

THE SERVANT LINK

CHURCHES UNITED TO SERVE - COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE:
ACCOMPLISHING TOGETHER WHAT WE CANNOT DO ALONE

James River Baptist Association

P. O. Box 1219, Dillwyn, VA 23936

Mrs. Marilyn Snoddy – Moderator

Phyllis R. Tyler - Secretary

www.jamesriverbaptistassociation.com

Tel: 434-983-7385

Email: jamesriverbaptistassociation@gmail.com

Hours: Monday & Wednesday

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Volume XXIII

June 2024

Edition VI

The James River Baptist Association is seeking someone to fill the position of Office Manager. Resumes should be emailed to the Personnel Committee at jamesriverbaptistassociation@gmail.com.

JOB TITLE: Office Manager

SUPERVISING BODY: Personnel Committee & Executive Board

HOURLY WAGE: \$14/hour

HOURS: 9:00 am – 5:00 PM, Monday & Wednesday
(16 hrs. per week, days are flexible)

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION:

The JRBA Office Manager will be the primary contact for the 18 churches of the Association for information and submitting reports. He/she will work closely with the Officers, Committee Chairs, and Executive Board. Responsibilities include the publication of a monthly newsletter, sending out Annual Church Profiles, preparing agendas for the Executive Board meetings, making arrangements for various functions, submitting reports to the state and national affiliates, preparing programs for the Annual and Semi-Annual meetings, and preparing a JRBA Directory and Annual Book of Reports.

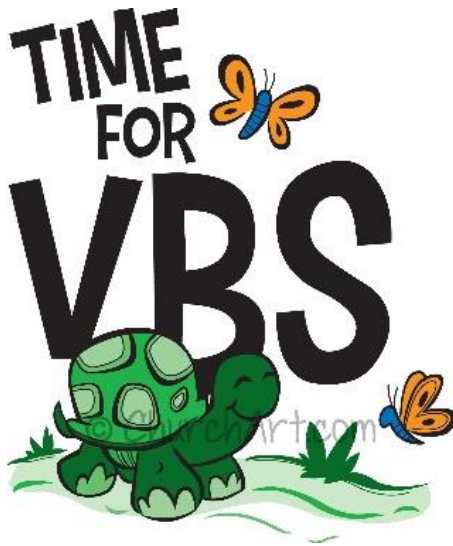
RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES:

1. Manage the daily operations of the office including organizing mail, answering phone calls, completing Benevolence applications and meeting with Benevolence clients (as needed), corresponding with churches and state affiliates via email/phone calls, and interacting with the public.
2. Collect information from the churches in order to complete the monthly calendar and newsletter. The calendar and newsletter should be posted to the association website and an email notice go to all email recipients. Hard copies should be printed and mailed to the churches.
3. Once Annual Church Profiles are available from SBC or BGAV, they are to be printed and sent to the Clerks of each JRBA Church, along with instructions.
4. Coordinating with the Moderator in order to prepare/print Executive Board Agendas prior to the quarterly meetings. (January, April, July, and October)
5. Coordinating with the Program Chair and Moderator to prepare/print the Programs for the Semi-Annual Meeting (May) and Annual Meeting (October).
6. Preparation, printing, binding, and distribution of an Annual JRBA Directory and Book of Reports.
7. Maintain association website.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. High School Graduate
2. Computer Proficiency Experience (conducive to the tasks described)
3. Familiarity with Baptist beliefs, doctrines, and entities, or have a willingness to learn about them
4. Good written and oral communication skills
5. Ability to work under the pressure of a deadline while maintaining a positive attitude and providing client assistance
6. Ability to work independently and carry out assignments to completion
7. Preference that the individual be a member of an Association church
8. Must be able to pass a background check
9. Profess Christ as Savior

H. Gwynn Tyler, Chair
JRBA Personnel Committee



V.B.S. JUNE 2024 SCHEDULE

June 3 – 7
 Children’s VBS at Chestnut Grove
 Theme: Beach
 Commencement and Picnic on June 7

June 8 – 9
 VBS at Mt. Zion TBA

June 10 – 14
 VBS at First Baptist Dillwyn 6:00 – 8:30 PM

June 23 - 27
 Fitzgerald/Tar Walleet VBS at Fitzgerald
 Theme: The Great Jungle Journey
 Ages 3 - 12
 (Sunday) 6:00 – 8:30 PM
 (Monday – Thursday) 6:30 – 8:30 PM

June 23 – 27
 VBS at Cedar 6:00 – 8:00 PM

June 23 – 28
 VBS at Jones Chapel 6:00 – 8:30 PM

June 24 – 28
 VBS at Antioch (Scottsville) TBA

OTHER JUNE EVENTS



JRBA YOUTH EXPLOSION

May 31 & June 1, 2024

6:00 – 9:00 PM

**Location: RMA Trucking Building
 16419 N James Madison Hwy., Dillwyn, VA
 For Youth Grades 6 – 12
 FOOD, GAMES, DOOR PRIZES, PRAISE MUSIC,
 WORSHIP, AND MORE!**

BUCKINGHAM BAPTIST WILL HAVE A MOVIE NIGHT IN JUNE – TBA

June 1	Jones Chapel’s Annual Fishing Tournament Followed by a picnic. Prizes will be awarded on June 9, during the church service.	8:00 AM – Noon
June 3 – 7	First Baptist Dillwyn’s Youth Mission Trip to “MFuge” – Virginia Beach Please pray for these young people and their leaders as they minister in the name of Jesus.	
June 4	Women’s Prayer Group at Mulberry Grove (Every Tuesday)	9:00 AM
	Bible Study at First Baptist Dillwyn (Every Tuesday) The group is studying the book of Romans.	10:00 AM
	All Blessings Flow at First Baptist Dillwyn (Every Tuesday) Medical equipment is given out and received. Call 434-422-8888 for information or to request needed equipment.	10:00 AM – Noon
	Youth Bible Study at Mulberry Grove (Every Tuesday)	7:00 PM
June 5	Adult Bible Study at First Baptist Dillwyn (Every Wednesday) Currently studying Revelation	6:30 PM
June 8	Spring Fest & Yard Sale at First Baptist Dillwyn Come out for a time of family fun, food, and games!	8:00 AM – Noon
June 9 – 12	2024 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting & Pastor’s Conference in Indianapolis Register at https://www.SBCAnnualMeeting.net .	

