# THE SERVANT LINK

CHURCHES UNITED TO SERVE -COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# **James River Baptist Association**

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Tel: 434-983-7385 Hours: Monday & Wednesday Email: jrba@embarqmail.com 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Volume XX

February 2021

Edition II

# JRBA 2019 – 2020 BOOK OF REPORTS

The 2019 – 2020 Book of Reports was distributed at the January Executive Board Meeting. Copies were provided for Pastors, JRBA Officers, JRBA Committee Chairs, and 2 additional copies per church. If there was no representative from a church in attendance, the Books were delivered or mailed to a church representative on January 13, 2021. If anyone needs an additional copy, please request from the JRBA office.

# FEBRUARY EVENTS & DETAILS

See all notifications concerning changes to in-house activities/services under "The Gathering Church".



## February 2, 2021 – Groundhog's Day

Groundhog's Day is the midpoint between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. Punxsutawney Phil has predicted six more weeks of winter after seeing his shadow on Groundhog Day 2021. Phil emerged about 7:25 AM from his cabin at Gobbler's Knob to share his message. (The event was much different this year without a crowd of onlookers!)

From www.clickondetroit.com

# February 12 & 26Blue Ridge Food Distribution (Drive-Thru) @ Crystal Cathedral<br/>Volunteers needed at 9:30 AM.

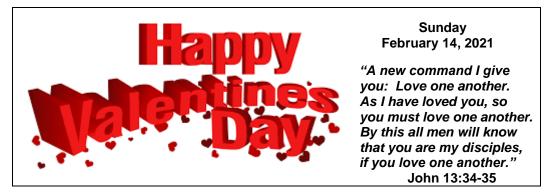
February 13 Children's Missions Day at Mt. Zion

WMU created Children's Missions Day to move children out of their churches and into their communities to do missions. The first Children's Missions Day was held in 2008. Since then, thousands of people have taken part in this special day.

Mt. Zion's Girls in Action (GA's) and Kids Outdoor Zone (KOZ) will be joining with kids across the country today in hands-on ministry in their communities. The GA's will be working on fleece blankets for the Hope for Appalachia ministry and the KOZ boys will be assisting people in the community with small projects around their homes. Please be in prayer for the children and leaders as they prepare to follow God's command to "put your love into action" (1 John 3:18).

## Parents' Night Out at Antioch (Scottsville)

Free childcare will be provided so that parents can celebrate Valentine's Day. Limited space - phone church office for information and reservations. (434-286-6315)



#### February 14

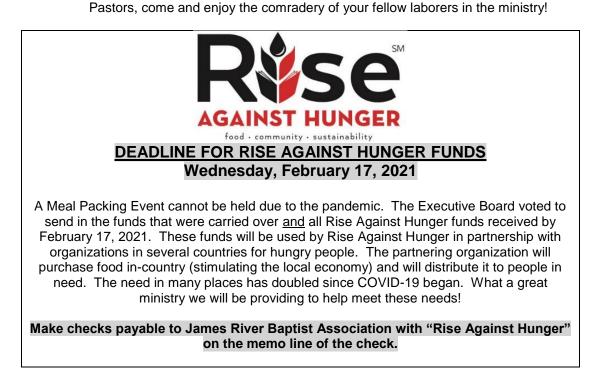
#### Spaghetti Fellowship Meal at Fitzgerald Memorial

