

JAMES RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION P. O. Box 1219, Dillwyn, VA 23936 Email: jamesriverbaptistassociation@gmail.com Accomplishing Together What We Cannot Do Alone

#### December 2024

#### FROM YOUR MODERATOR

I am excited to be serving as your new Moderator for 2024 – 2026. Our Association continues to be on task for the Kingdom and doing many great things to reach out to those in need. The Rise Against Hunger Meal-Packing event in October was a great time of working together! I want to thank all those who made financial contributions



and who came out to help with the packing. 102 folks of all ages worked tirelessly to get the 31,156 meals ready for shipment to the Philippians to feed approximately 140 children school lunches for a year!

Many of you have also been involved in Disaster Response efforts to the victims of Hurricane Helene in Damascus, VA, and North Carolina. Your contributions and willingness to serve are much appreciated, both by our leadership and by the folks who received your gifts, whether goods, money, or time. May God bless you for your willingness to reach out in God's love during this time of recovery. Please be sure to contact JRBA if you plan to participate in a Disaster Relief mission trip so that we can support that effort.

Thank you to all who are providing warm winter clothing, blankets, cookies, etc. for the Hope for Appalachia Mission trip in December. Please pray for those going and for the children receiving items from us.

Our 190<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Meeting was a great time of business, fellowship around the table, and worship. **Sharon Baptist** hosted the meeting and made everyone feel welcome. Rev. Dan Gressett presented a meaningful, and challenging, message on II Chronicles 7:11-14. The **Sharon Baptist** Choir and Jennifer Farrish sang beautifully. Thank you all for a job well done! We look forward to our Semiannual Spring Meeting at Antioch (Scottsville) in May.

With regard to business conducted at the Annual Meeting, please note that the 2023 – 2024 Book of Reports will not be sent out at the present time. There were some transfer errors on the financial pages – they will be corrected and approved at the January Executive Board Meeting. Be assured that the 2024 – 2025 Budget Total of \$28,541.00 was correct as approved. A copy of the budget is attached to the December newsletter.

Let us continue, with God's help, to "Accomplish Together What We Cannot Do Alone", both here and beyond!

In Christ, H. Gwynn Tyler, Moderator

## Meet Your Officers

## Mr. Gwynn Tyler, Moderator

1. Tell us a little about where your life started. I grew up in the small town of Waverly, Virginia, down in the Tidewater area. I am the oldest of four boys. While I was growing up, I delivered the Richmond Times-Dispatch newspaper in a bicycle each morning before school, cut grass for folks around town, and worked in a Western Auto Store to earn a little spending money. I also played on the High School basketball and baseball teams.

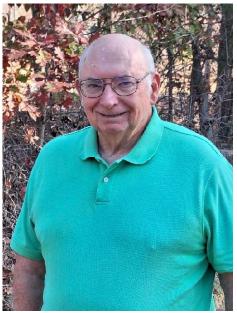
2. How and when did God come into your life? I made a profession of faith at age 12 at Waverly Baptist Church. It seems like I have been in church all of my life. As a child I was in Sunday School and Batist Training Union where I learned about

the Bible and how a person should live as a Christian. I attended church in college and participated in the Baptist Student Union. Phyllis, my wife, and I met at **Blacksburg Baptist Church** and were married. We are presently members of **Mulberry Grove Baptist Church**.

3. What plans do you see for JRBA in the next year as moderator?

As your moderator, I hope to be able to provide leadership and encouragement to continue the good work of the individuals and churches within the association. We have three very good ministry opportunities to serve through Rise Against Hunger, Hope for Appalachia, and the Bland Ministry Center. A number of folks have recently participated in disaster relief in Virginia and North Carolina relating to damage from Hurricane Helene. Many others are doing mission work within their communities by helping people in need. Please share your experiences and mission opportunities through the JRBA newsletter or by contacting the office. We would love to hear about what you and your church is doing. It just might encourage someone or another church to become more involved in missions.

