

# THE SERVANT LINK

CHURCHES UNITED TO SERVE -  
COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## James River Baptist Association

P. O. Box 1219, Dillwyn, VA 23936

Rev. Michael Khol – Moderator

Phyllis R. Tyler - Secretary

[www.jamesriverbaptistassociation.com](http://www.jamesriverbaptistassociation.com)

Tel: 434-983-7385

Email: [jrba@embarqmail.com](mailto:jrba@embarqmail.com)

Hours: Monday & Wednesday

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Volume XXI

AUGUST 2022

Edition VIII



July 31 – August 4

**Youth VBS at First Baptist Dillwyn**

**6:00 – 9:00 PM**

16980 Oak Street, Dillwyn, VA 23936

For students who have completed Grades 6 – 12

Theme: Spark Studios

August 12 – 13

**VBS at Enon**

**6:00 – 8:00 PM**

Theme: Deep Sea Adventure – *Exploring the Depth of Jesus's Love*

9120 Andersonville Road, Dillwyn, VA 23936

**Sunday, August 14** Closing Ceremony followed by Cookout **11:00 AM**

### HOMEcomings & REVIVALS

**NOTE:** The July newsletter showed Antioch (Scottsville) as having Homecoming on both July 31, and August 31. I apologize for the error – their Homecoming is scheduled for July 31, at 10 AM, with a meal to follow the service.

August 7

**Homecoming at Cedar**

**11:00 AM**

Lunch in the Fellowship Hall following Worship

Song Service featuring Chris Lewis and Greentop Express at 1:30 PM

**8 – 12: Revival Services Nightly** **7:00 PM**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Jerry Gray from Iva, South Carolina

Special Music: Monday – Allan Cooper, Tuesday – Andrew Bowles,

Wednesday – The Bryant Family, Thursday – 2<sup>nd</sup> Time Around, and

Friday – Barry Snoddy.

**Homecoming at Goshen**

**11:00 AM**

Special Guests: The Jones Family will conduct the Worship Service.

Meal to follow the service.

**8 – 10: Revival Services Nightly**

**7:00 PM**

Guest Speakers: Monday – Derek Keiser, Tuesday – Rev. Alfred Jones, and Wednesday – Kemper Beasley, Buckingham Commonwealth Attorney  
Light refreshments after each service.

**Homecoming at Mt. Zion**

**11:00 AM**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Jerry Stewart

**8 – 10: Revival Services Nightly** **7:30 PM**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Geoff Bruschi, Pastor at Arvon

Special Music: Monday – Malachi, Tuesday – Shelby Taylor & Mark Waldrop, and Wednesday – Lynn Cooper

August 14

**Homecoming at Mulberry Grove**

**11:00 AM**

Special Music by Cindy and Patrick Jones. Fellowship Meal to follow the service.

**15 – 17: Revival Services Nightly**

**7:00 PM**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Adam Tyler, Pastor at Farmville Baptist

Special Music: Monday – Debbie and Tommy England, Tuesday – Wayne & Linda Gough, and Wednesday – All Problems Solved

**Homecoming at Sharon**

**11:00 AM**

No Sunday School

Guest Speaker: Rev. Lewis Brandt

Special Music by Floyd Reid and Worm Patterson

Covered-Dish Luncheon to follow the service.

**15 – 17: Revival Services Nightly**

**7:30 PM**

Guest Speakers/Special Music Nightly: Monday – Rev. Jimmy Dunn with special music by Kelsey Ros, Tuesday – Rev. Justin Stanley, Hatcher Baptist, with special music by Karen England & Children, and Wednesday – Rev. Ron Nida, Mt. Tabor, with special music by Terry Ludovissy.

<b>August 28</b>	<b>Homecoming at Enon</b> The choir will be singing during the service. <b>28 – 31: Revival Services Nightly</b> Guest Speaker: Rev. Jeff Worley Special Music: Monday – The Yoder Family, Tuesday – Chris Lewis, and Wednesday – Barry Snoddy	<b>11:00 AM</b>  <b>Sunday at 6:00 PM, Monday through Wednesday at 7:00 PM</b>
	<b>Homecoming at Mt. Tabor</b> Speaker: Rev. Ron Nida, Pastor Lunch following the service. <b>29 – 31: Revival Services Nightly</b> Speaker: Rev. Ron Nida, Pastor Special Music each night.	<b>11:00 AM</b>  <b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>September 18</b>	<b>Homecoming at First Baptist Dillwyn</b> <b>19 – 21: Revival Services Nightly</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b> <b>Details to come.</b>
<b>Sept. 23 -25</b>	<b>Antioch's Tent Revival on Hardware River (Antioch Road, Scottsville)</b>	
<b>October 2</b>	<b>Homecoming at Gladstone Memorial</b> Guest Speaker: Rev. Jimmy Dunn  <b>Homecoming at Jones Chapel</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>   <b>TBA</b>

### **OTHER EVENT DETAILS**

Please note that the Tuesday morning Bible Study at Goshen has been canceled for the month of August.