- June 12 **Senior Citizens' Fellowship at Mulberry Grove** 11:00 AM
 Bluegrass/Gospel Music and Covered Dish Lunch
- June 14 & 28 **Blue Ridge Food Distribution at Crystal Cathedral, Dillwyn**
 Volunteers needed at 9:30 AM



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**FATHER'S DAY
 SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024**

Father's Day Breakfast at Mt. Zion
 The WMU will be cooking and serving breakfast for the men of the church.

Mulberry Grove's Father's Day Church at the River
 James River State Park – 11:00 AM
 Worship and Picnic Lunch
 (Burgers and Hot Dogs Provided)

- June 22 **Loaves & Fish Ministry Meal at Antioch (Scottsville)** 9:30 – 10 :30 AM
- June 22 – 28 **WMUV Mission Trip to Peru**
 If interested in participating in this mission trip, contact Valeria Carter at vcarter@wmuv.org or by phone at 804-928-2920.

Monday, June 24

Information for the July edition of the JRBA calendar and newsletter are due TODAY by 9:00 AM.
 Please include June outreach and celebrations. If you have not sent in your 2024 graduates, please do so.
 Also, send in your VBS reports if your school has already been held.

- June 29 **Men's Prayer Breakfast at Mulberry Grove** 8:00 AM
- LOOKING AHEAD>>>**

OTHER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

- July 16 – 19**
- VBS at Mulberry Grove TBA
- July 29 – 31**
- VBS at Goshen TBA

HOMECOMINGS & REVIVALS

Homecoming – July 14
 Buckingham
 Music by Glory Bound at 10:00 AM
 Worship at 11:00 AM with Preaching by Rev. Richard Long
 Lunch will follow the service.
 Everyone is invited for worship and a time of fellowship.


Homecoming – July 28
Chestnut Grove
 Rev. Les Greeley – 11:00 AM – Followed by a covered dish luncheon
Revival – July 28 – 31
 Special Music at 7:00 PM followed by preaching at 7:30 PM

Homecoming – September 15
 Tar Wallet
 Revival – September 16 – 18

Homecoming – October 6
 Jones Chapel

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 8 **JRBA Executive Board Meeting at First Baptist Dillwyn** 7:00 PM



MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024

**ALL DONATIONS FOR THE 2024 RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL-
 PACKING EVENT ARE DUE BY THIS DATE!**

July 22 – 26

MC2 Missions Connection Celebration at Eagle Eyrie

An intergenerational experience featuring Missions, Discipleship, Worship, Fellowship, and Fun!
Theme: "One to Another" – *One generation shall commend your works to another.* Psalm 115:4
Guest Speaker: Chris Jordan, Pastor, West Lynchburg Baptist
Get full details and register at www.eagleeyrie.org/MC2.



WMUV 150th Anniversary Celebration
CrossRoads Camp & Conference Center
Saturday, September 7, 2024
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Theme: *Roots & Wings*

Save the Date to celebrate 150 years of women on mission through WMUV.
10:00 AM – Open House & Historical Exhibits
11:00 AM – Worship
12:00 PM – Lunch (Registration required)
1:30 PM – A Walk Through History
2:00 PM – WMUV Birthday Party
Participation in the celebration and lunch is FREE, but you must RSVP!
RSVP to www.wmuv.org/150rsvp by **August 15**.

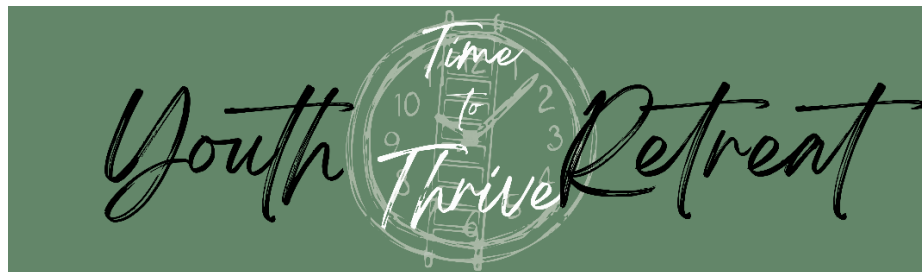


WALK FOR LIFE

Saturday, September 14, 2024
Amelia: Amelia Courthouse Lawn
Buckingham: Central Virginia Chrisitan School
Keysville: Osborne Park
Saturday, September 21, 2024
Appomattox: Courland Festival Park
Farmville: High Bridge Trail

REGISTRATION & OPENING – 8:30 am
WALK BEGINS – 9:00 am

Sponsorship opportunities are now open – Contact Donielle Yoder at donielle.yoder@pscsupport.org or call 434-391-1011.



"Time to Thrive" Youth Retreat
October 11 – 13, 2024
Eagle Eyrie Conference Center
For Middle and High School Students

Registration includes event ticket, meals from Saturday breakfast – Sunday breakfast; and other service fees. Bring your own linens or add \$10/person.
Register before **July 1** to get the early bird pricing of \$95! After July 1, the cost will be \$112/person.
To register, go to <https://eagleeyrie.wufoo.com/forms/time-to-thrive-2024-registration/>.
For additional information, contact Cadance Tyler, Impact Mission Camps Coordinator at 434-944-3914.

2024 RISE AGAINST HUNGER
JRBA MEAL PACKING EVENT
OCTOBER 13, 2024

Maysville Baptist Church/Multi-Purpose Center

Our 2023 meal packing event for Rise Against Hunger was an enormous success! Your generous donations and volunteer participation provided 25,058 meals for hungry people around the world. It was an event exemplifying our motto: **Accomplishing Together What We Cannot Do Alone.**
Let us continue to work cooperatively together to continue to feed the hungry!

ALL DONATIONS FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENT ARE DUE BY JULY 15, 2024.
JRBA Mission Committee



October 14	JRBA Quarterly Executive Board Meeting (Location TBA)	7:00 PM
October 17	190 th JRBA Annual Fall Meeting at Sharon Baptist Church	4:45 PM

WMUV Women's GETAWAY

November 1 -2 or 2 – 3, 2024

Eagle Eyrie Conference Center

Worship, Bible study, dozens of breakout opportunities, and space for rest and reconnecting with God and others.
Registration opens through Eagle Eyrie on **August 1**.