 How can you be reached? Gwynn Tyler 434-315-4443 <u>hgwynntyler@yahoo.com</u> P.O. 253 Buckingham, Virginia 23921



#### **Celebrations**





Antioch-Scottsville Baptist was blessed to offer dinner and social time to Fluvanna Special Need students and their families on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. The next day they welcomed 800+ community members for their annual Fall Festival. (photos above) On Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, members greeted voters with coffee and snacks as they were entering or exiting the poll. (photo to left). 100 Backpacks and numerous blankets were collected for Hope for Appalachia and 216 Operation Christmas Child boxes have been packed so far! (Photos below)





**Mulberry Grove Baptist** provided a meal for the BCHS Volleyball Team before their game on October 21. Go Knights! (Left Photo)

**Chestnut Grove Baptist Church** began their Halloween Outreach packing 300 sandwich bags with candy and a children's gospel booklet obtained from the Pocket Testament League.

Channing Bailey, Aidon Morris, Nancy Bryant and Nancy Morris set up on the sidewalk at the soccer



field in Farmville. The Gospel of John, ABC's of Salvation Calendar and a miniature Jesus were handed out to the adults with the expression, "Have a little Jesus". The response was unbelievable. These miniature Jesus sparked off many conversations, opportunities to witness and were always received with a smile. Needless to say, within an hour everything was gone except for the love placed in hearts to receive the Good News. (photo to left)

Mulberry Grove participated in Dillwyn's Trunk-or-Treat on October 31. Hundreds of bags of sweet



treats were distributed. Several adults and teens participated and the members supplied the candy. (photo to left)

**Cedar** hosted a "Trunk or Treat" on October 31st with 11 "trunks" filled with goodies, also each person received a gospel tract and a cross at the end of their journey.

A large group of **Mulberry Grove's** Youth and Parents attended Scaremare in Lynchburg on October 19. Afterwards, they enjoyed a sweet treat at Dairy Queen.

A Hunters' Breakfast was held on November 23 as a fundraiser for Youth activities.

The WMU of **Mulberry Grove** hosted an Ornament Exchange on November 15, for 63 ladies of the church and friends. A delicious

meal of finger foods was enjoyed by all, along with a devotional time, prayer, and games. And, of course, everyone enjoyed the actual ornament exchange and went home with a new ornament for their Christmas tree! The WMU ladies made and supplied hats and scarves for Hope for Appalachia. Church members also supplied other winter wear items. A local family of 5 has been adopted for Christmas. Members will purchase items from a wish list for each of them.



Three from Buckingham Baptist Church and seven of Sharon Baptist Rose of Sharon attended the Women's Get-Away at Eagle Eyrie November 1-2-- Pat Turner, Jo Lang, and Betty Toney. The weekend retreat was very inspirational with the Worship Leader sharing 2 songs she had written and with testimonies from different people in the mission field. There were speakers of the on the timely topic of domestic violence and ways it can be address in our local churches using the Word of God. We attended three break-out sessions—Journey Partners, a way to be a mentor to someone, and to connect with younger people; Let Us Pray, where we were given ways to pray continually and to

join God on the mountain. Guided prayers, and the ancient tradition of contemplative prayer were explored. The session, Rest in the Wilderness, explored the Biblical rhythm of work and rest. Our keynote speakers were Sara Hubble and our Executive Director/Treasurer, Valerie Carter Smith, who will be retiring in January. They each challenged us to reach beyond ourselves to minister to those around us. The Museum from the 175 Birthday of WMUV was set up for all to enjoy. An actual Mite box was on display, that was used to collect funds to further the mission work of the women, along with the history of WMUV from its inception to the present day. (Submitted by Jo Lang)



On Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, **Jones Chapel Baptist** had several participants who walked in memory of Scotty Thompson at the Out of Darkness Walk in Farmville. Pictured as Candance Thompson, (Scotty's sister), Lisa (Scotty's mother) and Angel Chambliss.