Noon

February 17

#### JRBA Pastors' Huddle at First Baptist Dillwyn

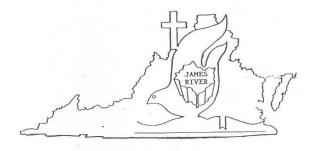
Noon



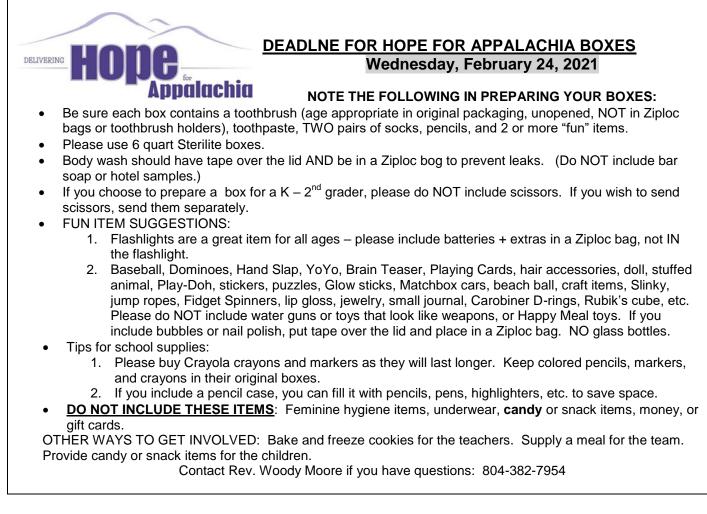
February 21 Women on Mission at Fitzgerald Memorial

9:00 AM

February 22 Information for the March edition of the JRBA calendar and newsletter are due TODAY by 9:00 AM. (By mail or email only) Be sure to include your Final Total for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Rise Against Hunger contributions, and the count of Hope for Appalachia boxes completed by your church for the spring trip. Also include plans for Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.



People Committed To Making A Difference



# February 27Five Loaves, Two Fish Ministry at Antioch, Scottsville9:30 – 10:30 AMDrive-Thru food distribution observing social distancing.Proof of eligibility is not required.

## LOOKING AHEAD>>>

## April 12 JRBA Quarterly Executive Board Meeting at First Baptist Dillwyn 7:00 PM

May 13JRBA Semi-Annual Spring Meeting at GoshenCANCELLEDThe JRBA Executive Board voted to cancel the Spring Meeting due to the continuing pandemic.

History and Theology of the Church (An online intensive class through the John Leland School of Ministry) Taught by Rev. Shannon Rutherford May 14 – 15, May 21 - 22, and May 28 – 29, 2021 Schedule each day: 9:00 AM – Noon and 1:00 – 4:00 PM For more information: <u>kmckown@leland.ecu</u>.

# ACCOMPLISHING TOGETHER WHAT WE CANNOT DO ALONE



### THE "GATHERING" CHURCH Options for worship and gathering continue to change. Updates below as provided.

**ANTIOCH (SCOTTSVILLE)** holds Worship services at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM. Nursery and children's church is provided at 11:00 AM. CDC guidelines are observed.

**ENON** is still meeting in-person every Sunday at 11:00 AM.

**FIRST BAPTIST DILLWYN** continues to have the following "In-House" activities: A combined Adult Sunday School class meets at 10:00 AM, to study I Corinthians. One Adult class meets via Zoom and efforts are being made to get church literature into the homes of FBC children. Worship services are held in the sanctuary at 11:00 AM each Sunday. These services are also on the radio and Facebook. The Tuesday morning Bible Study meets at 10:00 AM each week and is currently studying I Kings. Prayer meeting is held each Wednesday at 6:30 PM with Choir Practice at 7:30 PM. The Youth Group meets each Wednesday night for studies and projects.

**FITZGERALD MEMORIAL** has postponed Sunday School for the month of February. Worship is In-Person at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary each Sunday.

**GOSHEN** is continuing their regular meetings.

**JONES CHAPEL** continues to have In-Person Worship at 11:00 AM, including a Children's Service. The 11:00 AM service will also be on Facebook Live and on radio FM 89.9. Pastor Richard also holds Bible study on Facebook Live at 7:00 PM each Wednesday.

## JRBA REACHES OUT>>>

A Great Multifue + You

### LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS GOAL: \$175 Million

### 100% of this offering provides for missionaries all over the world!

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. Revelation 7:9 (NIV)

Church	Total-to-Date
Buckingham	\$ 1,007.65
Cedar	\$ 960.00
Chestnut Grove	\$ 421.00
Enon	\$ 150.00
Fork of Willis	\$ 300.00
Goshen	\$ 900.00
Jones Chapel	\$ 2,330.00
Mt. Tabor	\$ 285.00
Mt. Zion	\$ 1,195.00
Mulberry Grove	\$ 235.00
Sharon	\$ 280.00



# ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE FALL 2020 WINTERWEAR DRIVE

The list of coats, hats, gloves, blankets, and other items sent to Kentucky in December were listed in the December newsletter. A list of additional items not included on that list came in after the newsletter was printed:

688 coats 352 gloves 405 hats 177 scarves 2 bikes A huge assortment of things for girls' Christmas gifts 240 can openers for the teachers.