<b>August 6</b>	<b>Jones Chapel's Annual River Float</b> Lunch will follow the float down the river.	
<b>August 10</b>	<b>Senior Citizens Fellowship at Mulberry Grove</b> Blue Grass and Gospel Music with Covered Dish Lunch	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>August 12 &amp; 26</b>	<b>Blue Ridge Food Distribution at Crystal Cathedral, Dillwyn</b> Volunteers needed at 9:30 AM.	
<b>August 13</b>	<b>Movie Night at Buckingham</b> Movie: <i>Radio Flyer</i> Food at 6:00 PM, and movie starting at dusk. All are invited.	<b>6:00 PM</b>



**American  
Red Cross**

#### **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 Noon – 5:00 PM**

**Sharon Baptist Church**  
1620 Sharon Church Road, Arvon, VA  
Contact Info: Liz Steger at 434-547-6963

For appointment visit: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-733-2767.

#### **Monday, August 22**

Information for the September edition of the JRBA calendar and newsletter are due TODAY by 9:00 AM.  
Be sure to include upcoming events, reports on Homecomings/Revivals, and all celebrations and outreach for the month of August.

<b>August 27</b>	<b>Loaves and Fish Ministry Meal at Antioch (Scottsville)</b>	<b>9:30 – 10:30 AM</b>
------------------	---	------------------------

### **LOOKING AHEAD>>>**

#### **Southside Pregnancy Support Center Walk for Life**

**September 3 - Appomattox**

**September 10 – Farmville**

**September 17 – Buckingham**

NOTE: PSC Buckingham is located at Ellis Acres.

245 Camden St., Dillwyn, VA 23936

Open Tuesdays, Noon – 5:00 PM

434-392-8483

**October 7- 8, 2022****Extraordinary Women's Conference**

Thomas Road Baptist, Lynchburg, VA

Theme: *Pursuing an Unfailing God*

Friday Night Concert: Phil Wickham

Guest Speakers: Shannon Bream, Chonda Pierce, Margaret Feinberg, Annie F. Downs, & Julie Clinton  
Praise & Worship: Michael O'Brien

Cost – General Admission: \$64; Early Admittance &amp; Reserved Seating: \$84

Groups of 10 or more: \$5.00 off each registration when purchased together.

Register online at [https://brushfire.com/ewomen/conferences/499363?\\_ef\\_transaction\\_id=/](https://brushfire.com/ewomen/conferences/499363?_ef_transaction_id=/)**October 10****JRBA Executive Board Meeting at First Baptist Dillwyn****7:00 PM**

Pastors, JRBA Officers and Committee Chairs, and Church Representatives to the Executive Board: Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. The Budget for 2022-2023 will be presented as well as the program for the Annual Fall Meeting. Please note: The Executive Board consists of the Associational officers, the pastors and one lay member elected by each church, the immediate past Moderator, and chairmen of all JRB Standing Committees.

**October 20****188th JRBA Annual Fall Meeting at Mt. Zion****4:45 PM**

Please note: As Nominating Committees are working on Officers and Teachers, please be reminded that your church should elect Messengers to the JRBA Annual Fall Meeting. Churches with 200 or less members should send 4 messengers. Each church is entitled to an additional messenger for each additional 100 members. Pastors and members of the Executive Board are recognized as messengers in addition to those elected by the church.

**October 21 – 22****Legacy Men's Conference at Rosedale Baptist (for Men and Boys)**

Men and boys are invited to join together at Rosedale Baptist Church, Rosedale, VA, for worship, Bible study from Experiencing God speaker, Richard Blackaby. There will also be enriching breakouts. (Friday evening through Saturday Lunch). Information is available from [www.wmu.org](http://www.wmu.org).

**October 22****Jones Chapel's Family Fun Festival****Details to come.****November 4 – 5****WMUV Women's Get Away at Eagle Eyrie**

**In-Person** Worship, Bible study, dozens of breakout opportunities, and space for you to rest and reconnect with God and others! Registration opens August 1. Go to [www.wmu.org](http://www.wmu.org) for additional information.

**BGAV Annual Meeting**

November 14 – 16, 2022

Hampton Roads Convention Center

1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666

Monday, November 14: Afternoon breakout sessions at the Conference Center

Evening Retirement Celebration for Dr. John Upton at First Baptist Church of Newport News

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 15 – 16: Worship, business, and breakout sessions at the Conference Center

NEW THIS YEAR; Registrations for messengers and guests will be done individually, not by church.

Visit <https://meeting.bgav.org> where registration information will be coming soon.**JRBA REACHES OUT>>>**

**ANNIE ARMSTRONG**  
EASTER OFFERING  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS



North American  
Mission Board

**ANNIE ARMSTRONG OFFERING FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS**

Church	Donations-to-Date
Buckingham	\$1,125.00
Cedar	\$ 1,065.00
Chestnut Grove	\$ 684.00
Fitzgerald Memorial	\$ 283.33
Goshen	\$ 695.00
Jones Chapel	\$ 1,015.00
Mt. Zion	\$ 850.00
Mulberry Grove	\$ 575.00
Sharon	\$ 160.00
Tar Wallet	\$ 256.00

**V.B.S. FOLLOW-UP**

**CHESTNUT GROVE:** VBS was held June 20 – 24. The theme was *Walking With Jesus*. 18 children attended with a director, 2 assistants, and 15 helpers. The curriculum was created in-house. An offering of \$115 was collected for Samaritans Purse.

**SHARON:** The one day VBS took place on Saturday, July 9, with 12 students and 18 adults in attendance. Everyone enjoyed music, crafts, and a delicious lunch while learning about a *Passport to Peace*.