November 11-13 the BGAV hosted its 201st annual meeting in Alexandria, VA. Dave Vogt (Antioch Scottsville), Bobby & Jennifer Crews (Mulberry Grove), and Austin Williams (Mulberry Grove) were in attendance, along with about 500 representatives from churches around the state.

We gathered for worship and to do the business of the BGAV. The time was filled with powerful times of worship centered around the freedom that we experience in Christ. The breakout sessions were helpful to think through new ways our churches can grow and better minister to our communities. The Ministry fair was a great resource to connect with partner organizations and resources for our churches. There is always so much attention to detail by the BGAV to organize an event that will have the greatest benefit to the churches in attendance.

Tuesday night's worship was the highlight of the event for me. We were joined by Commonwealth Worship Collective to lead us in a time of worship. They are a band of 20 plus members represented by 19 different churches in the Northern VA area. They come together once a quarter to host worship nights around NOVA for young Adults. They made this worship time one of their events and invited their young adults to join the BGAV attendees for worship. That night we had between 4-500 VA Baptists in the room and probably another 300 young adults joined together in worship. The sanctuary was packed and it was amazing. These two groups coming together created this beautiful picture. The BGAV, with its long rich history and testimony to God's faithfulness through generations, and this new worship group, where the Spirit is moving in the hearts of next generation in new and exciting ways. Old & new coming together to worship, united by love of the same Savior.

Overall, it was a great Annual Meeting. A great time to reconnect with friends from around the state, and time to come together as VA Baptists to do the work of the Association. Next year's meeting will take place November 10-12, 2025 in Abingdon, VA. To view any of the recordings or reports from BGAV, go to the meeting website. <u>https://meeting.bgav.org/</u> (Submitted by Rev. Austin Williams)



First Baptist Church of Dillwyn hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Veteran's Day Luncheon. Although, the event is a creation of Henry and Dixie Wood, the community jumped in to help from day one. They even adapted one year with a drive-thru! This year's event was well attended, with over 100 guests and 31 workers (from First Baptist, Rocky Mount, Mt. Zion Baptist, Passion Community Church of **Powhatan, and the community**). The veterans were greeted and thanked by all, served a meal of fried chicken, ham, apples, green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls and cornbread. Thirty meals were delivered to homebound veterans. Door prizes were donated by local business of Dillwyn and church members and given out throughout the event. Conversations of MSOs (Military Service Obligation),

VFW of Buckingham, and much more. Thank you to all that came to let the members of the military are loved and appreciated.

**Buckingham Baptist** also recognized our great veterans with a pancake supper that night that was well attended. **Jones Chapel Baptist** honored the veterans with a presentation that honors their veterans and remembers whose who have passed, including those who served during World War II to present. To view the presentation, go to YouTabe.com and search "Veterans Day 2024 Jones Chapel Baptist Church."

On Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, **Cedar Baptist** had a special service honoring all Veterans. Command Sgt Major Dale LeSueur and Charles Allen both spoke on the importance of Veterans Day and where we stand today as a country as far as our Military is concerned. We were very blessed to have 9 Veterans in our congregation for this service. Each told what branch of service they had been in and how many years served. They were: Ken Kelly, Richard Bersch, Leslie Anderson, Regina Harris Goard, Eric Sprague, Charles Allen, Danny Bowen, Dale LeSueur and John Morgan





**Mulberry Grove's** Fall Festival was held on Saturday, October 19. With approximately 165 in attendance, a great time was had by all. Everyone enjoyed the food (Brunswick Stew, BBQ, Hot Dogs, Bakery Treats, etc.). The children enjoyed three Bounce Houses, Pumpkin Painting, and playing in the Sand(corn)box. A S'mores station was also a favorite spot! The music of Smokey Wilson was much appreciated, too. It was a great day of fun and fellowship.



On November 17<sup>th</sup>, Jones Chapel was blessed to welcome Rev. Skip Wallace, Field Strategist, BGAV Central Region, as our guest speaker. He spoke from 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians and encouraged us to rejoice always, pray without ceasing and in everything give thanks.