November 11 – 13 2024 BGAV Annual Meeting at First Baptist Church of Alexandria

2932 King Street, Alexandria, VA

Theme: John 8:36

Dr. Wayne Faison, BGAV Executive Director, hopes for this to be the most diverse and the most technological meeting ever!

NEW THIS YEAR: There will be a Tail Gate and a Town Meeting.

For more information, go to <https://meeting.bgav.org/>.

JRBA REACHES OUT>>>

DONATIONS FOR BLAND MINISTRY CENTER

Church	Peanut Butter	Pairs of Undies	Monetary Donations
Antioch (Scottsville)			\$3,500.00 BMC
Antioch Union	96	387	\$ 500.00 BMC
Buckingham Individual	18	17	\$ 150.00 BMC
Chestnut Grove	10	34	
First Baptist Dillwyn	31	67 + 6 t-shirts	\$ 100.00 BMC
Helping Hands			\$ 100.00
Goshen	18	38	
Jones Chapel	14	96 + 36 pairs socks	\$ 775.00
			\$ 195.00 BMC
Mt. Zion WMU		9	\$ 500.00
Mulberry Grove Individuals	49	90	\$ 500.00 BMC
			\$ 250.00
Sharon	41	82	\$ 405.00
Tar Wallet	110	116	\$ 140.00
			\$ 50.00 BMC
Individual	60		\$ 1,000.00 BMC
Team Members and Other Individual Donations			\$ 1,070.00
JRBA Budgeted to BMC			\$ 500.00 BMC
			\$ 100.00 Team
Mission Trip Line Item			\$ 100.00 Gas
JRBA WMU Spring Meeting			\$ 170.00 BMC
TOTALS	447	936 Undies, 6 t-shirts 36 pairs socks	\$10,105.00

Donated to the Bland Ministry Center: \$8,875.47

(This included all designated gifts to BMC + all leftover funds after team expenses + Love Gifts.)

Love Gifts to BMC Staff: \$800.00

Team Expenses: \$429.53 (Food and Items for Volunteer House)

If anyone brought additional peanut butter and/or undies to the JRBA office, please let us know so that it can be added.

2024 JRBA BLAND MISSION TEAM



Audrey Ragland, Gloria Newton, Phyllis Tyler, Linda Gough, Cassie Tomlin, Angie Dunfee, Gwynn Tyler, Wayne Gough, & Joe Weaver

BLAND MISSION TRIP

The 2024 JRBA Bland Mission Team had a wonderful week of work serving at the Bland Ministry Center, fellowshiping around the table, and growing spiritually. All being senior citizens, we worked - and rested - enthusiastically! We felt we accomplished a lot in spite of our aches and pains. We enjoyed our time with Dee Dee and the staff as well as time working alongside the faithful local volunteers.

We enjoyed staying in the Walker volunteer house. Everyone pitched in preparing meals and we ate WELL! We began each day with prayer and had devotions at night. We praise God for the opportunities provided to serve Him and others! Work completed included:

VOLUNTEER HOUSE

- The downstairs was thoroughly cleaned, including the ceiling fans, baseboards, window sills, and blinds.
- Lightbulbs were replaced throughout the house.
- Closets and cabinets were cleaned, reorganized, and labeled.
- The outside basement door was repaired.
- Curtains were hung in an upstairs bedroom.
- Comforters were washed/dried.
- A lamp was bought and a lampshade purchased/replaced.
- A mirror was purchased for the downstairs bedroom.
- Additional items were purchased by team members for the kitchen.
- Blinds were purchased and hung to replace damaged ones.
- Roundup was sprayed around the parking lot and in the sidewalk cracks.

BLAND MINISTRY CENTER OFFICE

- The new offices were cleaned.
- New blinds were picked up and hung in the new offices.
- Shrubs were planted around the new offices.

BMC'S WYTHEVILLE DENTAL CLINIC:

- A door was repaired.
- 3 hand driers were installed.
- A wall was repaired and painted.
- Mold was cleaned up.

BMC CLOTHES CLOSET

- Bags of donated clothing were sorted and made ready for distribution and/or shipment to other facilities.

BMC FOOD WAREHOUSE

- Trucks of donated food were unloaded.
- Food was sorted, shelved, and boxed for distribution.
- Food was distributed at the weekly food distribution – team members assisted clients during pickup.

BMC SMALL VOLUNTEER HOUSE

- A new faucet was bought and installed.

BREAKFAST FOR APPALACHIA TRAIL HIKERS

- Several team members helped with this new ministry of the center, partnering with a local pastor and volunteers, to provide breakfast and encouragement to hikers on the Appalachia Trail.

KISSITO NURSING FACILITY

- The team visited the residents and sang with them. Wayne and Linda Gough provided their sound system and Wayne led the singing.

TRANSPORTING GOODS/OTHER ITEMS FROM WYTHEVILLE FOR THE CENTER

The week was full of blessings for the team with only one "casualty" – a baby rattlesnake was killed at the edge of the parking near the volunteer house – needless to say, everyone definitely "watched their step" when out and about!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY



Walker Volunteer House



Bland Food Warehouse



Inside Food Warehouse



Audrey preparing client boxes



Gloria and local volunteer getting acquainted



Gwynn loading food into a client's car



Inside the Clothes Closet



Linda sorting clothes



Phyllis cleaning blinds



Angie and Cassie organizing cabinets



Joe hanging blinds



Wayne & Linda singing at Kissito



Gloria, Wayne, and Angie with the locals headed to bless the hikers



Joe planting shrubs



Gwynn presenting JRBA donation to BMC to Dee Dee

JRBA HOPE FOR APPALACHIA SPRING MISSION TRIP

March 25 – 30, 2024



Again, we say thank you for all you do for Hope! We are blessed in the JRBA to now have folks that can serve on two teams! Team Woody from here and Team Nawrocki from Culpepper were able to serve two sets of schools because of the folks from Antioch Scottsville and Mt. Zion.

Our trip was dampened because Wayne and Linda Gough were in an accident and were not able to go. However, they still worked behind the scenes in many ways to help our efforts. Once there, Roger Woody came down with a virus and had to go back home. He and Darlene were also missed as we went into our schools. We were enhanced by the other folks from Spring Hill and Howerton Baptist Churches.

