelled and continuing donations, much of what we need to take is already packed in suitcases, ready to go--stored in the attic of the Association office.

A small group of pastors and I have been meeting every other week via Zoom for fellowship, ministry growth and prayer. This group will continue and we will be trying to begin several more groups and to perhaps add several pastors to the current group. This gathering of pastors has been a welcomed time of connecting and I hope many other pastors will join in. The support of each other through this gathering has been very encouraging in these COVID-19 times.

Remember, I am here to assist you and your church in any way that I can. Pray we will be in a new normal soon--one that includes many of the ways we have expressed “church” in the past, the ways we have learned to express “church” during the COVID-19 crisis, and that additional new ways to express “church” will rise and thrive. The Church (God’s people) does not change, but the expression of the Church’s gatherings has changed many times in the past and would seem to be changing now. God has a PLAN!

*“Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.”* Isaiah 42:9 (ESV)

*“Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.”* Jeremiah 33:3 (ESV)

I am thankful to be in His service with you,  
Joe

**ATTENTION: ACP REPORTS ARE DUE!!!**  
ACP Reports need to be turned in to the Association office  
on or before **Friday, October 2, 2020.**  
**Thanks!**

**CBA CALENDAR**



- 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



- 02 State Line Board of Director's Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 12 Youth Committee, 7:00 PM, CBA
- 17 Pastor's Conference, 12:00 PM (Noon), CBA, Lunch Provided
- 19 Discipleship Committee, 7:00 PM, CBA

*Isaiah 41:10*

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*



The fall meeting will be different this year due to COVID restrictions and concerns. Rather than meeting in person, we will conduct the fall meeting through mail. Each pastor and the church messengers will receive a report and descriptions of several items to be voted on; a ballot will be in the mailer for you to return.

**CBA CONTRIBUTIONS**

**CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH August 2020**

| CHURCHES          | CBA CONTR. | ASSOC. MISS. | STATE LINE |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| ANTIOCH           | 0.00       | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| AVERETT           | 2,805.00   | 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      | 527.00     | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| BOYDTON           | 0.00       | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| CLARKSVILLE       | 993.00     | 50.00        | 1,513.00   |
| CONCORD           | 3,153.00   | 0.00         | 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 | 700.00     | 0.00         | 1,106.00   |
| GRAVEL HILL       | 800.00     | 0.00         | 900.00     |
| JAMES SQUARE      | 3,125.00   | 30.00        | 600.00     |
| JEFFRESS          | 521.00     | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| LA CROSSE         | 1,628.00   | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| LAWRENCEVILLE     | 1,996.00   | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| LIBERTY           | 1,381.00   | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| MOUNT HOREB       | 2,500.00   | 0.00         | 750.00     |
| MOUNT VERNON      | 1,814.00   | 0.00         | 100.00     |
| NEW HOPE          | 2,672.00   | 0.00         | 300.00     |
| OLIVE BRANCH      | 4,201.00   | 0.00         | 3,652.00   |
| REEDY CREEK       | 0.00       | 0.00         | 0.00       |
| SANFORD MEM.      | 3,522.00   | 0.00         | 1,006.00   |
| TABERNACLE        | 1,459.00   | 0.00         | 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**



**Birthdays**

- Mrs. Betty DeOrnellas – October 14
- Dr. Greg Randall – October 19
- Rev. Joshua Brown – October 22

**Anniversaries**

- Dr. & Mrs. Chad Patton – October 26

**Minister Anniversaries**

- Rev. Earl Stanley – October 1
- Rev. Michael Reynolds – October 1
- Rev. C.W. Bing – October 7

## Church News

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

**Church news is due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month**

### **Averett**

Happy Fall Y'all! We continue to worship on Sunday mornings through drive-in or on facebook live at 9:00. Our Wednesday night Bible study is held in the fellowship hall at 7:00 and on facebook live. Pastor Jimmy continues to teach from the book of Acts. Food items being collected for the food pantry this month are macaroni and cheese. The item being collected for September for OCC is games. Boxes are provided each Sunday for those who have items for these two great missions. Adults on Mission will meet Monday, October 5, at 3:00 in the fellowship hall. We have had several mission projects going on in the past month - Mission Dignity, Concord Baptist Association Week of Prayer and Alma Hunt.

The Recognition committee recognized our grandparents on Grandparents Day, Sunday, September 13th. Special music was performed as part of a Song service that day, with the last song being done by two of our youth/young adults-Christopher Hayes & Kelsey Pennington, singing "Amazing Grace." We choose to give a \$100 donation to the Mission Dignity offering that is being taken up and also purchased \$100 worth of school supplies for one of our elementary school teachers, Mrs. Joanna Pittard, given in honor of all of our grandparents. Christopher Hayes also gave a short message due to the absence of our pastor who was out of town for a funeral. The youth are still collecting items for the Bland County Shoe Box ministry and will also be cooking their annual stew on Saturday, October 10th, which will be sold for \$7.00 a quart.

### **Ephesus**

We are still having our Sunday morning drive-in worship services here at Ephesus, but we will begin meeting at 10:00 AM beginning September 20<sup>th</sup>. September is our month to collect canned beans (and frank and beans) for the Bread Box, as well as boxes of spaghetti and/or cereal in October. We will take the items from your car on Sunday mornings and deliver them for you. We had a very nice poolside WMU meeting at Judy Cleaton's at the end of August with great refreshments including homemade ice cream and

cupcakes, thanks to our hostess. We will be ordering pecans again this year and there are still some from last year that have been kept frozen. They are available to all who are interested. Our Senior Adult Ministry will have an outdoor picnic meeting at the church on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM with a Subway box lunch. It will be nice to fellowship once again, since we had to suspend our meetings since March. On September 19<sup>th</sup>, we will host the Rise Against Hunger food program and we will welcome all volunteers to help with that ministry. We continue to pray for those in our fellowship dealing with health issues, as well as for others of which we are aware. Even during this time of social distancing, we pray that the gospel will spread rapidly and be honored.

