

Strawberry Baptist Association

Spirit



Rev. David Timma- Moderator

Secretary

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Wisdom from Proverbs

It's time for students to go back to school! Private, public or home, this time of year is when our students get back to schooling and teachers get back to educating! In our churches many structure their Sunday Schools around the school calendar and promote and advance accordingly. I'd like to encourage you to consider the role of education in your life as an adult as well.

The Word of God states in Proverbs:

¹The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:

²For learning wisdom and discipline;

for understanding insightful sayings;

³for receiving prudent instruction

in righteousness, justice, and integrity;

⁴for teaching shrewdness to the inexperienced,

knowledge and discretion to a young man—

⁵let a wise person listen and increase learning,

and let a discerning person obtain guidance—

⁶for understanding a proverb or a parable,

the words of the wise, and their riddles.

⁷The fear of the LORD

is the beginning of knowledge;

fools despise wisdom and discipline.

For the purpose of this article there are two major factors that strike me as incredibly relevant to the Christian. The first is that education is **NOT** for children only. The proverbs were written to convey far more than simply knowledge or information – they are meant to teach wisdom and discipline, subjects that seem in short supply in today's world! In fact the concepts of wisdom and discipline have much to do with how we use information and live in light of our knowledge. It isn't enough to be able to win at Trivial Pursuit, it is instead greatly needed that people learn how to relate to each other in relationships – from friendship to marriage there is much that wisdom and discipline could offer. In politics and church life both, being wise and disciplined would help immensely!

The second issue grows from the beginning of knowledge – the fear of the LORD! Knowledge - wisdom, discipline all hinge on our ultimate foundations – and so some people use all at their disposal for selfish advancement and pursuit of pleasure at any cost. The Bible argues that the fear of the LORD, that reverence for GOD is the foundation and beginning of knowledge – that anything else, even when accepted by the world – like financial success, or titles, is a foolish and false foundation for life. So I pray this year Sunday School would be filled with adults seeking knowledge and wisdom in the fear of the Lord!

David

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**Alma Hunt
State Mission Offering
Week of Prayer
Sept 7th – 14th**

“Living Faith



**Vision Virginia
Week of Prayer
Sept 14th – 21st**

*Transforming
Lives
Transforming
Churches*



Centerfest - Sat, Sept 20th



Strawberry Baptist Association

“Joining Together to carry out the Great Commission.”

Pastor’s Wives’ Brunch - Quaker Baptist Church is hosting a Pastor Wives’ Brunch, Saturday, September 13th, at 11:00 am. The Church Address is 4665 Chestnut Fork Rd., Bedford. If you are interested in joining us, contact Lynne Stebbins at 732-766-5558. If any other ladies would like to help serve or prepare a dish, please contact Lynne.

Timber Ridge - We recently had “Youth Sunday.” Our Youth and Outreach Pastor, Nathan Redford, brought the message “Morning Devotion,” with our youth participating in Praise & Worship, Scripture reading, Testimonies, and taking up the offering. Our Youth and Outreach Pastor, Nathan Redford, recently taught a refresher course in “Evangelism 101.” Topics included how to start a Gospel conversation when witnessing, understanding the reasons why believers evangelize, learning that evangelism is a process, as well as having a commitment to winning the lost. Pastor Phil is continuing a series in the “Ten Commandments” and how they guide, instruct and convict during our 11:00 Worship Services on Sunday mornings. During our “Magnified VBS,” our children brought in an offering of \$400.00, which was sent to the “Texas Flash Flood Relief Fund,” to be used to help victims of the catastrophic flooding in the state. Our WMU recently packed 500 sanitary pads and packets for the “Haiti Missions,” for young girls and women in that country. Our Wednesday Night Ladies Bible Study will begin a new study on Wednesday, September 3rd at 6:30 p.m. The study is entitled, “Be Strong: Putting God’s Power to Work in Your Life.” We will be delving into the Book of Joshua and be inspired to pursue a life firmly rooted and grounded in Christ. This study will be led by Lisa Arthur. Our Men’s Wednesday Night Bible Study will begin a new study on Wednesday, September 3rd at 6:30 p.m. The study is entitled, “Destroying Your Darkness.” Men battle the forces of darkness daily, but often fail to realize that Christ has already given us the weapons to withstand the darkness? Some of the subjects will include, “Six Things Satan Doesn’t Want You to Know,” “Two Kinds of Demons and How to Defeat Them,” and “Ten Questions Every Person Asks About Heaven.” This will be a time of spiritual growth, fellowship and encouragement for men. This study will be led by Pastor Phil. Our Youth will kick off a new Bible Study and activities for the fall on Sunday, September 7th from 5:30 - 7:15 p.m. Youth, Grades 6th - 12th are invited to join. This study will be led by our Youth and Outreach Pastor, Nathan Redford. Our new AWANA year will kick off on Sunday, September 7th from 5:30 - 7:15 p.m. Our AWANA program is led by Josh and Kate Jones. Exciting things are coming!

Missions Opportunity

Through the generosity of numerous volunteers, the [Agape Center](#) maintains a schedule of truck pickups and deliveries with local food banks (*Feeding America in Salem*) and businesses (*Kroger and Wal-Mart*). The [Agape Center](#) in Moneta is in need of more drivers as the older drivers are no longer physically able to continue. As such, they are looking for volunteers willing and able to help continue this worthy effort.

- Truck routes are primarily operated during normal business hours from Monday through Friday, but there are occasional pickups outside of those windows.
- From start to finish, a truck route usually takes between 3-4 hours. The longest one-way driving duration is just over an hour (*Salem*). Most other destinations are within 45 minutes (*Roanoke, Westlake, Rocky Mount & Vinton*). Two pictures are attached to show the trucks used. Drivers only need a valid driver’s license; there are non-CDL license trucks.
- The **Agape Center** Scheduler emails volunteers around the middle of each month to ask their availability to support the following month’s truck route schedule. Many drivers prefer the simplicity of scheduling a trip to the same place on the same day of the week on a periodic basis.
- Scheduled drivers obtain a serviceable truck at the **Agape Center**, drive to and load their truck at the pickup location, and finally unload the truck at the **Agape Center**.
- Drivers should be able to pick up a “banana” box of food/produce which typically weighs 20 to 40 pounds. Most of the time, the amount of donated food is between 300 to 700 pounds which is loaded by hand by the driver. **NOTE:** At some of our locations like the Feeding America warehouse, they actually load pallets of food boxes on the truck. **Agape Center** has pallet trucks to unload these palletized loads.
- Drivers are expected to store perishable donations in refrigerators/freezers and non-perishable donations in the warehouse upon return to the **Agape Center**.

If any would like more information, they can contact Jim McGuire at 540-239-4266. He has been a driver at [Agape Center](#) for over 4 years and would be glad to answer any questions.

Strawberry Baptist Association
P.O. Box 91
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September

- 1** **Labor Day**
- 2** **Pastor's Conference**
- 7-14** **Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Baptist Missions**
- 14-21** **Vision Virginia Offering for State Missions**