**JONES CHAPEL:** VBS was held the week of June 26 – July 1. It was well-attended with a total of 33 students and 29 workers. The theme was *Food Truck Party* (Cokesbury). Three new decisions were made to accept Christ as Savior and four others made a decision to recommit! A total of \$631 was donated to a local family-fund for purchase of a handicapped van. (Photo to the Left)

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, DILLWYN:** Children's VBS was held July 11 – 15, with 51 students and 39 workers enrolled. Lifeway's *Spark Studios* provided the theme for the week. Three decisions were made to accept Christ! VBS was a great blessing as everyone joined together in worship, Bible study, crafts, recreation, food, and fellowship.

**MULBERRY GROVE:** A one-day VBS was scheduled for July 30 for ages 3 – 11. A fun day was planned with learning about Jesus, doing arts and crafts, and participating in outdoor games centered around the theme, *Beach Blast*. Students pre-registered at [www.mulberrymulberrymulberrygrovebaptistchurch.com/vbs](http://www.mulberrymulberrymulberrygrovebaptistchurch.com/vbs).

**ANTIOCH (SCOTTSDALE):** VBS was held the week of June 27 – July 1, utilizing Lifeway's *Spark Studios* theme. 15 little hearts were given to Jesus! A good time was had by all in attendance.



#### REMINDER TO VBS DIRECTORS

If your church has completed its summer VBS, please submit your 2022 VBS Report as soon as possible. Phyllis has been sending out the report for several weeks to the directors on record. If you are serving in that capacity and have not received the report, please call the JRBA office at 434-983-7385.



#### MISSIONS COMMITTEE

- I. **RISE AGAINST HUNGER:** Gifts received from our churches totaled **\$7,774.03**. I am so thankful for your generosity and proud of our response to helping feed hungry people of a very poor country. Let us pray that as the food we give blesses people physically, their hearts will be touched and they will accept Jesus as Savior.
- II. **BLUE RIDGE FOOD MINISTRY:** During these difficult days in which hundreds of local people struggle to feed their families, we can help provide food for their bodies and love for their hearts as we share in the Blue Ridge Food Distribution on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday each month. As you place a bag of food in a person's vehicle and greet them in the name and spirit of Jesus, you can bless many persons.
- III. **VACATIONS:** As you take a vacation trip use the opportunity to share a smile, a sweet spirit, and kind words about Jesus wherever you go. Let us also share Jesus locally.
- IV. **HOMEcomings:** Many of our churches will be having Homecoming days during August, September, and October. Let us do more than have a big day. Let us truly, as individuals, churches, and as an association, come to Jesus and to a fresh commitment to trust Him more fully and serve Him continually.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jimmy Dunn*, Chair

#### HOMEcoming FOLLOW=UP

**BUCKINGHAM:** Homecoming was held on July 10 with Smokey Wilson providing the music and Rev. Richard Long preaching. The music was wonderful and it was a blessing to have Richard in the pulpit again. The food was delicious and the fellowship good. Richard's family, including Cecelia, Eric, and Krystal and her family, joined Buckingham for the day. The congregation delighted in seeing all of them..

#### CHURCH OUTREACH



**ANTIOCH (SCOTTSVILLE):** The Loaves and Fish Ministry was held on Saturday, July 25. Forty-eight meals were provided and sixty-five boxes of food were distributed. A family movie night was held on July 30 – *Homeward Bound* was shown and free popcorn and cotton candy was enjoyed by all in attendance. Baby bottles with donations are still being collected for the Lifespring Pregnancy Center. Supplies are being gathered for the Pre-K and K backpacks for Hope for Appalachia. Items are also being collected for Operation Christmas Child. The church is planning to participate in the upcoming Fluvanna Fair.

Antioch participated in the Scottsville 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. (Photo at left.) The dolls below were distributed.





**CEDAR:** Donations were received for Rise Against Hunger during the beginning weeks of July.

**CHESTNUT GROVE:** School supplies are being collected for Buckingham County Schools.

**FIRST BAPTIST DILLWYN:** Five FBC members went to Hickory Hill, near Burkeville on June 27, and visited church members and other residents of the home. Helping Hands is making plans to deliver about 100 meals on Sunday, August 14, to shut-ins of the area. They sent out about 60 cards to shut-ins and also ministered to many persons with special needs through phone calls, visits, gas cards, food cards, etc.

**JONES CHAPEL:** Interim Pastor Lewis Brandt and others met to pray with the group of 14 from the church who went to Eagle Eyrie for MC2, July 18 – 22. (Photo Below) The team appreciates the JRBA's financial support for the trip and for all the prayers. They had a wonderful experience, with some of the younger ones in VBS, the youth and adults running VBS activities out in the wider community, some doing landscaping, and others doing painting or other home repairs. From the Youth Director, Judy Chambliss, "It was fun, rewarding, and exhausting!"



**Jones Chapel's Team to MC2:** Judy Chambliss, Angel Chambliss, Hannah Lenz, Savannah Skeens, Mason Chambliss, Marshall Chambliss, Camden Wood, Josh Whaley, Emily Cox, Natalie Cox, Daniel Cox, Bella Dillard, Michelle Tuttle, Kayla College, Kristen College, and Lauren Fulcher

**MT. ZION:** Rev. Woody Moore served for several days in Grundy as a Disaster Relief Chaplain as Virginia Baptists sent teams to the devastated areas after the recent flooding in Buchanan County.

**MULBERRY GROVE:** The ladies of the WMU held a Tea in July, which they hope to make an annual event. On Sunday, July 24, the group prayed prayers of blessings for two new babies and their young mothers were presented Prayer Quilts for their children.