### **First, South Hill**

Our new Pastor Search Committee is working diligently to select a new pastor after reviewing thoughts from the congregation. Steve Creedle is the chairman of the committee. We have had a number of guest speakers each Sunday morning as we are meeting in person with social distancing, masks, and other precautions taken. Sunday School has not restarted yet. First Christain School is holding in person classes with precautions being taken to inhibit exposure to COVID-19.

Our Deacon Board has new members who began serving in September. They are: Emmett Williams, Richard Walker, Melissa Hudgins, and Bobbie Brooks. Our new Chairman is Richard Walker, Charles Butts is Vice Chairman, Angie Kellett is Secretary, and Virginia Hall is Treasurer.

### **James Square**

James Square is continuing with drive-in services on FM 88.9 and live-streaming on Facebook each Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. We have not yet resumed Sunday School, but considering a virtual class. We pray for God's guidance and blessing in how to move forward safely. Communion was observed the first Sunday of the month. Members are participating in the Concord Association Week of Prayer Offering and contributed to "Rise Against Hunger" that Ephesus is having at their church on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Kits were packed and distributed for everyone to be able to participate in a Vacation Bible School at home this year. Special thanks to Susan Temple, Lisa P. Wright and Katie Cieslinski for making a Vacation Bible School possible this year!

**CHURCH NEWS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

## CHURCH NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

### Tabernacle

Sunday morning services are now being held at 10 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. Services may move back to 11 AM as the weather cools down. 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 sanctuary each Wednesday at 7 PM with Lee continuing the study in Jeremiah. 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 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall and the Agape Adult class is meeting at 9:15 AM under the picnic shelter weather permitting and in the sanctuary otherwise.

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 in August and September and a business meeting was held outside our church around and under the picnic shelter. Our WOM has a meeting scheduled for September 22 at 7 PM in the sanctuary. A program on State Missions will be presented by Carolyn Carter. It will be great for our WOM to meet again and yet still social distance. Our mission project for September will be a donation to Rise Against Hunger for the Association. Deacon nominations are now open through the October business meeting.

### Union Chapel

Union Chapel will not be having homecoming this year in October as we have had for many years. We may celebrate at another time during the year, depending on the COVID-19. The COVID-19 has changed the way we worship with only a service at 11 o'clock on Sunday mornings. Bible Study and Prayer meeting is still being held each Wednesday at 7 P.M. Union Chapel has a new member to join our fellowship, coming by transfer of letter.

### Wylliesburg

Revival will be October 18-21 at 7 pm, Homecoming meal following worship service on Sunday 10-18. There will be a Pumpkin party for the youth on October 30. Trunk 'r' treat will be on October 31, 6-8 pm. There will be a spaghetti fundraiser meal for the playground on October 9, 5-7:30 pm, eat in or take out.

We have a Q&A every Sunday at 10 am, worship at 11, drive in or walk in preaching service every Wednesday at 7 pm.

### Lawrenceville

Lawrenceville Baptist Church is ready to move into the cooler months of autumn and enjoy the beautiful foliage and other wonders of God's blessings. We have been meeting in our sanctuary since mid summer and continue to be inside with lots of social distancing and mask wearing to keep us all safe. It is truly a blessing to return to the Lord's house. We continue our search for a minister but also have been blessed with some wonderful sermons from our supply ministry. While we are not having Sunday School yet, we are hoping for a return to our classes in the near future. We continue to pray for God to heal our land during the tumultuous time and are confident that He is with us at all times.



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

## WMU NEWS

As we consider the directions to always keep busy working for the Lord, we know that this speaks loudly in our present situation. We may be stuck in our homes but we can still serve our Lord daily in a mighty way! We can enrich our homes for our families, daily showing a Godly attitude, an encouraging attitude and creating powerful and lasting memories. We can pray openly for our country, our flag and the present political situation. If we have even sparing contact with children, our own or others, we need to remain aware of being observed by those children. They will remember what they see and hear. What a wonderful opportunity to sew seeds of "What would Jesus Do?" We need to show kindness and pray, pray, pray! Remember our Alma Hunt offeriNG! Pray for all the churches in Concord Association, for all those without pastors and certainly for all members. Have you hugged your WMU Director lately?!!! Love to all of you, Betty Lou

## 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-** We are doing a drive in service at 10:00 am every Sunday and at 11:00 am we are doing an inside service. We have not started back doing Sunday School yet. We have Bible Study on Wed. 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-** is doing drive-in at 9 and Facebook Live at 11

**First Baptist, Chase City-** Is meeting in the sanctuary. 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-** Is having Drive-In services starting at 10 AM

**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](http://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 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.



Please be sure to honor your pastors in the month of October in appreciation of their work day in and day out for you and the members of your church.

### *GRapeVINE*

*A Newsletter of*

*Concord Baptist Association*

*121 S Mecklenburg Avenue, South Hill, VA 23970*

*Phone: (434) 447-7240*

*Webpage: [www.concorderbaptistassoc.org](http://www.concorderbaptistassoc.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 November Issue Will be Thursday,  
October 15**