#### **Staff Changes and New Members**

Welcome to Pastor David Rhoades, the new pastor of **Buckingham Baptist Church**. He is blessed with a wonderful family. He is married, has 5 children, and 2 grandchildren. He studied in the Associate of Divinity program at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from Southern New Hampshire University. Currently, he is working towards his master's in Pastoral Ministry from Andersonville Theological Seminary. Over the years, he has worn many hats in ministry, serving as a pastor, youth leader, and director. Today, he

leads as the Director of FAITH Riders Motorcycle Ministry in Charlottesville. Welcome!

Personal service seems like a thing of the past, but not at **EverBless!** With a commitment to further strengthen connections and enhance communications, the foundation recently established a new position: relationship manager. And who better to manage relationship than a pastor? Rev. Phillipp Brown, who served in music and college ministries for more than 30 years, joined the EverBless team in August 2024. Already, he is traveling across the state to meet with EverBless clients. He explained, "I felt God calling me to help churches and individuals with their ministries, and I do that by building trust and cultivation connections through EverBless." Rev. Phillip Brown will be meeting with the James River Baptist Association Pastors on December 2 at noon, at Rodeo's Mexican Restaurant in Dillwyn.

**Mulberry Grove** recently welcomed Mrs. Alex Llewellyn as the Youth and Children's Director. She is already doing a great job, bringing new energy and ideas to the ministry of the church!

**Sharon Baptist** is excited to welcome Jeffrey Arthur as pastor beginning December 1! Pastor Arthur holds an Associate of Arts & Sciences degree from Southside Virginia Community College, Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Studies and Master of Arts in Christian Ministry from Liberty University, and is currently working toward a Master of Divinity degree at Liberty University. He has been balancing ministry with a full-time career as a European Automotive Technician, and has a history of service in pulpit supply and support positions (assistant pastor, director of biblical studies, media specialist, etc.). He has a passion for teaching, preaching and shepherding, and is excited about serving at Sharon and the community. Please join Sharon in welcoming Pastor Jeff Arthur and wife Rebecca, and their children - Guinevere, Allyson, Cole, Kayla, and Chelsea - to our JRBA family.

**Mount Zion** is excited to welcome five new members, Paul Anderson, Jessica Anderson, Eden Anderson, Charlie Anderson, and Khloe Snoddy. This came with four baptisms and 1 transfer by letter. The group was welcomed into their family of believers with a fellowship meal after baptism. God is Good!



## Learns and Grows

In October, Pastor Dane Gressett, of **Jones Chapel Baptist** (2nd from right) and eleven other pastors and ministry leaders from five states met for an intensive three-day, high-trust retreat at the Bear Creek Lake State Park Lodge. The participants were committing to cultivate deeply transparent and vulnerable relationships with the Lord and one another. And from this position of Christ-honoring humility learning to walk in greater moral and spiritual victory in life, marriage and ministry. (Submitted by Judy Ownby)

The men of Mulberry Grove met on Saturday, October 26, for a time of prayer and fellowship.

**Mulberry Grove** hosted CPR/AED/First Aid Classes on November 14 and 22, covering Adult, Child, and Infant CPR and training on the Automated External Defibrillator. The classes were provided by the Fire and Safety Equipment Company.

## In Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Florence Keller. She will be missed at Jones Chapel and in the community. <u>www.dunkumfuneralhome.com/obituary/florence-keller</u>

#### **Opportunities to Serve**

## The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank-Interview with Volunteer Coordinator



#### What is your name and title?

Karen Wolfe, Volunteer Coordinator for the Dillwyn Mobile Food Pantry of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. I've held this position since Mike Kohl left to pastor a church in Amherst, about 2 years ago. Prior to that I worked in the distribution area and then helped with registration of guests while I recovered from multiple join replacements.

#### What is the number of clients?

We serve from 230 to 350 households. More on weeks when we also have a distribution for needy Seniors from the USDA.