**SHARON:** The congregation held a special collection for Rise Against Hunger. Rose of Sharon WMU continues providing meals, cards, phone calls, and visits to those who are sick or homebound. \$450.00 was collected for the WMUV Standing Rock mission effort.

## OTHER EVENTS>>>>



**ANTIOCH (SCOTTSVILLE):** A Sunday School Fellowship Dinner was held on Tuesday, July 12, for the Generation Class. A great time was enjoyed by all.

**GLADSTONE MEMORIAL:** There has been a lot going on recently at Gladstone Memorial Baptist! On Sunday, July 17, they dedicated the flower garden in the front of the church. The garden was given in loving memory of William Bryant, Pete McFadden, and Larry Bryant. These three men loved their church, family, and Lord. "A man is not great because he boasts of his greatness; he is great because of what others say of his greatness." Honor is given to whom honor is due. Gladstone is beginning phase one of revitalizing the church. Sidewalks will be enlarged and steps will be added to the back of the church. The congregation is excited to see what the next phase will bring! The church family is thankful for Paul Zelinsky for heading up these projects and for his love for the church.



#### JRBA LEARNS AND GROWS>>>

**ANTIOCH (SCOTTSDALE):** A Night of Worship was held on Friday, July 25 – the Holy Spirit was in full effect!

**FIRST BAPTIST DILLWYN:** Sunday school at FBC experienced an attendance resurgence as they averaged 68 per Sunday during the April through June Quarter. This is their best attendance since before the pandemic. Praise the Lord!

#### OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE>>>



#### HOPE FOR APPLACHIA – 2022 FALL DRIVE

**Trip Dates: November 30 – December 3**

A team will again be going to Kentucky to deliver warm winter wear and Kindergarten bags to the school students there. There are several needs for the trip that you can help provide:

##### **ALL SIZES COATS, HATS, AND GLOVES**

NEW or Gently-Used (must be clean with working buttons/zippers, etc.)

##### **KINDERGARTEN BAGS**

(Drawstring bags are suggested. Each bag should contain a NEW winter hat and gloves, box of crayons, box of markers, pencils, toothbrush, full-sized toothpaste, and Stickers/fun item/stuffed animal/coloring book)

##### **COOKIES/GOODIES**

These will be distributed to the staff.

##### **ALL ITEMS DUE BY WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022.**

Please bring your donations to Tar Waret (Contact Laura Higgins at 434-394-8299.) or to the Mt. Zion Mission House (Contact Rev. Woody Moore at 804-382-7954.).

**REMINDER: NOTE THAT SCHOOL SUPPLIES ARE ON SALE AT WALMART NOW – YOU MAY WANT TO GET THE ONES YOU WANT FOR THE HOPE SPRING BOXES!**





Gladstone Memorial Baptist Church has an interesting beginning. The residents of Gladstone saw a need for a church in 1892 and a soliciting committee was formed. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway gave the land and \$250 towards the building costs. On October 30, debt-free, the C & O Baptist Church was dedicated to the service of God and preaching the Gospel. There were 12 charter members. Rev. E. P. Robertson was the first pastor, serving both this church and Mineral Springs Church.

In 1895, C & O joined the Albemarle Association. Soon after they began making contributions to state and foreign missions. In 1903, Gladstone joined the Piedmont Association and church membership stood at 32. Membership continued to increase and by 1921, there were 75 members.

In 1925, C & O joined the field of Liberty Chapel, New Hope, and Concord, and joined the James River Baptist Association. Their members provided some of the leadership for the association over the years: Mrs. O. L. Brown served for nearly 30 years as WMU Superintendent and was the first Associational Historian. Several JRBA Moderators were from Gladstone Memorial: Rev. O. G. Burnett, Rev. W. A. Irving, Rev. G. M. Proffet, Rev. J. N. Williams, Al Carmody, and J. B. Hesson.

In 1929, C & O began an active WMU, sponsoring Sunbeams, Girls Auxiliary, and Royal Ambassadors. During the late thirties and early forties the Baptist Young People's Union was also active. Adult and Youth Choirs organized. Daily VBS was held for the children and young people of the church and other children in the community.

In 1947 the church was renamed Gladstone Memorial in tribute to the four members that served and lost their lives in WWII. In 1957, Gladstone and Liberty Chapel formed a church field and built a parsonage in 1968.

In 2004 Liberty Chapel and Gladstone Memorial sold the parsonage and Rev. James N. Williams became Gladstone's full-time pastor. He served both Gladstone and JRBA faithfully until his death in 2007.

In 2008, Dr. James Fetty became the pastor and church attendance started growing. Average Sunday School attendance was 35 and average worship attendance was 45. In 2010, the church had 54 resident members and 45 non-resident members.

The recent pandemic has impacted Gladstone Memorial in many ways, but their focus remains on providing a fulfilling church home for the members and meeting the needs of the unchurched persons in the community, with the emphasis on leading them to Christ through an awareness of the love that Christians show to others. Although their numbers have decreased, they continue to serve God faithfully.

On July 1, 2022, Gladstone celebrated their 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a concert by Mark and Karen Templeton. The couple provided an evening of original compositions, acoustical music, and old Gospel favorites. There were approximately 40 in attendance who thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the music. An old-fashioned ice cream social followed the concert and the fellowship around the table was wonderful. Dr. Fetty extends his gratitude to all who came out and celebrated with them. He commented, "God has blessed and continues to bless Gladstone Memorial Baptist Church."



