

# **SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**1742 Blackstone Road  
P. O. Box 566  
Kenbridge, VA 23944**

**Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Monday - Thursday**

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**Dr. Timothy D. Lipp  
Moderator**

**Dr. James B. Gates, Jr.  
Vice-Moderator**

**Ms. Jean G. Fowlkes  
Clerk/Treasurer**

**Mrs. Lois Wolf  
Administrative Assistant**



**Serving 23 Churches**



**SEPTEMBER 2020**

## **From the Moderator**

There's a verse from the prophet Joel that's stuck in my mind for years. Israel has suffered through a horrible and devastating infestation of locusts followed by drought. The people call out to God for mercy. God responds. God makes his presence known to them and declares that relief is on the way. He promises that the land will be green and bountiful again. Not only does God promise a turnaround in their circumstances, he makes this straightforward promise: God says, through Joel, "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten" (Joel 2:25).

"I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten."

It's not just that the future will be better. It's that God is going to ... what? ... tack on years to their lives to make up for the years of suffering? Or make the next few years so spectacular that Israel will feel they came out even? We don't know precisely what God had in mind with these words. But they're a powerful reminder of just who we're dealing with when we're dealing with our God. Or it's probably better to say, we're reminded just who's dealing with us.

This is the God who created and continues to create the world. This is the author of time. This is God who is limitless in compassion as well as in power. This is our God who holds our years in his loving hands.

Which leads me to ask ... How's this particular year going for you? Are you one of the many, many people who find themselves saying they just want 2020 to end? Does it feel like a lost year, not much more than one disaster after another? Have the events of this year—pandemic, economic free-fall, schools closing, weather events, lost loved ones and lost time with loved ones—felt like an inescapable horde of locusts eating their way through your days and nights, leaving nothing green behind?

Well, God is going to more than make up for the limitations of this year, its griefs and its losses. God is going to repay us for this year the "locusts" have eaten.

God is going to bless us with life, joyful and fulfilling life, that will make what we've lost look like a speck in the rearview mirror. We've seen it in Jesus Christ and we're given it in Jesus Christ. Life abundant and eternal. Life in the presence of God.

Remember these words from John's vision in Revelation, a glimpse of what's to come: And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also, he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Revelation 21:3-5)

Friends, these words are trustworthy and true. Our hope at all times is in the trustworthy and true promises of God. Our reliance on God is just more obvious during sometimes than others. This is one of those times when our hope gets a chance to shine. May your hope and trust in God be strong and shining. May it light up not just your own life but also the lives of everyone around you.

**Rev. Dr. Timothy D. Lipp  
Pastor, Victoria Baptist Church  
SBA Moderator**

## BCM NEWS

The start of a new year is always a fun and exciting time at the BCM. It has been exciting to see the campus come back to life as students returned. The first few weeks are busy ones for the BCM. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be focusing a lot of our energy on meeting new students and inviting them to BCM. We are doing this by hosting fun (Socially distanced) events like a movie night, frisbee and ice cream on campus, as well as just maintaining a regular presence on campus through tabling. We are also resuming our group worship events and our student led Bible studies. Although this semester is different, there is still a lot of energy and excitement on campus. BCM has a great group of student leaders this year, and I am excited to see what they will accomplish this year. Please keep the students and faculty in your prayers this semester. Please pray for their safety and health this semester as they return to campus.

Austin Williams  
Interim Campus Minister  
Baptist Collegiate Ministries  
Longwood & Hampden-Sydney

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### WMU SOUTHSIDE ASSOCIATION

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**WATCHWORD:** "My dear friends, stand firm and don't be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for Him is worthwhile."  
I Cor 15:58.

**OUR MISSION:** is to inform and inspire Christians to influence their world for Christ.

I was reading one of Norman Rockwell's books, "Simple Acts of Faith" text by Margaret Feinberg and wanted to share this little story.

I was sitting reminiscing with old friends when the conversation slowly drifted toward religious matters. A married man shared with me how he had felt led to begin each morning with a simple prayer, "Thank You, God, for my wife." After praying this for several months, he felt led to expand the prayer to "Thank You, God, for my wife, just as she is." He commented on how the small addition "just as she is" made such a difference in his heart. The conversation

drifted but the little prayer swirled in my mind. I began to offer similar prayers to God. "Thank you, God for my life, just as it is." "Thank You, God, for my family, just as they are." "Thank You, God, for my job, just as it is." As I tagged on a four-word admonition of gratitude to my prayers, my demeanor began to change. Since that fateful day. I've found myself more grateful for the little things and more accepting of other people and life's circumstances. Even when the nights are long and days are tough, I am thankful to God and somehow that little acknowledgment – a simple act of faith – makes everything better. I hope this encourages you as you study God's Word and listen to what He is saying to you.

