

# Strawberry Baptist Association

## *Spirit*



David Timma- Moderator

Vernon DeLong – *Interim* Secretary

Vol 55 No. 4 April 2024

### Missions Grants

This month I'd like to reintroduce a program the association introduced last year. It has been mentioned, but we need to remind people of it, so it gets taken advantage of. We have made a grant proposal for mission work in our local churches that is funded by our Association's funds. At present you may have noticed that we don't do a lot as an association. Part of that is the natural changes that have come over the years as National resources and State Convention resources have become more easily accessed at a local level. Part is also related to our ongoing efforts to find work that unites us and meets needs we can't meet more effectively elsewhere. Finally, it reinforces the idea that it is **CHURCHES** that are the body of Christ! The association can help but should not replace the church as the primary source of Christian activity!

So, while there are several other things that are ongoing, we'd like you to use the grant program that allows us to use the association's resources to help churches send people on mission. The plan is to make available each year a part of our held finances on a first-come, first-served basis. We are planning on at least \$10,000 – \$20,000 total association wide annually. Starting this year we are including a \$10,000 line item. Each Church would be limited to a certain amount. And each individual per year as well. Financially we are looking for ways to reinvest in our churches and this looks to be a great way for several reasons.

First, it will be church based. Each missionary will need their churches approval on the application and be through a church approved venture. We are here to support **YOUR Church's** efforts to obey the Great Commission. This will leave the church in charge, and responsible for finding, and scheduling trips. Our role is to help make those possible through prayer and funding.

Secondly, we hope it is responsible financial stewardship. We are not a savings and loan institute; we are Christians obeying the great commission. As such our efforts are in support of the local churches, and that should include our financial efforts – we don't need to accumulate as an association – we need to be investing in the Kingdom as churches! We are as an Association are currently surpassing our expenses with a reserve of roughly 150,000. It is hoped that it will be a means of reminding churches that giving to the association is a means of giving to local churches that are in need.

Finally, we want to see people going, and share in those stories. It seems that so many people struggle to make the time, much less the financial commitment to go on missions. It may be Disaster Relief, Evangelism, Construction, whatever the church is led to accomplish. But as an association, we want your church to know we are there to support you and help you go!

*David*

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\***Annual Meeting** – The 246<sup>th</sup> SBA Annual Meeting will be held at **Flint Hill Baptist Church**, on **Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**. A **Catered Meal**, provided by the Association starts at **5:00 pm**, following the Meal, a **Worship Service & Business Meeting** starts at **6:00**; and finished by **7:30 pm**.

If any church Members who are not Messengers would like to attend, please let us know the count. Visitors may attend the meal & meeting but are not allowed to vote on any business. We Need the **Count** of those Attending by **Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Lois Stevens at [lois62844@gmail.com](mailto:lois62844@gmail.com), or **540-583-8258** with your Messenger & Visitor Count.

\***Church Messengers** – Beaverdam 7, Bedford 3, Bethlehem 2, Big Island 2,  
Diamond Hill 2, Flint Hill 4, Glade Creek 2, Hunting Creek 2, Mentow 5,  
Morgans 2, Mount Hermon 3, Mount Olivet 2, Mountain View 2, Pecks 2,  
Quaker 3, Sedalia 2, Shady Grove 2, Suck Spring 2, Thaxton 2,  
Timber Ridge 4, Trinity 4, Walnut Grove 2

\***Church Clerks** – We need a list of your **Deceased Members** for 2023 so we can list their names *In Memoriam* in the Annual Meeting Program.

\***Pastors & Clerks** – If your Church is participating in a **Mission Trip**, or a **Mission Project**, let us know the **When, Where, and How** we can help.

**Bedford** - After a busy March, Bedford Baptist is looking forward to an eventful April. We will be adding a **Student Ministry Sunday** in April and working with students of all ages and placing them into worship leadership roles.

\*Our **Annual Mission Trip Plant Sale** will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at Bedford Baptist from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. Please note the Location Change from Peaks Street to Bedford Baptist. There will be better parking and easy access and as always, lots of healthy, beautiful plants.

\*It's not too early to preregister for our **Women's Conference** "Walking in the Truth," with Beth Greer and Wendy Knox. This will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the Church Fellowship Hall.

**Trinity** - **Easter Celebrations** - Good Friday Service and lunch on Fri, Mar 29<sup>th</sup>. Children's Easter Celebration with the Easter story, egg hunts, crafts, games, and lunch on Sat, March 30<sup>th</sup>. On Sunday, March 31st, Sunrise Service followed by Breakfast, then Sunday School and a Resurrection Day Communion Service at 10:30 a.m.