## **HOPE FOR APPALACHIA SPRING 2021 BOXES**

Church	Boxes-to-Date
Enon	13
Mulberry Grove	10
Glade Hill Baptist (Franklin County)	10

## JRBA MISSIONS BLITZ PROJECT







### Dear JRBA Family,

I just want to update and send another word ofthanks. Because of your continued partnership and support, we were able to help another family in need of a ramp. Their ramp was so rotten that we were able to tear it down without using a single tool! The boards just peeled right off. A team from Antioch – Scottsville (Rev. Dave Vogt, Joe Shaheen, Dewey Parteuch, and Drew Mauk) and myself worked on the ramp – yes, even pastors know how to use power tools! All that to say, we were able to build a new ramp and help this family due to the funds raised by our churches. Thank you and I am hoping to keep you updated and plugged in as more projects are undertaken. God bless each of you.

Rev. Michael Khol

# MISSIONS COMMITTEE February 2021



RISE AGAINST HUNGER: Since we will not be able to have a ١. packaging project anytime soon, we are planning to send the Rise Against Hunger money given to our Association to the Richmond branch (the Lynchburg warehouse has closed due to the pandemic). Rise Against Hunger will send the funds to a partnering organization in an extremely poor country to be used to buy food locally and then distributed to those in need. We are pleased that we have \$6,607 in Rise Against Hunger gifts as of January 1, 2021. These gifts plus gifts received by Wednesday, February

17, 2021, will be sent to Rise Against Hunger to help feed many hungry people. So, please give generously in your church by February 14, so that we can feed many people around the world who are in need of food.

- II. HOPE FOR APPALACHIA: Boxes for needy children of Appalachia are being collected between now and Wednesday, February 24. All members of our churches are asked to pick up a Hope Box instruction sheet at your church, carefully follow the instructions, and turn your boxes in to the JRBA office, Tar Wallet church, or Mt. Zion Mission House. Your boxes will bless many lives. (Check page 3 of the newsletter for specific information or the flyers at your church.)
- III. BLUE RIDGE FOOD MINISTRY: This project continues to provide nourishing food to about 300 families on the second and fourth Friday of each month. Please join us at the Crystal Cathedral by 9:30 AM on those Fridays and bless many lives and find a true blessing through serving Jesus and feeding the hungry.
- IV. Thanks for all the mission work our churches continue to carry out. Let us be innovative as we find the best ways to serve others during these difficult days.

Rev. Jimmy Dunn

# **CHURCH OUTREACH**

ANTIOCH (SCOTTSVILLE): Rev. D. J. Carter from Thrive (former Pregnancy Center of Central Virginia) was the guest speaker at Antioch on Sunday, January 17. A love offering of \$3,000 was collected for this ministry. Antioch continues their partnership with pastors in Africa and India by sending love offerings. COVID-19 has prevented members from traveling overseas this year.



ANTIOCH UNION: Members are working on their Hope for Appalachia boxes this month.

BUCKINGHAM: \$100.00 has been contributed to Christ in Christmas Chain. Members are currently working on Hope for Appalachia boxes and plans are being made to provide meals for the Appalachia Hope Team. Contributions are also being collected for Rise Against Hunger.

CEDAR: Baptist Women on Mission have been collecting for the Hope for Appalachia boxes during January.

CHESTNUT GROVE: Members continue to volunteer at the Blue Ridge Food distributions each month.

### FIRST BAPTIST DILLWYN:

- A. Helping Hands is calling upon the members of FBC to bring homemade soup and desserts to church on Sunday, February 14. Church members will deliver these delicious items to homebound members of the church and community that afternoon.
- B. Helping Hands gave a financial gift to Buckingham County High School to help students in financial need purchase graduation items and/or other needs, gave goodie baskets, gift cards, and financial gifts to quite a few persons with special needs, sent over 50 cards to persons in nursing homes and others who are lonely, and made phone calls and some visits to bring encouragement to lonely folks.

JONES CHAPEL: Members are contributing to Rise Against Hunger and Hope boxes through mid-February.