#### What is the number of volunteers?

I am grateful for the 30+ volunteers we have ranging in age from 14 to 85 years of age. We all do what we can. Some can lift heavy items, others pack up bulk grocery items into smaller bags, others direct traffic, still more register guests for our required reports to

Blue Ridge. Sometimes we have a lot of help, others times we wish we had more.

#### How would someone become a volunteer or assist?

To become a volunteer, people may contact Karen at 443-928-9142 (Maryland area code) or come on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> of the month at 9am and jump in! We distribute food from 9:30 am to 11:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of the month (December will be December 13 and 20, due to holidays) behind Crystal Cathedral Ministries building near Reid Market. Guests need to use the entrance by the white fence at the north entrance. Volunteers use the entrance by the Centra Health building to the south. Our food truck is unique in that there is no financial requirement or limitations. Folks just need to feel insecure in their ability to provide food for their family. It is a 'no judgement zone' and we try to make all feel welcome. It does my heart good to see guests around town and have them greet me with a smile and a sincere happiness that I recognize them.

Many of our volunteers come from churches and view the Food Pantry as part of their service to God. I am one of 3 volunteers from **New Store Presbyterian Church**. Others come because they once received assistance from the food truck and are now in a position to help others. Still others come to serve their community. The reason doesn't matter, just come and serve.

We have almost 100 seniors or people without transportation on our list of guests who would love to get food but we don't have a way to deliver to them. If people would like to volunteer to be a driver and can take the food indoors for those who are disables it would be a major answer to our prayers.



One in every 10 people living in the Blue Ridge region experiences food insecurity. Here are a few examples of how volunteers contribute and make a difference.

- Eliminate food waste
- Distribute healthy food
- Prepare food for pick-up
- Pack emergency food kits
- Teach guests about SNAP benefits
- Use your special skills-unique positions for you.

Bad Weather Policy: Rain or Shine, but please note that Mobile Food Pantry distributions will be cancelled if the county in which the distribution is located is cancelled. Inclement weather hotline (540-490-3663) updated by 7 AM on the day of distribution.

If you would like to give, please mail check to: Blue Ridge Area Food Bank P.O. Box 937 Verona, Virginia 24482-0937 Or Click:

https://give.brafb.org/give/418903/?msclkid=cdef865f55cf10257314e174f3d44a45#!/donation/checko ut?c\_src=DVBRAFBMay2023EvergreenBing

## Locations in your area

## Fluvanna:

FLRD Community Pantry: Community Food Pantry

Fluvanna County Cooperative Extension: <u>Contact Us | Fluvanna County | Virginia Tech</u> Antioch Baptist Church: <u>http://www.antiochva.org</u> Arvonia Christian Fellowship: <u>https://www.facebook.com/Arvonia-Christian-Fellowship-Church-</u>

## 178690895630334/

Beaver Dam Baptist Church: http://www.beaverdambaptist.org

Scottsville Bread of Life: Scottsville Bread of Life - Food Finder - Blue Ridge Area Food Bank

Monticello Area Community Action Agency: <u>https://www.macaa.org/ruraloutreach</u>

## Appomattox:

By His Hands: <u>By His Hands - Food Finder - Blue Ridge Area Food Bank</u> Candlelight Ministries: <u>http://www.elderlyoutreach.org/</u>

Candlelight Ministries at Gladstone: <u>Candlelight Ministries at Gladstone - Food Finder - Blue Ridge</u> <u>Area Food Bank</u>

New Chapel Baptist Church: <u>New Chapel Baptist Church - Food Finder - Blue Ridge Area Food Bank</u> Missionary Food Bank Chestnut Grove: <u>https://www.facebook.com/chestnutgrovebaptist/</u>

## Cumberland:

By God's Grace Mission Center: <u>https://www.bygodsgrace2019.org/</u> Arvonia Christian Fellowship: <u>https://www.facebook.com/Arvonia-Christian-Fellowship-Church-178690895630334/</u>

## Nelson:

Come to the Altar Ministry: https://www.cometothealtarministry.org/

## In Appreciation

Piedmont Habitat for Humanity, Executive Director, Sam Rabon Work is in full swing on the five new homes in Charlotte County. Three foundations are in, along with two homes set on their foundations. The modular home partnership allows construction to happen faster, without any loss of quality. Shannon, one of the home recipients is excited about her future kitchen! As other recipients, Kylene and Hunter prepare to move into their new home in Nelson, construction will soon begin on their future neighbor's home, as the foundation is already in place for a second build.