\***T-Ball Opening Day** - Bedford County Parks & Rec, Sat, April 13, with Fireworks and concession stand.

\***Cottage Prayer Meeting** held on the Second Friday of each month at 2:30 p.m. Call the Church for locations.

**Timber Ridge** - Our AWANA Clubbers enjoyed an evening of yummy treats and an Easter Egg hunt. We presented the **Last Supper** in drama and in song. We celebrated Easter with a morning breakfast and a time of fellowship.

\*Our **Youth** crafted hand-made cards and letters for our shut-ins.

\*On April 11<sup>th</sup> we will kick off a new ministry entitled, **Embrace Grace**. This ministry's mission is to love and encourage single and pregnant women and their families by receiving practical, spiritual and emotional support. This ministry is led by Robyn Flint.

\*Our Ladies will begin a new study in the book of **Leviticus** on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

\*We will have our AWANA closing ceremony and Award's Night on Sunday, April 28th. Our Clubbers will be recognized for their hard work and dedication in completing their books. This will be followed by yummy food, sweet treats and fun.

\*We recently ordained two elders, Jeff McKisic and Doug Sweeney.

\*We also baptized four new members, welcoming them into our church family.

### Hunting Creek Baptist Church Ministry Opportunities:

Hunting Creek Baptist Church, in Big Island, Virginia, is prayerfully seeking a part-time **Youth Pastor**. This position provides the opportunity to further HCBC's mission of making disciples and deploying them for mission by investing in middle school and high school students. A minimum investment of 10 hours per week is expected. This person should be willing to submit to the leadership, policies, and theological position of the church (Baptist Faith and Message 2000). For a detailed ministry/job description visit <https://www.huntingcreek.net/youth-minister-opportunity/>. Questions and resumes should be sent to Pastor Ken Bledsoe [pastorken@huntingcreek.net](mailto:pastorken@huntingcreek.net)

Hunting Creek Baptist Church, in Big Island, Virginia, is prayerfully seeking a part-time **Minister of Music**. This position provides the opportunity to further HCBC's mission of making disciples through worship music ministry. A minimum investment of 10 hours per week is expected. This person should be willing to submit to the leadership, policies, and theological position of the church (Baptist Faith and Message 2000). For a detailed ministry/job description visit <https://www.huntingcreek.net/about/minister-of-music-opportunity/>. Questions and resumes should be sent to Pastor Ken Bledsoe. [nastorken@huntingcreek.net](mailto:nastorken@huntingcreek.net)

## SBA Proposed 2024 Budget

To be Approved at Annual Meeting

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2023	2024
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>Ministries</b>				
CenterFest	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Missions Coordinator	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Missions Grants</b>		N/A	N/A	<b>10,000.00</b>
<b>Local Church Ministry &amp; Outreach</b>		N/A	N/A	<b>5,000.00</b>
Quilting Camp	0.00	0.00	400.00	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,100.00</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>\$15,200.00</b>
<b>Personnel</b>				
Clerk's Expense Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>	0.00
Secretary's Salary	5,000.00	5,000.00	<b>3,018.27</b>	5,000.00
Treasurer's Mileage Reimbursement	250.00	250.00	<b>242.67</b>	250.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$3,260.94</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>
<b>Associational Office</b>				
Office Supplies	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,487.66	<b>1,700.00</b>
Website	300.00	1,200.00	75.00	1,200.00
Computer Maintenance	250.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
SBA Office Rent	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
SBA Insurance	1,000.00	1,000.00	945.00	<b>1,200.00</b>
Telephone & Internet	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,447.72	<b>1,600.00</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$8,150.00</b>	<b>\$9,050.00</b>	<b>\$7,555.38</b>	<b>\$9,550.00</b>
<b>Other</b>				
Annual Meeting	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,200.00	<b>1,500.00</b>
Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,200.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$21,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,416.32</b>	<b>\$31,600.00</b>
		<b>Receipts</b>	<b>\$15,042.82</b>	
		<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,416.32</b>	
*The SBA Fiscal Year runs from January 1 through December 31.				
*This Proposed Budget runs from Now until the Next Annual Meeting.				

Strawberry Baptist Association  
P.O. Box 91  
Bedford, VA 24523

## April

4/ 2	Pastor's Meeting at _____	11:00 am
4/22	SBA Annual Meeting at <u>Flint Hill</u>	5:00 – 7:30 pm