MT. ZION: The WMU is collecting socks and making some quilts and blankets. With the pandemic, they only have one lady sewing at home and two others making "no sew" blankets, for Hope for Appalachia.

MULBERRY GROVE: Members are donating to Rise Against Hunger and working on Hope for Appalachia boxes for the Easter trip. Individuals continue to volunteer at the bimonthly food distribution at the Crystal Cathedral. The outreach ministry is ongoing with calls, food, cards, and the delivery of church literature.

# JRBA LEARNS AND GROWS>>>

GLADSTONE MEMORIAL just finished a study of Psalm 23, learning much from those 6 special verses!

JONES CHAPEL had Rev. Lewis Brandt as guest speaker on January 3, while Pastor Richard recovered from surgery.

MT. ZION'S GA's had a Lottie Moon Tea Party on December 23, to learn about and celebrate Ms. Lottie's work. They learned many interesting facts about Ms. Lottie's life and had some of her famous tea cakes along with other Christmas snacks and wassail. Activities included making gingerbread houses and playing Christmas-themed games. The GA's set a group goal of collecting \$100 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The girls did chores and small jobs at home during December and gave the money they earned to the offering. Along with the offerings that were given through their Lottie Moon Post Office the GA's contributed \$408 to Mt. Zion's goal. In January, the GA's have learned about missionary John Bai who is from China, and serving in Washington state as a church planter. Their lesson was about the apostle Paul and how he served with joy even while in prison. They celebrated Three Kings Day on January 6, by dressing as kings and tasting Kings' Cake. They also made paper Chinese lanterns with their memory verse for the month – *One thing has become clear. I am being held by chains because I am a witness for Christ. All the palace guards and everyone else know it.* Philippians 1:13.

MULBERRY GROVE: On Monday, February 8, at 7:00 PM, the Grove is beginning a 12-part teaching series from "The Genesis Academy". This will also be offered at a separate time on Thursdays at 10:00 AM, beginning February 11. Each session will include a 12 – 40 minute video that will be followed by 20 minutes of discussion. During the Monday night study, a separate video study is going to be offered for younger children.

### JRBA PASTORS' HUDDLE

On January 20, while our nation was watching President Biden's Inauguration, JRBA pastors gathered together for a time of prayer and uplifting one another. There were 6 of us who were able to meet that day. I encourage each pastor to join us next time we gather on February 17 (that will be Ash Wednesday). We will meet as always at First Baptist Dillwyn at noon. Hope to see you there.

Michael

## **OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE>>>**

The JRBA WMU is sponsoring The Pregnancy Support Center, located in Farmville with satellites in Dillwyn, Appomattox, and Amelia, in their fundraiser of filling baby bottles with change. 50+ bottles have been distributed to date. Churches or groups are encouraged to fill the bottles, especially purchased by the Pregnancy Center, and fill them with change. Of course, folding money and checks are welcome also.

The Pregnancy Center has been dedicated to helping women, men, teens, and families in Southside Virginia since 1984. The number to call for help is 434-392-8483. They provide pregnancy testing, prenatal and infant care classes, baby clothes and supplies, parenting classes, counseling assistance and referrals, and character development programs. The Center in Dillwyn is at Ellis Acres at 245 Camden St. It is open on Tuesdays from noon to 5:00 PM. Call Betty Toney at 434-983-2232 for more information and to obtain the baby bottles. You may participate in this fundraiser at any time and it is suggested that you allow about 4 weeks to collect the change.

> Betty Toney JRBA WMU Director

## BCM UPDATE>>>

Our BCM semester is off to a good start. Students returned to campus in mid-January and BCM is resuming its usual semester activities. Our Bible studies have gotten off to a strong start - this semester students are learning what it looks like to care for their spiritual health. We've had to make some adjustments to our large group gathering. Due the new 10-person limit for gatherings on campus, we have split our large group night into 3 sessions. Students can sign up for sessions to attend. So far this has been well received by the students, and it has been great to continue our in-person worship. Splitting the group seems to be creating a space where deeper friendships can form as students get to know each other better in these smaller groups.

This semester we are also planning to host "pop up" events. These will be fun social events or spiritual workshops hosted at random times throughout the week. Our hope is that these will provide a new fun way to connect with students while also staying under our 10-person limit. Our primary goals for this semester are to provide meaningful ways for students to connect with one another and to provide opportunities for them to grow spiritually.