We shared resources with Team Nawrocki as well. With this said, we were able to cover all the boxes needed, with extra, this year, plus Bibles and other resources. Thank you to all who contributed as the costs this year were tremendous.

We delivered about 1200 boxes, 700 dolls, 35+ blankets, 35+ stuffed animals specifically to children. We also delivered more boxes, supplies, blankets, dolls, and stuffed animals to each school. More importantly, we had many responses to the Gospel! We gave out over four cases of Bibles and over 200 crosses. There were many moments of personal prayers with children and staff which resulted in persons receiving Christ as their Savior.

Outside of the children's materials, we delivered staff gifts to all staff in each of our schools. Mt. Zion provided teacher gifts for Bell and Page staff. So again, a huge thank you to each for all of the support.

I personally want to thank Laura Higgins for all of her work on the resources for Bell Central. Also for Tar Wallet for hosting the packing of supplies for Bell.

In Christ,
Pastor Woody
Rev. Woody Moore, Team Leader



JRBA-SPONSORED BACCALAUREATES

**BUCKINGHAM COUNTY
BACCALAUREATE
May 5, 2024**

The Baccalaureate for the 2024 graduates of Buckingham County High School was held on Sunday, May 5, 2024.

There were 41 seniors in attendance, along with a large crowd of their relatives and friends. The graduates participated in a Processional and Liberty Johnson, Senior Class President, welcomed everyone to the service. Rev. Lora Snoddy gave the Invocation. The theme of the program was *Let your faith be bigger than your fear!* Scripture passages included Jeremiah 29:11 and I Timothy 4:12.

Senior Class Officers, Liberty Johnson, Kimera Johnson (Vice-President), Amiah Porter (Treasurer), Caroline Browning (Spirit Coordinator), and Logan Ragland (Secretary) introduced the various speakers throughout the program. Speakers Hope Motley, Brian Caldwell, Brooke Lowe, Robert Rich, and Patti Branch each spoke "Words of Inspiration" to the seniors to give them guidance as they enter post-high school life. Barry Snoddy, musician, sang *Amazing Grace, Anyway, and That's Where I Find God*. Closing remarks were made by Liberty Johnson and Rev. Snoddy gave the Benediction.

A large number of graduates, family, and friends attended the reception, sponsored by JRBA*, that followed the service

*JRBA-budgeted money was utilized to help with the cost of refreshments.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY
BACCALAUREATE
Monday, May 6, 2024**

The 2024 Cumberland County Baccalaureate was held on Monday, May 6. Eighteen graduates were in attendance along with family and friends. Pastor Alan Gough, Tar Wallet, welcomed all in attendance and Rev. Steve Emory, Fitzgerald Memorial, gave the Opening Prayer. The theme of the service was Jeremiah 29:11.

Dr. Sheri Almond, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, led the seniors in a Robing Ceremony and special music was presented by All Problems Solved.

Briencia Donkin Brown gave the first scripture reading and Chip Jones, Superintendent, presented "Where We Have Been". A poem was shared by Jamyra Vick, and All Problems Solved sang again.

Rev. Steve Emory gave the Scripture Lesson and Pastor Alan Gough gave the message. Missy Shores, Principal, gave the closing Prayer and everyone was dismissed for refreshments provided by Tar Wallet Baptist Church. Gift bags were available for the graduates.

The event was co-sponsored by JRBA and Tar Wallet – JRBA-budgeted money was used to pay for the musicians.

OUTREACH TO B.C.H.S. GRADUATES

Gift bags were given to all BCHS graduates at their Graduation. Multiple churches of the area helped with items for the bags and several provided congratulatory cards/notes.

- Arvonnia United Methodist provided key chains, pens, and scripture notebooks for the seniors.
- Sandra Mangialetti donated scrolls with candy.
- Antioch Union, Arvon, Brown's Chapel, Buckingham, and Mulberry Grove provided cards for the graduates

Seniors also received the letters they wrote to themselves in Mr. Gough's and Mrs. Ragland's classes.

THANK YOU to the JRBA churches that participated!

Michelle Wright



CHURCH OUTREACH

ANTIOCH (SCOTTSVILLE): Gloria Newton served on the Bland Mission Team. The church gave \$3,000 and an individual donated another \$500 to the Bland Ministry Center.

BUCKINGHAM: Along with Arvon, 149 cards were prepared for the 2024 BCHS graduating seniors.

CEDAR: The Women on Mission will be collecting "Back to School" supplies during June. The church family is currently collecting for Rise Against Hunger.

CHESTNUT GROVE: Rise Against Hunger donations are currently being collected.

FIRST BAPTIST DILLWYN: FBC provided meeting space for Kairos as they prepared to carry out their ministry at Buckingham Correctional Center. FBC also hosted the Red Cross Blood Mobile on Wednesday, May 15. Helping Hands continues to minister to many persons through cards, prayers, visits, and financial aid. The youth did community service yard work on May 4.

FORK OF WILLIS: The members brought in craft supplies and made a monetary donation to Heritage Hall Nursing Home, Dillwyn, to help the Activities Department. They hope this helps brighten the day for the residents there!

JONES CHAPEL: A competition was held between the boys and girls during the month of May to raise money for Rise Against Hunger. Michelle Tuttle, Children's Director, is planning a party for them to reward their efforts in raising money for this worthy cause. A BBQ and silent auction was held in the fellowship hall to raise funds for an upcoming mission trip. Over \$1,800 was raised and the church thanks everyone who worked or brought food or auction items to make this such a successful effort. A total of \$970 was donated for Bland, along with 96 pairs of underwear, 36 pairs of socks, and 14 jars of peanut butter. Angie Dunfee and Cassie Tomlin served on the JRBA Bland Mission Team.

MT. ZION: A Buckingham County High School senior has been struggling financially with rent and other things since his mother passed away. He has been working and trying to keep up with his schoolwork to graduate. A love gift was taken for him amounting to almost two months rent. Dorothy Davis and Marilyn Snoddy made punch and helped serve refreshments at the Buckingham Baccalaureate Service.