Mark & Karen Templeton



Virginia Cyrus, Phyllis Tyler, Rev. Jimmy Dunn & Jane Dunn





## OTHER JRBA CELEBRATIONS

**ANTIOCH (SCOTTSVILLE):** Sunday, July 17, 2022, marked Rev. Dave Vogt's 8-year anniversary serving the church family at Antioch Baptist. The congregation is grateful the Lord has blessed them with him and his family! May God continue to bless Dave in his ministry at Antioch.

**Cedar:** A Deacon Ordination was held on Sunday, June 26. It was officiated by Pastor Tommy Armstrong. Robert (Bobby) Klement and Randy Waycaster were ordained into this special service for the Lord. Everyone was invited to join together in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments following the Ordination Service.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION>>>

- The **Middle District Baptist Association** is searching for its next Executive Director. This is a full-time position that will provide support to the more than 30 diverse churches in a tri-county area, approximately 20 minutes south and west of Richmond, VA. For more information, and to apply, please visit [www.mdba.org](http://www.mdba.org).
- An email was recently sent to all pastors about a **FREE Bible Study** being offered by the Virginia Baptist Foundation entitled, *Unstoppable*. There is a copy of the materials in the JRBA Office if anyone would like to borrow it to use in your church. The curriculum is designed to encourage and spiritually strengthen those dealing with life's adversities. It acknowledges life's challenges and shares ways to cope. It is designed for adults of all ages and older teens.

## FROM YOUR MODERATOR>>>

Dear James River Baptist Association,  
It has been my pleasure to be a part of the JRBA for the past 10 years. I share the news of leaving with mixed emotions, as I am excited about a new opportunity in Bedford, VA, but also will certainly miss the fellowship of this association.

I pray that God continues to lead you to do more together than you can alone – I am excited for your future! God is indeed at work through our association and the leaders that continue to endeavor to serve Him.

I want to especially thank Marilyn for picking up the baton that I am leaving as Moderator. Last Monday, July 11, (JRBA Executive Board Meeting) was particularly encouraging as we heard what churches are doing and the testimony of the LORD at work through the missions and project of our churches. Please put JRBA gatherings on your radar as they can be a great way to stay connected and lift one another up in these strange times. Our association is only as great as the churches that participate, so please stay connected. We really can accomplish more together than we can alone.

May God richly bless your church and the JRBA,  
*Michael Khol*



*Thank You*

JRBA extends to Michael our sincere appreciation for his leadership and faithfulness during his tenure at Mulberry Grove. He has always been willing to help in any way that he could...from helping Phyllis with computer issues, establishing and maintaining the JRBA website, posting the monthly newsletters online, serving the community through his work with the Blue Ridge Food Distribution and working with students at the schools, serving as Moderator/Vice-Moderator through the years...to using his strength to move heavy items and even applying sealer to the office roof!

We thank you and wish you "Godspeed" in your new ministry at Bedford Baptist Church. May God bless you and your family in the years ahead as you continue to serve Him in a new place.

## KEEP IN PRAYER>>>

- Those who are lost and need to know the Savior
- The churches and people of Ukraine
- JRBA Churches without a pastor: Buckingham, Chestnut Grove, Fitzgerald Memorial, and Jones Chapel
- JRBA Churches and Pastors
- Planning for the JRBA Annual Fall Meeting
- Leaders (Local, State, National, and World)
- All those affected by violence or natural disasters
- 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 one.



*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*  
Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)



## **JRBA Quarterly Executive Board Meeting July 11, 2022**

Rev. Michael Khol, Moderator, opened the meeting by sharing devotional thoughts based on Matthew 13:45 – 46: *“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.”* Michael distributed to each person in attendance a sealed oyster containing a fresh water pearl. According to Jesus, the merchant in the parable is like the Kingdom of Heaven. He noted that he never really understood this, as he is not a collector of pearls. Only to a collector of pearls would one consider selling everything he had to buy a precious pearl. He compared this to how he is a connoisseur of Legos and how some folks are car people or lovers/collectors of other things. To get a most prized item, one might sell all they had to purchase it. What we should take away from the parable is that God loves each of us like the merchant loved pearls. That kind of love doesn't really make sense to us in human terms, but God loves each of us so much that He sent His son to die for us. God sees each of us as precious to Him. He said for us to let the pearl he gave us be a reminder of how much God loves us. He then led in prayer. Michael called the meeting to order and asked for the Roll Call of Churches.

There were 17 in attendance: 1 Pastor, 1 Inetip Pastor, 14 Church Representatives, and 1 visitor. The minutes of the April 11, Quarterly Executive Board Meeting were presented and approved. The minutes of the JRBA Semi-Annual Spring Meeting held on May 26, were presented and approved.

Next, the quarterly Treasurer's Report was presented. As of June 30, 2022, the checking account balance was \$35,812.44, which includes the following: Additional Missions Fund - \$900.00, Rise Against Hunger - \$5,031.78, Mission Trips - \$1,550.00, and Missions Blitz - \$898.52. Total receipts for the quarter were \$8,788.56, which includes the following: Churches - \$3,880.60, Individuals & Amazon Smile - \$130.71, Rise Against Hunger - \$2,147.78, Interest on checking - \$4.47, Bland (churches & individuals gifts) - \$2,150.00, and Missions Blitz (Individual donation) - \$500.00. Disbursements totaled \$8,403.06 which included Mission Trips (Bland Team, First Baptist Youth) - \$200.00, Annual Insurance Premium - \$435.00, Bland Ministry Center - **\$2,953.14\***, and Baccalaureate (Fluvanna & Buckingham) - \$400.00. The report was approved as presented.