In addition, predevelopment continues to take place for an upcoming Cumberland County build. Across the region, potential land options continue to be explored for future builds. Thank you for helping make all of this a reality! Your generosity will continue to help local families experience the solid foundation from which to thrive for a lifetime. On behalf of each of them, THANK YOU. P.O. Box 816, Farmville, VA 23901. 434-394-3001 www.piedmonthabitat.org

## You are Invited! Christmas Celebration

**Cedar Baptist** will meet at 3 pm on Sunday December 8th to go Christmas Caroling. Their children's Christmas Play will be Sunday, December 15th, title "We Came to Take, but Jesus Gave".

**Chestnut Grove** will have a Christmas Play on Christmas Eve with refreshments to follow while a second event is planned to have Christmas Caroling, deliver fruit baskets, and enjoy refreshments after at the church at a date to by determined.

**First Baptist of Dillwyn** Youth will be represented in the November 30<sup>th</sup>, Dillwyn Christmas Parade at 4:30 PM. Come check out their float! The Youth will also host a Live Nativity on the lawn of the church on Sunday, December 1, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. On Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM the children will be presenting the Christmas Play "It Happened in the Country". On Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, The Christmas Cantata "Bethlehem Morning" will be presented by the Adult Choir. There will be aa Candlelight service on Christmas Eve at 6:00 PM. All will be invited.

Mulberry Grove would like to invite you to:

- 1. Youth Bible Study every Tuesday at 7 PM
- 2. Women's Prayer Group every Wednesday at 9 AM.
- 3. Senior Citizens' Fellowship December 11, 11AM-1 PM. Potluck Lunch and Bluegrass Music. All Seniors are Community
- 4. Christmas Program followed by Soup and Sandwich Lunch, December 15 at 11AM
- 5. Christmas Eve Service at 11 PM
- 6. Men's Conference, January 10, 2024. More details to come.

**Mount Zion Baptist Church** would be to invite you to their Christmas Program on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. On December 11<sup>th</sup> the WMU is having a luncheon and prayer meeting for intermissions at noon.

**Buckingham Baptist** will hold a Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve at 7:00 PM. Refreshments will be served following the service.



I would like to invite all to please join us, at **Calvary Chapel of Fluvanna**, for a wonderful evening of Christmas music by the choir and numerous soloists/instrumentalists from the community. This year's Christmas Concert is entitled "Love's Pure Light". This will take place on December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. 2722 Thomas Jefferson Pkwy, Palmyra, VA 22963. Thank you, Jennifer

## Reaching Out

**Chestnut Grove Baptist** members, Nancy M. Morris and Rita Harris, are in Damascus (November 17-22) with the BGAV Disaster Relief Team working with the construction team and the feeding team.

Several of **Sharon's** members assisted with a fundraiser for a neighbor facing lengthy recovery and extensive medical bills following an auto accident. The event was a huge success thanks to an outpouring of community support and to the Glenmore Fire Department for hosting. **Sharon** welcomed friends and neighbors to a Thanksgiving service and luncheon,

and delivered meals afterwards to those who could not attend. Rose of Sharon continues sharing meals, visits, calls, and notes of encouragement with those in need of a little extra love and support. Current efforts are focused on collecting gifts of toiletry items for residents of Heritage Hall, and monetary contributions to support the *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Grace Inside* and *Christ in Christmas*.