MULBERRY GROVE: Worship on the Lawn was held on Friday, May 10. Although it rained and the service had to be moved inside, folks still enjoyed a good night of Praise and Worship. The service was led by Ryan and Karin Goode – Karin played the guitar and led in praise music and Ryan brought the message. Movie night in the pavilion was held on Saturday, May 25. About 40 were in attendance to view *The Hill*, an inspiring film based on an incredible true story of a man who succeeded in baseball, even though he had physical limitations. A family in the church helped with the cost of punch for the BCHS Baccalaureate. The WMU placed American flags on the graves of veterans in the church cemetery for Memorial Day. Wayne and Linda Gough, and Gwynn and Phyllis Tyler served on the JRBA Bland Mission Team.

SHARON: Sharon's congregation contributed 82 pairs of underwear and 41 jars of peanut butter to the Bland Mission effort. Audrey Ragland served on JRBA's Bland Mission Team. Rose of Sharon (WMU) continues visiting, delivering meals, sending cards, and calling those who need a little extra cheer.

TAR WALLET: Joe Weaver served on the Bland Mission Team. He also transported most of the collected items to the center.

JRBA LEARNS AND GROWS>>>

FIRST BAPTIST DILLWYN: Youth Sunday was held on April 28, 2024, with the Youth Group leading the entire worship service. Abigail Bryant, Scarlett Davis, Michael Moss, Lillie Palmore, Piper Scialdo, Kelsi Steinruck, Liam Steinruck, Carter Taylor, Sawyer Taylor, Emma Wallace, Mollie Ruth Walker, and Brayden Wright performed *My Lighthouse*, *Death Was Arrested*, and *Glorious Day* for the congregation. During the offering (collected by Liam, Brayden, Carter, Sawyer, and Michael), Lillie and Piper performed a powerful sign language interpretation to *Gratitude*. The morning featured a dramatic reading of *The Dark Place* by Lillie, Piper, Liam, and Sawyer and also a skit where Kelsi, Liam, Abigail, Emma, Mollie Ruth, Michael, Lillie, and Scarlett illustrated the competing forces that fight for the attention of today's youth and Jesus' ability to conquer them all! Finally, Piper delivered a powerful sermon.

MT. ZION: At their monthly meeting, the WMU had Chaplain Layne from Grace Inside as their speaker. He told about his service as Chaplain at the Buckingham Correctional Center. There are many religious groups in the prison. He sits in on the meetings, but he is not able to talk about his beliefs unless he is asked. He has opportunities to do so at times and then he can tell about what the Bible says. The WMU donated \$500 to Grace Inside to help with its prison ministry.



JONES CHAPEL: Marilyn Gressett led the Spring Luncheon of the Women's Ministry. She led a devotional time where the ladies were reminded that they are "Daughters of the King". Each person received a tiara, a bookmark with a tiny crown pin, and various other prizes. Door prizes were also given out at a drawing. Approximately 26 ladies were in attendance.

EVANGELISM WORKSHOP

On May 5, 2024, The Evangelism Conference was held. Arvon Baptist hosted the event and provided refreshments. The sessions were broken into three parts. Rev. Geoff Bruschi opened the event with prayer and greetings. Rev. Woody Moore facilitated the first session – *What IS Evangelism?* Rev. Bruschi led the second session on *Why DO Evangelism?* Then Rev. Moore wrapped up with a session on *HOW to Do Evangelism*. There were 11 in attendance. After the sessions, everyone enjoyed a time of fellowship and refreshments.

I would like to thank Arvon Baptist for hosting the event, providing the facility, tech support, and refreshments. Also, I appreciate Rev. Geoff Bruschi for his willingness to host and help facilitate the conference.

Rev. Woody Moore

DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING

Fitzgerald Memorial hosted a BGAV Disaster Response Training on Saturday, May 11, 2024, from 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Training included an introduction to Disaster Response, Hands-On Mass Feeding, and Clean-Up. Twelve people attended. Participants received a DR Hat and T-Shirt along with credentials to serve during a time of disaster.

OTHER EVENTS – MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS>>>

BUCKINGHAM: Mothers were recognized on Mother's Day with a small gift.

CEDAR: On Mother's Day, all mothers were presented with a gift and special recognition was given to the Oldest mother – Mrs. Jean Saunders, the Youngest mother – Haley Allen Hickman, and to the mother with the most children in attendance – Chasity Allen Taylor, with 7 children present. Also, Pastor Tommy had asked ladies to share with the congregation a scripture that is special to them and a brief message about their feelings and thoughts on being a mother. These mothers of various ages and years of experience participated: Kathy Midkiff, Annette Allen, Debbie Davis, Jean Tyree, Amber Staton, Kim Page, Regina Harris Goard, and Amanda Shepherd. To say this was a really touching and heartwarming service would be such an understatement! Thank you to Pastor Tommy for giving up his time in the pulpit to let these mothers share with us what it means to be a mother better than anybody could describe.

JONES CHAPEL: On Mother's Day, Pastor recognized all mothers and ladies of the church. Each one received a single flower. The Oldest mother, Irene Wyatt, and Youngest mother, Holly Pleasants, each received a hanging basket. (Photo to the right)

MT. ZION: The men of the church cooked breakfast for the ladies on Mother's Day.





MULBERRY GROVE: The deacons of the church prepared and served breakfast for the ladies on Mother's Day. Everyone enjoyed this time of food and fellowship

JRBA CELEBRATES>>>



2024 Graduates

CEDAR: The church family congratulates their 2024 graduates for their hard work and perseverance!

- Christin Midkiff – Nursing School
- Ciera Ownby Warner – Teaching Degree
- DeMaceio Lewis – Cumberland High School & Southside Community College
- Gavin Dunkum – Buckingham High School.

JONES CHAPEL: Congratulations to Josh Gressett, son of Pastor Dane & Marilyn Gressett, upon his graduation from Virginia Tech. The church family wish him the best as he makes decisions for his future.

MULBERRY GROVE: Congratulations to Noah Jones, graduate of Buckingham County High School, who will be attending Southside Virginia Community College.