\*Please note that the amount disbursed to Bland Ministry Center does not match the larger amount stated below in the Moderator's Report as some cash donations were made directly to the team and did not go through the JRBA books.

The John E. Mann, Sr. Benevolence Fund quarterly report was presented. There had been no requests for assistance during the quarter. Goshen contributed \$250 to the fund. The balance on hand stands at \$9,053.38.

**MODERATOR REPORT:** Michael made note that Fitzgerald Memorial now has an Interim Pastor, Vern Miller, who will be serving through August. He requested prayer for the family of Landon Raber, a 6-year old child who was missing in Buckingham County and found deceased this morning. He commended the churches for the giving to the Annie Armstrong Offering for N. A. Missions – a total of almost \$7,000 was contributed. He also noted the generous giving of 10 of our churches to the Bland Ministry Center and Team. With the \$500 in the JRBA Budget, a total of **\$3,072.14** was donated to the center. He thanked the 7 team members who went to Bland and worked hard. Michael also mentioned that 12 JRBA churches have scheduled or help VBS this summer. Many of our churches are hosting Homecoming and Revivals in the coming weeks. He noted that details can be found in the JRBA newsletter. Michael noted that The Hope for Appalachia Team had a successful trip to Kentucky and that pictures were shown at the Spring Meeting. He then thanked Austin Williams for taking on the role of JRBA Treasurer for 2022-2023, and thanked Judy Ownby for her dedicated service in that role.

**SOUTHSIDE PREGNANCY SUPPORT CENTER:** Donielle Yoder presented information on the work at the center.. She talked about the upcoming Walk 4 Life in three locations: Appomattox – September 3, Farmville – September 10, and Buckingham – September 17. This is one of three major fundraisers for the center each year. Participant and sponsor forms are available as well as volunteer applications. The PSC main office is in Farmville, with satellite offices in Appomattox, Buckingham, and Amelia. It is hopeful that a satellite office will soon open in Charlotte County as well. The PSC serves Prince Edward County and all seven surrounding counties. Although nothing changed in Virginia, the overturning of Roe vs. Wade has caused the center to get more calls and people are getting more informed. There is more support of LIFE and folks want to know how to help with this cause. Donielle talked about the main goal of the PSC: to introduce Jesus to the clients. She is there to share the Gospel with every person who calls or comes in for services. The PSC has recently added pregnancy testing, and ultrasounds are available at the Farmville location. The center's biggest need is for volunteers. There is online training for volunteers who actually meet with the clients. There is some need for non-client volunteers as well – this just requires an application, but no training. The Buckingham satellite only has one volunteer currently so get the word out if anyone is interested in getting trained and serving in that capacity. When clients come in for counseling, they earn “Baby Bucks” which they can then use to “purchase” items for their baby. Donielle also shared about PSC's new prayer ministry, “One at 1 PM”. A current prayer request is texted to all participants to pray in one accord at 1 PM each Tuesday and Thursday. For further information on the PSC, to get volunteer applications, or Walk 4 Life forms, contact Donielle Yoder at 434-391-1011. Michael thanked Donielle for giving us an update on the work at PSC and encouraged all the churches to support it.

There were no Officers' Reports. The following Committee Reports were given:

**MISSIONS:** Rev. Jimmy Dunn noted that Gladstone Memorial had just celebrated their 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and that he was pleased to attend and would be preaching their Homecoming on October 2. He commended them on their commitment to Rise Against Hunger and how they had given \$906 to that cause, just by keeping a jar on the communion table for folks to drop in their change. He also commended Jones Chapel for their contest between the boys and girls to raise funds for RAH, contributing over \$1,000! He also noted that Henry Wood had encouraged folks to donate at his 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and had raised \$276. Jimmy encouraged everyone to give what they can and thanked all who have given and will give prior to July 20. He also noted the importance of volunteering at the Blue Ridge Food Distribution at the Crystal Cathedral each 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday. He stressed how important it is for the folks coming to be greeted with the love of Jesus. Many are struggling during these times of high prices, and the food really makes a difference, but sharing God's blessing is just as important! Michael noted how much he appreciates Jimmy's faithfulness to RAH and the Food Bank. The Food Bank is making a difference in the community.

Gloria Newton, a member of the Hope for Appalachia Team to Kentucky in April, gave a short report on the work done there. She thanked the people and churches as what the team did could not have happened without the generosity of JRBA folks. She served on Rev. Woody Moore's team and they saw over 1,700 children. She is so thankful they could go into the schools and share the Gospel, explaining salvation and the love of Jesus. They didn't just give them Hope boxes, they gave them the HOPE OF JESUS CHRIST! She talked about the number of children who are being raised by grandparents or other family members. The area has high drug use and cancer rates and these have a negative impact on life for the children. The team met with the children in a large group setting with games, singing, etc. which was exciting. But they also broke down in to smaller groups and presented the pain of salvation and prayed with the students. She found that the students were open and shared some heart-breaking situations, asking the leaders to pray for them. Gloria shared how teachers wept and begged them to continue to come and share hope with the students. She noted how even a 99¢ yo-yo meant something to them as they opened their boxes! She encouraged everyone to continue to pray that the doors remain open to this ministry as principals are literally putting their jobs on the line to allow



HFA in – the boxes are the instrument, but the Hope is our Lord Jesus Christ. Gloria again thanked us for all we do and encouraged anyone who could to go with the team! You will be blessed!