Thank you for your continued support and prayer for our ministry!

Austin Williams Interim Campus Minister BCM Longwood/Hampden-Sydney

# IN LOVING MEMORY>>>



CEDAR extends sympathy to the family of Frank (Football) LeSueur who passed away on January 22. He was buried at Cedar Baptsit on Satuday, Janaury 30.

# JRBA CELEBRATES>>>

CEDAR: On Sunday, December 27, Tatum Midkiff, son of Thomas and Karly Midkiff, made a profession of faith to be followed by baptism in the near future.

GLADSTONE MEMORIAL: Pastor Jame Fetty will celebrate 13 years of ministry at Gladstone in February. He says, "It has been an awesome adventure and a wonderful relationship. Gladstone has taught me many lessons and helped me learn a lot about the Shepherd and his relationship with the sheep." Congratulations, Dr. Fetty!



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION>>>



# "HATS OFF" TO THESE CHURCH CLERKS WHO HAVE COMPLETED YOUR CHURCH'S ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE:

Gloria Newton – Antioch (Scottsville), Jackie Pearson – Antioch Union, Angela Bruschi – Arvon, Jo Lang – Buckingham, Pat Allen – Cedar, Gloria Morris – Chestnut Grove, Elsie Towler – First Baptist Dillwyn, Mary Shumaker – Enon, Brenda Parker – Fork of Willis, Virginia Cyrus – Gladstone, Jessica Carroll – Goshen, Carol Ownby - Jones Chapel, Diane Baird – Mt. Tabor, Dorothy Davis – Mt. Zion, Denise Leatherwood – Mulberry Grove, Tammy Brown – Sharon, Vickie McHenry – Tar Wallet

- A request from Tim Madison, Chair of the BGAV Committee on Boards and Committees, was recently sent to the pastors. This committee is responsible for enlisting capable people to serve on the various committees, boards, and agencies that relate to the Batist General Association of Virginia. They are looking for gifted Virginia Baptists, both laypersons and ministers, who have the qualifications and commitment to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom by serving in 2021. If you would like to make a nomination, go to this link online: <a href="https://bgav.org/bgav/nominations">https://bgav.org/bgav/nominations</a>. Individuals can be nominated to the following committees: ChristianLife, Memorial, Program, Religious Liberty, Resolutions, and Scholarship. Nominees are also needed for the following boards: Averett University, Baptist Center for Ethics, Baptist Extension Board, Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Baptist Minnister Relief Fund, Bluefield College, Center for Baptist Heritage & Studies, Good Faith Media, Grace Inside, Fork Union Military Academy, Hargrave Military Academy, Hope Tree Family Services, Leland Center for Theological Studies, Life Spire of Virginia, Inc., Oak Hill Academy, and the Virginia Baptist Foundation, Inc.
- If you would like to view Dr. John Upton's interview with Dr. Danny Avula, Gov. Northam's appointee as Virginia COVID-19 Vaccine Coordinator, go to <u>https://vimeo.com/506226815/76fba9ea9f</u>. Dr. Upton said, "He fielded many questions from our pastors and addressed all our concerns head on. We've had great response to this video so I want to make sure that you have a direct link to use it to meet your needs."

## **KEEP IN PRAYER>>>**

- Those who are lost and need to know the Savior
- All those affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic
- Peace of mind during this uncertain time
- COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution
- All workers on the "front line"
- Teachers, staff, and school administrators & students
- Preparation of Hope boxes for spring delivery
- Tar Wallet as they search for a new pastor
- JRBA Churches & Pastors
- Government Leaders (County, State, & National)
- All those affected by violence in our country
- Victoria Gina Vassile, JRBA WMU Project Ruth Adoptee
- Jimmy & Suzanne (Bryan) Brock Church planters in Virginia Beach
- All those in our congregations who are ill or who have lost loved ones.