Other Celebrations



JONES CHAPEL: New members, Gay Large and Wayne and Jean Morris, recently joined the church. (Pictured Above)



On May 26, Jones Chapel welcomed new members, Jason & Julie Ownby, Brian and Hannah Stevens, and Otelia Anderson. Jason also recently made a profession of faith and was baptized. (Above)

SHARON: On May 19, spirits were high as Sharon Baptist welcomed Rev. and Mrs. Mark Alexander to the morning worship service and celebratory meal that followed. Rev. Alexander served as pastor of Sharon (and Mt. Tabor) from 1983 – 1986 (his first pastorate). The son of Baptist missionaries, Mark spent most of his childhood in Argentina. He attended Baylor University and received a Masters of Theology degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Mark and Karen felt God's call to the foreign mission field, and left to accept appointment to Argentina from the SBC International Mission Board. What a blessing it was to have Mark and Karen in the area for the week! Everyone enjoyed "catching up" with their beloved friends!

IN LOVING MEMORY>>>

JONES CHAPEL: The church family is saddened to lose a member, Mrs. Barbara River. She will be missed by her family and friends.

SHARON: Joyce Rush Jamerson, a devoted member of Sharon Baptist, went to her heavenly home on May 12, 2024. Born at the family home, Big Oaks, on May 25, 1934, she was preceded in death by her parents, Bruce and Edith Rush, husband, Dillard Jamerson, daughter, Gloria J. Combs; son, Robert D. Jamerson, and brother, Bruce Rush. She is survived by her sons, Bernie Jamerson (Jane), Philip Jamerson (Tammy), and Bruce Jamerson; sisters, Jewell Brown and Barbara Boley; ten grandchildren, three great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and many cousins.



STAFF CHANGES>>>

CHESTNUT GROVE: Rev. Daniel Packard has recently been hired as Summer Interim Pastor. He and his wife, Candace, live in Lynchburg, VA. They have one daughter, Oakley, who is two years old. Daniel has been a Youth Pastor in Georgia for two years and is currently pursuing his Master of Divinity degree at Liberty University. Welcome to our Association!

Rev. Daniel Packard
Phone: 207-242-3633

KEEP IN PRAYER>>>

- Those who are lost and need to know the Savior
- JRBA Churches without a Pastor: Buckingham, Chestnut Grove, and Sharon
- JRBA Churches, Pastors, and Leaders
- JRBA Personnel Committee as they search for a JRBA Office Manager
- JUNE 3 – 7: First Baptist Dillwyn's Youth Mission Trip to "MFuge" – Virginia Beach, VA
- Leaders: Local, State, National, and World
- 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

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)



FROM YOUR MODERATOR>>>

The JRBA Semi-Annual Spring Meeting at Tar Wallet Baptist Church was greatly enjoyed. The Junior Troupe from Central Virginia Christian School did a wonderful job during the worship service. I am so glad they came and shared their talents with us. Michael Moss's testimony was very touching and it is good to see these young people standing up for their faith. Thank you to all who participated and thank you, Tar Wallet, for serving as the Host Church. May God bless you as you continue to serve Him!

The JRBA-sponsored BCHS Baccalaureate was well attended by the 2024 graduates, families, and friends. The speakers and music were very good. Attendance is improving every year, both in Buckingham and Cumberland. Praise God, for He IS Good!

In His Love,
Marilyn
Marilyn Snoddy, Moderator



JRBA SEMI-ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

The 190th Semi-Annual Spring Meeting of the James River Baptist Association met at Tar Wallet Baptist Church on Thursday, May 9, 2024. Forty messengers and four visitors were officially in attendance. Eight of the messengers were JRBA Pastors. There were several additional folks from Tar Wallet who assisted with the fellowship meal. The Junior Troupe (14 students) and their leaders (2), along with many parents, grandparents, and friends came for dinner and attended the worship service as well. It was good to see such a full house for worship, with so many young families represented!



Registration began at 5:45 PM. The meeting was opened at 6:00 PM by Rev. Alan Gough welcoming everyone and talking about the theme: *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not turn from it.* Proverbs 22:6. Alan related this verse to his childhood. Mrs. Marilyn Snoddy announced the upcoming retirement of Phyllis Tyler and recognized her for her almost-19 years of service as the JRBA Secretary. She graciously expressed her appreciation, as well as that of the association. She then presented Phyllis with a Retirement Bonus, a beautiful "Grandma" plaque, a card with scripture notes, and a beautifully decorated cake. Phyllis thanked everyone for their support and expressed her love for everyone in JRBA. Rev. Alan Gough gave instructions for the fellowship meal and gave the blessing. Then everyone proceeded to the fellowship hall where they enjoyed a delicious meal, AND cake!

After a wonderful time of fellowship around the table, everyone made their way back to the sanctuary for the Business Session and Worship. The

session began with a prelude by Barbara Bersch, Pianist. The Invocation was given by Rev. Robert Silby, Goshen. Marilyn then called the business session to order and presented the updated program for approval. It was approved and Gwynn Tyler had the roll call of churches.

Gwynn then presented the Personnel Committee Report. The JRBA Executive Board approved Phyllis Tyler's resignation, effective June 15, 2024, at their April quarterly Executive Board Meeting. Based on the guidelines of the JRBA ByLaws, Moderator Marilyn Snoddy appointed an Ad Hoc Personnel Committee, charged with the responsibility of finding a new secretary for the Association. Committee members are Marilyn Snoddy, Audrey Ragland, Judy Ownby, Rev. Austin Williams, and Gwynn Tyler, Chair. The committee has met three times and developed a job description and are working on a Policy Manual. Phyllis is preparing an Office Manual outlining all the duties, responsibilities, contact information, and office procedures. The position will now be called Office Manager since it entails more responsibility than being just a secretary. (See page 1 of the newsletter for the job description, qualifications, etc.) The committee planned to announce the position soon after the spring meeting on both the JRBA and BGAV web sites. (This has been done.) The following recommendations were made by the committee and approved:

1. The position of JRBA Office Manager will be a part-time position with a pay per hourly rate of \$14.00 for 16 hours per week. For budgeting purposes, this rate, along with our part of Social Security, will come to an annual compensation of a little over \$12,500.00 for the budget year. (This is very close to the already approved compensation for 2023 -2024.) The Personnel Committee and the Office Manger will set the office hours based on the person's preferred schedule with the office continuing to be open at least two days per week. There may be a few exceptions based on holidays or extra work that may need to be done.
2. The Personnel Committee will be authorized to interview applicants, select someone, and hire him/her.
3. The Personnel Committee will be authorized to change the hourly rate as deemed necessary for a new hire.
4. The Personnel Committee will also determine a plan of operations during the transitional period until an Office Manager is secured.
5. The Personnel Committee will become a JRBA Standing Committee for the purpose of overseeing and evaluating the performance of the Office Manager and any future employees.
6. The Personnel Committee will be authorized to create a Personnel Policy Manual.