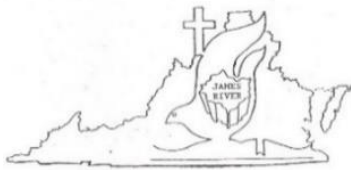
**BACCALAUREATE:** A written report was presented. Several area churches, including 5 JRBA churches, participated in the card shower for BCHS graduates. Antioch Union prepared gift bags and stickers. JRBA contributed \$200 (budgeted) towards the refreshments for the in-person baccalaureate service. Antioch (Scottsville) prepared Gift Bags for the graduating class of Fluvanna High School. JRBA's budgeted amount (\$200) helped pay for mugs for each student. No outreach to the Cumberland graduates was initiated this year. (Kathy Weaver asked about this and was encouraged to help see that something is done next year as there is budgeted money to help with this outreach.)

There was no Old Business. Under New Business, a request for financial assistance was presented from Dwayne Phillips who is going to Honduras in a few weeks to work at the Emmanuel Orphanage to help with the replanting of crops and planning visit dates for future teams. Since Dwayne is not a member of a JRBA church, this needed the approval of the Executive Board. Money is in the budget for mission trips. Gwynn Tyler made a motion to give Dwayne \$100. It was seconded by Rev. Jimmy Dunn. The motion was approved.

An announcement sheet was included in the meeting packets. Michael reiterated the due date for Rise Against Hunger (July 20). Brenda McAllister asked if there is to be an in-person BGAV Annual Meeting this year. Michael noted that meeting plans are in the works and it is scheduled to be held in Hampton Roads, November 14 - 16. A reception for Dr. John Upton will be held on November 14. Rev. Jimmy Dunn also reminded everyone to write a note of appreciation (online) to Dr. Upton. (Further details were included in the July newsletter for your convenience.)

Audrey Ragland made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Rev. Austin Williams, and the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Michael Khol.

#### **JAMES RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**



*People Committed To Making A Difference*

**Accomplishing Together What We Cannot Do Alone**

#### **LETTER OF GRATITUDE AND GOODBYE FROM DR. JOHN UPTON Retiring BGAV Executive Director**

(Reprinted from <https://bgav.org/blog/learning-to-say-goodbye>)

##### **Learning to Say Goodbye**

Deb and I have three children and one of the fascinating things about each of them were the first words they spoke. The first word for each of them was "bye-bye." It was not mama or daddy. It was "bye-bye." They each said it a lot once they learned it. They would see you put on a coat, and you heard, "bye-bye." I remember one of them saying it to their crib one morning. Another said to this bottle when they finished. Isn't it an interesting choice for a child's first word?

I know it is one of the easiest sounds we can make, but it also strikes me as an especially fitting first word because it is at the very core of what it means to grow and live, isn't it? Growing means saying lots of goodbyes. It means leaving many things behind. Frederick Buchner said, "To live is to leave, that is all."

Summer is a season of goodbyes. School stops, and countless friends say goodbye for the summer to one another. Graduates say a more permanent kind of goodbye. Weddings imply a farewell; it is a departure event where parents proudly watch their children go away. Vacation time is full of goodbyes; we leave to see others whom we promptly leave again.

In any given week, how many goodbyes do you think you say? In person, on the phone, by the computer – how many? It is endless until all of it abruptly ends, and last goodbyes get said. I have had too many of those in recent days.

The Bible is full of goodbyes as well, because it is full of living. That is why there are so many benedictions or farewell blessings recorded. The most famous was for the priest to say, "May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace."

Sounds a bit churchy, doesn't it? It is just how we would expect a minister by a stained-glass window to talk. Yet it is a leaving that intentionally leaves people blessed. I sure wish more of our goodbyes could be like benedictions.

Grady Nutt was a remarkable man who was dear to many people. He was a preacher, but primarily a humorist. He was a widely popular speaker and even was a regular on "hee Haw," a national TV show. He had a great mind and was an exuberant personality. He was a free spirit and was powerfully generous with love and laughter and huge hugs. A special memory I have is that Grady chaired my ordination council and preached the ordination message.

Grady died in a plane crash, and many gathered for his funeral. Several of us started sharing memories of Grady by asking, "What was the last thing he said to you/-can you remember?" We were all astonished to learn that the last words any of us could recall were the same words. Grady would say as we said our goodbyes, "love ya." Turns out Grady ended his conversations with friends saying, "love you."

Each of us recalled his words never sounded like a routine signoff. They sounded warm with genuine delight and real well-wishing as he signed off. To have that kind of benediction wash over you time and again by a special friend is to walk taller and have an expanded spirit. You find it easier to love and to laugh.

Do not ever underestimate the power of a good last word to bless. Benediction means "a good word." Why not leave one another more often with such a word?

Part of what this means is to make our goodbye a true departure. I think this is one of the kinder gifts we can give to one another, to release others rightly from ourselves. That may sound strange, since our goodbyes should communicate we are still going to be holding each other in our hearts. A goodbye is a letting go, which may mean sending them into their own freedom to grow. The good news is it is not sending them into the freedom alone. Goodbye literally means, "God be with you." Goodbye is releasing those you love to God.

I have had the honor of serving the BGAV for over 27 years, twenty of them as Executive Director. To say I love BGAV would be a classic understatement. How can you not love those with whom you have lived so fully? Thank you for the gift of your friendships, the gift of your wisdom, your faith, and your trust.