## **ASSOCIATION FINANCES**

2020 - 2021

## REGULAR BUDGET RECEIPTS

Church	January	Year-to-Date
Antioch (SV)		\$ 250.00
Antioch Union		
Arvon		
Buckingham		\$ 375.00
Cedar		\$ 2,500.00
Chestnut Grove	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Enon		
FBC Dillwyn		
Fitzgerald		\$ 100.00
Fork of Willis		\$ 396.00
Gladstone		
Goshen		
Jones Chapel	\$ 124.00	\$ 586.00
Mt. Tabor		
Mt. Zion	\$1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00
Mulberry Grove	\$3,360.00	\$ 3,360.00
Sharon	\$ 291.25	\$ 582.50
Tar Wallet	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Individuals		
VBMB-Alma Hunt		
Amazon Smile		\$ 7.25
Interest on Checking (1 <sup>st</sup> qtr)	\$ 4.66	\$ 4.66
TOTAL	\$6,579.91	\$10,961.41

Approved Budget for 2020-2021: \$33,233.00\* \*Total includes \$7,082.00 carryover funds. NO INCREASE TO BUDGETED AMOUNTS. <u>TREASURERS:</u> Please note that unless a specific ministry or project is designated on the memo line of the check or in an accompanying note, the contribution will appear in the regular budget receipts.

ALSO NOTE: Funds received are reflective of the <u>Associational Year</u> (Oct. 1, 2020 – Sept. 30, 2021), NOT the calendar year.

## OTHER BUDGETED LINE ITEMS:

### MISSIONS BLITZ

Carryover from 2019-2020	\$ 975.00*
Budget (2020-2021)	\$ 250.00
	\$1,225.00

\*Carryover was rounded to even dollars. November Expenditure: Home Repair - \$48.79 January Expenditure: Ramp - \$541.45 No contributions or expenditures in January. AVAILABLE FUNDS: \$ 634.76

#### **ADDITIONAL MISSIONS:**

ALL monies expended for Additional Missions are listed each month.

		-
	January	Year-to-Date
JRBA Budget		\$1,600.00
TOTAL		\$1,600.00

Expenditures

Pregnancy Support Center (Farmville), Fellowship of Christian Athletes, GraceInside, Gideons International, Longwood/Hampden Sydney BCM, BGAV Disaster Response, and Piedmont Habitat for Humanity - \$100.00 Each = \$700.00 (Budgeted)

BALANCE IN ADDITIONAL MISSIONS: \$ 900.00



#### **RECEIPTS FOR 2021 RISE AGAINST HUNGER**

Church	January	Total-to-Date	
JRBA Budget (2019-2020)		\$ 500.00	
Cedar		\$ 220.00	
Enon		\$ 400.00	
FBC Dillwyn		\$ 1,043.60	
Gladstone		\$ 688.00	
Goshen		\$ 500.00	
Jones Chapel		\$ 835.79	
Mt. Zion (WMU)		\$ 500.00*	
(Church)	\$ 400.00	\$ 800.00	
Tar Wallet		\$ 20.00	
BGAV		\$1,000.00	
CARRYOVER TOTAL		\$6,107.00**	
JRBA Budget (2020-2021)		\$ 500.00	
TOTAL	\$ 400.00	\$7,007.00	

\*Mt. Zion WMU - \$500 in honor of Rev. Jimmy Dunn \*\*Carryover was rounded to even dollars, making total slightly different to adding above donations.

### **BLAND MINISTRY CENTER**

	January	Yea	r-to-Date
JRBA Budget		\$	500.00
TOTAL		\$	500.00

### MISSION TRIPS

Budgeted: \$2,500.00

<u>Expenditures</u> Hope for Appalachia Team – Rev. Woody Moore, Rev. Roger Woody and Wayne Gough (\$50 each) = \$150.00 BALANCE = \$2,350.00

## NON-BUDGETED MINISTRY:

(ALL monies by donation.) JOHN E. MANN, SR. BENEVOLENCE FUND

DONATIONS	January	Year-to-Date	
Carryover from 2019-2020		\$6,292.28	
Buckingham		\$ 370.00	
Cedar		\$ 300.00	
First Baptist Dillwyn		\$ 500.00	
Mt. Zion	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
Mulberry Grove	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	
Sharon		\$ 200.00	
TOTAL NEW DONATIONS	\$ 400.00	\$1,770.00	

Expenditures in January \$ 105.00 BALANCE: \$7,347.28

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)