**Cedar Baptist** Winter clothing drive for Appalachia included: 29 coats, 36 pairs gloves. 10 blankets, 9 hats, 3 vests, 1 sweater, 1 jogging set, 1 crewneck top, and 2 pairs of leggings. The Women on Mission through the generosity of the church family are providing groceries for 2 individuals for Thanksgiving plus a family of 4 and another family of 5. During October the Women on Mission received a call for an urgent need for food. We were able to provide this family with groceries also. We are so Blessed to be able to Bless others.

**Buckingham Baptist** raised \$1300 for Alma Hunt and collected 15 Fluvanna Women's Prison Toiletry Kits.

**First Baptist of Dillwyn** will prepare and deliver to homebound people in the community on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. The members of the church gave very generously financial gifts to help flood victims in North Carolina and Virginia. Many needed items were also given and delivered to storm victims. Operation Christmas Child boxes were completed and several members of **First Baptist** went to the distribution site to prepare the boxes for shipping.

**Mount Zion** continue their assistance with Hurricane Relief by donated items by the Friendship Sunday School Class, Girls in Mission (GAs) went shopping for items, 23 quilts were donated for North Carolina, \$1000 donated to the Disaster Response through BGAV by the WMU, and \$500 to Bland Ministries.

## **Important Dates**

December 2 Noon	Pastors' Luncheon with EverBless with Rev. Phillip Brown	Rodeo's Mexican Restaurant				
December 6 5:00PM to 8:30 PM	Lights at the Lake	Bear Creek State Park				
December 7 5:00PM to 8:30 PM	Lights at the Lake	Bear Creek State Park				
December 8 11:00 AM	Christmas Program	Mount Zion				
December 8 5:00PM to 8:30 PM	Lights at the Lake	Bear Creek State Park				
December 8 11:00AM	Christmas Program	Jones Chapel				
December 8 3:00 PM	Christmas Caroling	Cedar Baptist				
December 11 Noon	WMU Luncheon and Prayer Meeting International Missions	Mount Zion				
December 11 11 AM to 1 PM	Senior Fellowship and Music Pot-Lunch and Bluegrass	Mulberry Grove				
December 13 5:00PM to 8:30 PM	Lights at the Lake	Bear Creek State Park				
December 14 5:00PM to 8:30 PM	Lights at the Lake	Bear Creek State Park				
December 14 7:00 PM	Christmas Concert "Love's Pure Light"	Calvary Chapel of Fluvanna				
December 15 11:00 AM	Children's Christmas Play "We Came to Take but Jesus Gave"	Cedar Baptist				
December 15 11 AM	Christmas Program followed by Soup and Sandwich Lunch	Mulberry Grove				
December 15 5:00PM to 8:30 PM	Lights at the Lake	Bear Creek State Park				
December 15 7:00 PM	Christmas Concert "Love's Pure Light"	Calvary Chapel of Fluvanna				

#### **Important Dates Continued**

December 22 1100 AM	Christmas Program	Jones Chapel
December 24 7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Refreshments will be served following.	Buckingham Baptist
December 24 11 PM	Christmas Eve Service	Mulberry Grove

#### James River Baptist Association Operational Budget 2024 -2025

MISSIONS		
Christian Education	\$ 300.00	
Christian Life (Baccalaureate)	\$ 450.00	
Mission Trips (Individuals & Groups)	\$ 2,000.00	
Additional Missions*	\$ 800.00	
Mission Blitz		+\$ 648.52 – carryover
VA Baptist Historical Society	\$ 50.00	
Bland Ministries	\$ 500.00	
Rise Against Hunger	\$ 500.00	+\$100.00 – carryover
Youth Revival	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	
SUBTOTAL – MISSIONS	\$ 5,100.00	
OFFICE EXPENSES		
Bond Insurance	\$ 485.00	
Building Insurance	\$ 436.00	
Technology (copier, computer)	\$ 1,000.00	
Postage (includes P. O. Box)	\$ 800.00	
Rent	\$ 2,400.00	
Office Supplies \$ 1,000.00		
Utilities (Water, Brightspeed)	\$ 3,700.00	
Miscellaneous (including speaker stipends)	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	
SUBTOTAL – OFFICE EXPENSES	\$10,321.00	
PAYROLL EXPENSES		
Office Manager	\$12,800.00	
Custodian	<u>\$ 320.00</u>	
SUBTOTAL – PAYROLL EXPENSES	\$13,120.00	
GRAND TOTAL	\$28.541.00	