The recommendations of the Personnel Committee were unanimously approved.

Rita Harris, Nominating Committee Chair, then presented the updated Slate of Officers for 2024 – 2025. Since the slate of officers was approved at the April Executive Board Meeting, Rev. Austin Williams has agreed to stay on as Treasurer and Robert Spiers has agreed to serve as the Disaster Relief Coordinator. Rita noted that the positions of Vice Moderator, Baptist Men's Director, and VBS Leader remain vacant. If anyone is willing to take on any of these roles, please let her know. A new parliamentarian will also need to be appointed in October. The Slate of Officers was approved as presented.

Danielle Yoder, Southside Pregnancy Center, was slated to talk to JRBA about the upcoming Walks for Life and how you can support their work, but she was unable to attend. Rev. Skip Wallace, BGAV Field Strategist for Central/Valley Region, brought greetings from BGAV. He noted the 200th celebration of BGAV life back in November, 2023, and noted that the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV) is a "missionary movement unleashing the power of the resurrected Christ through the local church for the renewal of all things". He made available brochures for anyone with questions. He thanked JRBA for partnering with BGAV. He noted some currently spouted "rumors" that BGAV supports homosexual marriage and some hospitals that perform abortions. These rumors are NOT true. BGAV works to build and expand the Redeemer's Kingdom and reach the lost for Jesus Christ!



Rev. Jimmy Dunn then called the members of the 2024 Bland Mission Team in attendance to the front and commissioned them for service. He mentioned his trips to Bland and thanked the team for their willingness to serve. He encouraged the team to go in the spirit of Jesus and to do all they can to show His love to others. He had a prayer of blessing for the team.

The Worship service began with the singing of *Jesus Loves Me* – it was a wonderful sound to hear everyone's voices blending together with the words of this old hymn! Rev. Austin Williams then led in prayer and led the congregation in The Lord's Prayer. An offering of \$706 was collected for the JRBA 2024 Rise Against Hunger Meal-Packing event.

The congregation was then truly blessed by a presentation by the Junior Troupe of CVCS, under the direction of Tiffany Satterwhite and Michele Bates. Troupe members were Addison Southall, Henry Bates, Jake Davis, Vivian Jones, Elizabeth Mitchell, Skylar Hanley, Gavyn Waack, Michael Moss, Frankie Large, Shelby Walker, Lane Durette, and Olivia Powell. Narrators were Ranen Walker and Bristol Dedmond. The group performed two stick dramas to *The River* and *My Feet Are On The Rock*. They did Interpretive Signing to Gratitude, featuring soloists Gavyn Waack, Olivia Powell, Michael Moss, and Vivian Jones. Then Michael Moss, son of Cody and Ashley Moss, gave his sincere and touching testimony of his Christian conversion and walk. He also shared how he had witnessed to a friend and that everyone deserves to know about the Lord!



After the performance, everyone joined in singing, *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*. Marilyn thanked the group for their presentation and closed the meeting with the Benediction.

IN APPRECIATION>>>

I want to thank the JRBA for the privilege and honor of serving as the Office Secretary for almost 19 years. When I began in 2005, Rev. John E Mann was serving as your faithful Director of Missions. He and I worked together until his passing when JRBA lost a passionate supporter.

Over the years, my relationship with the leadership of JRBA and BGAV grew into dear friendships! At the Spring Meeting, Marilyn had many kind words for me and the work I have done. I so appreciate her and those words of gratitude and recognition. I have worked hard, but often made mistakes. For you gracious forgiving spirit, acceptance of me (flaws & all), and respect, I am most grateful. It has been an humbling and challenging adventure, as well as a great pleasure to serve God by serving JRBA.

Thank you for the Retirement Bonus, the beautiful card, the sweet "Grandmother" plaque, and the delicious and beautifully-decorated cake! Thank you for your many calls and words of appreciation and retirement congratulations and well wishes. I love you all! May God bless you and JRBA as you continue to serve Him.

Phyllis R. Tyler

REFLECTIONS AS I RETIRE...

As I look forward to my last weeks in the JRBA office, I am reflecting with a smile on several incidents involving "critters" while working here. I really never knew what was in store when I came into the office each day. There have been animal encounters of varying degrees.

For example, I remember clearly coming in and starting work at my desk one day and realizing that there were insects swarming all around! It was an invasion of termites – apparently, they had laid eggs in the old carpeting and the warm spring heat had them hatching in large numbers. It wasn't easy swatting termites and trying to type! Not to mention the scratching after some bites! Between my spraying unsparingly and the landlord's setting off extermination "bombs" while I was out of the office, we finally thwarted the flying missiles...that is, until the next year! Eventually, exterminators came to rid the office of the pests and the carpet was replaced. None too soon for me!

On another occasion, I arrived at the office to find little muddy "footprints" in the back of the office – lo and behold, the town of Dillwyn was experiencing a proliferation of groundhogs and one had come in through the hole in the floor. As I found no evidence that the critter was still here, I covered the hole with a box and weighted it down with books! Thankfully, one of the pastors came to my rescue and filled in the hole with cement! No more groundhogs!

There were several years of peace from "critter" visits, but in the summer of 2023, I encountered (not really encountered, but more aptly put – endured) the arrival of a skunk family who had taken up residence under the building. Now they may not have been in sight, but they were certainly not unnoticed, if you know what I mean! The landlord set traps and caught a variety of animals, just not the skunks! He sold the property (with the skunk family still in residence) and the new landlord then tackled the problem. He, too, trapped a number of critters, but the skunk smell remained. This went on for about three months resulting in many headaches and somewhat sickly days...but still I persevered! The skunk's entrance was finally located in the foundation of this portion of the building and successfully closed. The skunk's "aroma" finally dissipated and, I must say, I was definitely NOT sad to finally "smell" the end of the skunk fiasco!

Ah, that ends the tales of visits of the animal species...or does it? I've had occasional visits from some unusual critters of the human kind, too, but that's a story for another day...ending with a chuckle and hoping that the new person will abide in relative peace from the animal world.