It is time for BGAV to be released with love to grow into its next self. So, at the conclusion of my role as Executive Director, I would like to offer this benediction: "May the God of love and peace be with you. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of the Heavenly Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever more."

Love ya!  
*John Upton*

## FINANCIAL PAGE

2021 – 2022

### REGULAR BUDGET RECEIPTS

**2021 - 2022**

Church	July	Year-to-Date
Antioch (SV)	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,250.00
Antioch Union		\$ 1,000.00
Arvon	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Buckingham		\$ 7500.00
Cedar		\$ 2,500.00
Chestnut Grove		
Enon		
FBC Dillwyn		\$ 2,000.00
Fitzgerald		
Fork of Willis		\$ 369.00
Gladstone		
Goshen		\$ 917.85
Jones Chapel	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,480.00
Mt. Tabor		
Mt. Zion		\$ 1,800.00
Mulberry Grove		\$ 3,993.00
Sharon	\$ 290.75	\$ 1,163.00
Tar Wallet		
Alma Hunt		\$ 54.17
Individuals		\$ 125.00
Amazon Smile		\$ 30.06
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,940.75</b>	<b>\$ 18,432.08</b>

**Approved Budget for 2021 – 2022: \$27,691.39**

Actual Budget (\$27,051 + Carryover Missions Blitz and Rise Against Hunger (\$640.39)

**TREASURERS:** 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 Associational Year (Oct. 1, 2021 – Sept. 30, 2022), NOT the calendar year.

### OTHER BUDGETED LINE ITEMS:



**RAH – New Donations starting 04/01/21**

Church	July	To Date
JRBA Budget 2021-2022		\$ 500.00
Antioch Union	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Buckingham	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Cedar	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00
Chestnut Grove		\$ 380.00
Enon		\$ 400.00
First Baptist Dillwyn	\$1,242.25	\$1,342.25
Gladstone Memorial	\$ 235.00	\$ 1,141.00*
Goshen		\$ 500.00
Jones Chapel		\$1,055.78
Mt. Zion		\$ 400.00
WMU		\$ 500.00**
Mulberry Grove Individual	\$ 20.00	\$ 220.00***
Sharon	\$ 100.00	\$ 180.00*
Tar Wallet	\$ 70.00	\$ 80.00*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,742.25</b>	<b>\$ 7,774.03</b>

\*Carryover Total from 2020 – 2021: \$295.00

\*\*Mt. Zion gave \$500 in honor of Rev. Jimmy Dunn's birthday.

\*\*\* Mulberry Grove Individual \$200 in honor of Rev. Jimmy Dunn.

### ADDITIONAL MISSIONS:

ALL monies expended for Additional Missions are listed each month.

Budgeted

\$1,600.00

NO EXPENDITURES IN JULY

**BALANCE IN ADDITIONAL MISSIONS: \$ 900.00**

### MISSIONS BLITZ

Contributor	July	Year-to-Date
Carryover from 2020-2021		\$ 345.39
JRBA Budget 2021 – 2022		\$ 250.00
Individuals		\$ 500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 1,095.39</b>

NO EXPENDITURES IN JULY

**Balance on hand: \$898.52**

### BLAND MINISTRY CENTER

Church	July	Year-to-Date
JRBA Budget-Bland Ministry Center		\$ 500.00
Antioch (Scottsville) – Individuals		\$ 60.00
Antioch Union		\$ 500.00
Buckingham		\$ 250.00
First Baptist Dillwyn Individual		\$ 105.00
		\$ 50.00
Chestnut Grove WMU		\$ 50.00
Jones Chapel		\$ 570.00
Mt. Zion (WMU)		\$ 100.00
Mulberry Grove (Individual)		\$ 900.00
		\$ 200.00
Tar Wallet		\$ 35.00
Sharon		\$ 203.14
JRBA – Mission Trips		\$ 100.00
Team Members		\$ 210.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$3,833.14</b>

**Team Expenses: \$761.00**

Expenses include items for volunteer house and parts for stove

**TOTAL GIVEN TO BLAND MINISTRY CENTER: \$ 3,072.14**

**Balance \$0.00**

### MISSION TRIPS

Donor	July	Year-to-Date
JRBA Budget		\$2,500.00
Personal Contribution (HOPE)		\$ 53.00*
Cedar (HOPE)		\$ 125.00*
Buckingham Men's Prayer Breakfast Group (HOPE)		\$ 18.00*
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,696.00</b>

\*Designated gifts expended to Hope team.

July Expenditure: \$100 – Jones Chapel Mission Team to MC2

Dwayne Phillips - \$100 Honduras Trip

**BALANCE = \$1,350.00**

### NON-BUDGETED MINISTRIES:

(ALL monies by donation.)

### JOHN E. MANN, SR. BENEVOLENCE FUND

DONATIONS	July	Year-to-Date
Carryover from 2020 – 2021		\$ 7,697.28
<b>NEW CONTRIBUTIONS 2021 - 2022</b>		
Cedar		\$ 300.00
Enon		\$ 200.00
First Baptist Dillwyn		\$ 500.00
Goshen		\$ 250.00
Mt. Zion		\$ 100.00
Mulberry Grove		\$ 300.00
Sharon		\$ 200.00
Individual		\$ 250.00
<b>TOTAL NEW DONATIONS</b>		<b>\$ 2,100.00</b>

NO EXPENDITURES IN JULY

**AVAILABLE DESIGNATED FUNDS: \$9,053.38**