Additional Missions line item includes \$100 annual gift to each of the following ministries: Southside Pregnancy Center Grace Inside Prison Ministry Baptist Collegiate Ministry of Longwood & Hampden Sydney Fellowship of Christian Athletes Gideons International BGAV Disaster Response Piedmont Habitat for Humanity

# **October 2024 Financials**

Contributions						
10/02/2024	Antioch Scottsville,	\$333.33	Church Offerings			
10/07/2024	Gladstone Memorial,	\$93.00	Rise Against Hunger Offerings			
10/07/2024	Gladstone Memorial,	\$300.00	Church Offerings			
10/15/2024	Maysville Baptist,	\$500.00	Rise Against Hunger Offerings			
10/16/2024	Sharon Baptist Church,	\$250.00	Church Offerings			
10/16/2024	Sharon Baptist Church,	\$200.00	Benevolence Offerings			
10/23/2024	Individuals,	\$693.00	Bland Offerings			
10/24/2024	Jones Chapel Baptist,	\$196.00	Church Offerings			
10/31/2024	Bank Interest,	\$1.52	Other Offerings			
	TOTAL:	\$2,566.85				

Fund Balance					
General Fund	\$23,618.13				
Rise Against Hunger	\$1,093.00				
Bland Missions	\$600.00				
Benevolence	\$5,854.83				
Youth Revival	\$2,765.33				
Savings	\$15,901.70				
Missions Blitz	\$648.52				
Knights Pantry	\$2,699.08				
TOTAL:	\$53,180.59				

	Mission	s Expenditures				
(Shows expenditures from all line items in Missions Category)						
10/02/2024	Piedmont Habitat For Humanity	-100.00	JRBA Annual Contribution			
10/02/2024	BGAV Disaster Response	-100.00	JRBA Annual Contribution			
10/02/2024	Fellowship of Christian Athletes	-100.00	JRBA Annual Contribution			
10/02/2024	Grace Inside	-100.00	JRBA Annual Contribution			
10/02/2024	Baptist Collegiate Ministries at Longwood	-100.00	Annual contribution			
10/02/2024	Gideons International	-100.00	JRBA Annual Contribution			
10/07/2024	Pregnancy Support Center	-100.00	JRBA Annual Contribution			
10/07/2024	Alex Llewellyn	-50.00	Hurricane Relief Trip			
10/07/2024	Jacob Pribble	-50.00	Hurricane Helene Supply Trip			
10/07/2024	Austin Linthicum	-50.00	Hurricane Helene Supply Trip			
10/16/2024	Henry Wood	-50.00	Mission Trip: Hurricane Response			
10/28/2024	Bland Ministry Center	-693.00	Fall meeting offering			
	TOTAL:	-1,593.00				

## Extra! Extra!

#### Officer Positions Openings

The James River Baptist Association is blessed to have many that have served as officers over the years. The association is actively searching for those who may want to serve as the Baptist Men's Director or the Vacation Bible School Director. Please pray about this and see if this is where God wants you to serve. If interested, please contact Mr. Gwynn Tyler, Moderator, at 434-315-4443.

#### **Office Front Window Decorators**

A special thank you to our volunteers that worked on the James River Baptist Association store window. Make sure you come by and take a peek!

## Catch Someone Doing Something Good!

Do you have information that you would like to see in the newsletter? We are always looking for stories of God's work being done in our community. Now of any areas of need? Let us know about it. We will ask our collective body of the association help. Please send information to <u>jamesriverbaptistassociation@gmail.com</u> or call 434-983-7385.

**First Baptist of Dillwyn** delivered 85 Thanksgiving meals on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. The group of 60 then gathered back together and had a meal. Happy Thanksgiving to so many!

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