Phyllis

REGULAR BUDGET RECEIPTS

2023 – 2024

Church	May	Year-to-Date
Antioch (SV)		\$ 4,500.00
Antioch Union	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Arvon		
Buckingham		\$ 1,000.00
Cedar		\$ 3,000.00
Chestnut Grove		
Enon		
FBC Dillwyn		\$ 1,000.00
Fitzgerald		
Fork of Willis		\$ 438.00
Gladstone Memorial		\$ 900.00
Goshen	\$ 886.68	\$ 886.68
Jones Chapel	\$ 184.00	\$ 1,527.00
Mt. Tabor		\$ 715.43*
Mt. Zion		\$ 1,800.00
Mulberry Grove		\$4,000.00
Sharon		\$ 822.75
Tar Wallet		
Individuals	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,400.00
Offering – Fall Meeting		\$ 540.00
TOTAL	\$1,770.68	\$23,029.86

Approved Budget for 2023 – 2024: \$28,618.52

Actual Budget \$27,970.00 + \$648.52 Carryover Missions Blitz
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, 2023 – Sept. 30, 2024)**, NOT the calendar year.

* Mt. Tabor reissued a check for their 2022-2023 dues (original was lost in mail) for \$354.43 and their 2023-2024 dues of \$361.00.

OTHER BUDGETED LINE ITEMS

Additional Missions

Budgeted: \$500.00

Southside Pregnancy Center, Grace Inside Prison Ministry, BCM Longwood, Fellowship of Christian Athletes - \$100 each

No Expenditures from this Line Item in May

Balance: \$100.00

Missions Blitz

Carryover: \$648.52

No Expenditures in May.

JRBA 2024 Youth Explosion

Donation	May	Total-to-Date
JRBA Budget		\$ 500.00
Buckingham		\$ 500.00
FBC Helping Hands		\$ 200.00
Mt. Zion		\$ 1,000.00
Mt. Zion WMU		\$ 500.00
BGAV Kairos Initiative		\$ 2,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 4,700.00

Christian Education/Training/Evangelism

Budgeted: \$300.00

Rev. Austin Williams and Rev. Dane Gressett
 (Preaching Conference - \$50 each = \$100)
 Rev. Dave Vogt (Preaching Conference) - \$50
 Kathy Weaver (Tax Seminar) - \$15
 Antioch-Scottsville (Youth Revival) - \$100

BALANCE: \$35.00

Mission Trips

Budgeted: \$2,000.00
 Expended in November: \$50 each
 Hope for Appalachia Trip: Rev. Woody Moore,
 Wayne Gough, Linda Gough
 Expended in January
 Honduras – Gwynn Tyler - \$100
 Liberia – Christy Davis - \$100
 Expended in March:
 Hope for Appalachia Team Members:
 Rev. Woody Moore, Rochelle Moore, Brenda McAllister, Gloria
 Newton, Nancy Kidd, Ashley Branham, Misty Christian, and James
 Christian - \$50 each (-\$ 400.00)
 Fuel Assistance (Hope trip) \$100.00
Expenditures in May:
 Bland Mission Team - \$100
 Fuel Assistance (Items to Bland) - \$100
 First Baptist Dillwyn Youth Mission Trip - \$100
Balance: \$ 850.00

Bland Ministries

Donations	May	Year-to-Date
JRBA Budget		\$ 500.00
Antioch (Scottsville)	\$ 500.00	\$3,500.00
Antioch	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Buckingham (Individual)	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
First Baptist Dillwyn (Helping Hands)	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
Jones Chapel	\$ 195.00	\$ 970.00
Mt. Zion WMU	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Mulberry Grove Individuals	\$ 50.00	\$ 500.00 \$ 250.00
Sharon	\$ 405.00	\$ 405.00
Tar Wallet	\$ 50.00	\$ 190.00
JRBA WMU Spring Meeting	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00
Individual Donations (Team & Others)	\$1,020.00	\$2,070.00
JRBA Mission Trip Line Item (Team and Fuel Assistance)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
TOTAL	\$3,840	\$10,105.00*

*A number of donations went directly to Bland Ministry Center and several donations went directly to the Team. See page 5 for complete listing. The totals in the May newsletter were broken down differently, so do not combine with June receipts for the grand total.

FINAL TOTALS:

Of the \$10,105.00 collected,
\$8,875.47 was donated to the Bland Ministry Center from JRBA Churches and Individuals.

\$800 was given in Love Gifts to BMC Staff Members
 Team expenses totaled \$429.53 – this included food and items for the volunteer house. Team members took care of most of their own expenses and some also bought additional items for the volunteer house.

BALANCE: \$0.00

NON-BUDGETED MINISTRIES

(ALL monies by donation)

John E. Mann, Sr. Benevolence Fund

Donations	May	Year-to-Date
Carryover from 2022 – 2023		\$ 6,578.48
Buckingham		\$ 200.00
Cedar		\$ 300.00
First Baptist Dillwyn		\$ 500.00
Goshen	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Mt. Zion		\$ 100.00
Sharon		\$ 200.00
TOTAL	\$ 100.00	\$ 7,978.48

NO EXPENDITURES IN MAY

Total Expenditures 2023-2024: \$ 1,089.00

BALANCE: \$ 6,889.48

Rise Against Hunger

Church	May	Year-to-Date
Antioch (Scottsville)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Antioch Union	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
First Baptist Dillwyn		\$ 100.00
Fitzgerald Memorial		\$ 42.70
Gladstone Memorial		\$ 440.00
Goshen	\$ 525.00	\$ 525.00
Mt. Zion WMU		\$ 400.00 \$ 500.00
JRBA Spring Mtg. Offering	\$ 706.00	\$ 706.00
TOTAL	\$2,731.00	\$ 7,213.70

Knights Pantry

Church	May	Year-to-Date
Carryover from 2022 - 2023		\$ 2,231.92
Mulberry Grove WMU		\$ 281.00
Sharon		\$ 124.00
Individuals		\$ 185.00
Interest 1 st quarter		\$ 0.31
TOTAL		\$ 2,822.23

Expenditures in February: \$124.21

NO RECEIPTS OR EXPENDITURES IN MAY

BALANCE: \$2,698.02

Individual Designated Offerings Received/Expended

Piedmont Habitat for Humanity - \$100

BGAV Disaster Relief - \$100

Gideons International - \$100