### PRAYER AND ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Women's Get Away Nov. 6-8 at Eagle Eyrie'.

Details for the program have not been finalized at this time. The annual meeting is still scheduled. Information will be forthcoming from Richmond WMUV as to how to plan to participate.

### Crossroads Camp and Conference Center

Celebrates 35 years If you or anyone you know has been impacted by Crossroads faithful ministry over these 35 years, would you consider donating \$35.00 for this important ministry? \$35.00 for 35 years celebration.

Link to donate:

<https://crossroadsgccc.wufoo.com/forms/wcdacOu1ho3dna/>

### The Annual Meeting of the Advisory Board and Trustees

will meet Sept 11-12, 2020 at Crossroads Conference and Camp. The Advisory meeting will be 10:00 to 3:00 on Saturday and the Trustees will meet Friday - Saturday. This conference will be developing ways to do the business of WMUV in our "new normal."

The Alma Hunt Annual Offering is being collected at this time. Funds from this offering will go to mission efforts concerning the Covid 19 in Virginia.



## CHURCH NEWS

**ASH CAMP:** We have continued with drive-in services and plan to start meeting in church the third Sunday of September. We began collecting packaged food for Charlotte County's school backpack food program for children. Sandy Flynn has started Kingdom Kids on Wednesday mornings where they spend time on their schoolwork as well as Bible connecting and service projects. Our Nursery school and Pre-K program will start on September 8th. We have a full enrollment and praise God for his continued provision for over 50 years! This past weekend we celebrated the marriage of one of Ash Camps own (Madison Dixon). Congratulations to Nick & Madison Baker!

**BLACKSTONE:** Rev. Dr. Ted Fuson, our Interim Pastor, has lead us in 40 days of prayer this summer. In the conclusion of these 40 days of prayer we are still praying for our church and what the future holds for us at Blackstone Baptist Church. We have learned to pray for each member in the church, for our Community as well as for our Country. We collected for the special offering for the SBA and we are looking to the Alma Hunt State Mission Offering in September. We also are in prayer about the COVID 19 and for the students and teachers as they begin a new way of learning this fall. Our pastor search team is back in session and seeking out the next pastor for Blackstone Baptist Church. Please continue to pray for our church as we move forward. The nominating committee has been busy with committee appointments for our next year. Our Sunday School has not reopened. We are worshipping inside only at our 11:00 worship hour, wearing mask and staying six feet apart. This has been a challenge and a change for everyone.

**CREWE:** Our church reopened the sanctuary on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> for the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Face masks and social distancing are required. Bible Study resumed on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Covid 19 guidelines will be followed. Tim Kreis will teach a Bible Study on Nehemiah. On August 19<sup>th</sup>, he will start a study on Revelations. Visitors are always welcome to any service in our church! Pastor Sean Lee submitted his resignation, effective July 12<sup>th</sup>, to accept a call to Oneida, Tennessee. Our church wishes him and his family the best and appreciates so much the time he spent ministering to our church and community. The Deacon Board has been busy supplying the pulpit with ministers until another pastor is found. A Pastor Search Committee has been selected by the Deacons. Voting on this committee will take place on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> after the 11:00 a.m. service. A Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Crewe Volunteer Fire Department from 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The reports of our Nominating Committee, Committee on Committees, and a list of deacons for the

upcoming church year will be sent via email this week to church members. Voting will take place on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> after the 11:00 a.m. service. The ladies of the WMU will resume their meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A slate of officers for the new year will be presented for voting. The annual church picnic will be held on September 13<sup>th</sup>. This will be catered by the Fish n Pig. Please note the change in location to Mullins-Starke Camp and Retreat Center, 960 Woodman's Rd., Crewe. Our church Scholarship Committee awarded scholarships of \$500. each to 15 students for the furthering of their education beyond high school. Quilting resumes on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The goal for the Alma Hunt Offering remains at \$2,000. The collection runs from September 13-20.

**DUNDAS:** Our worship service is held on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. We have not started having Sunday School classes. However, we have provided S. S. lessons and material to each of our students for the month of September to study at home. Since we were unable to have VBS, one of the ladies in our church provided Bible lessons, activity sheet, crafts, and snacks for each of our enrolled S.S. children for a week of fun. The Alma Hunt State Mission Offering will be received on September 13<sup>th</sup>. These funds will be used to help cover the expenses of mission efforts directed toward the Covid 19 virus.

**HERITAGE:** Well, Covid 19 is still among us but God is too and He is working stronger than ever. Heritage is continuing to move forward with services and God's work. We are continuing to hold outside services as well as inside services. Our services are also broadcast on Facebook. All government guidelines are being followed. Thanks to the wonderful rains of late that God has blessed us with, our Giving Garden has continued to produce. Also, clothing donations are rolling in for our Clothes Closet. Our food and clothing weekly giveaway for the last five weeks has gone very well. Our last one is this Tuesday night, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Our best estimate is that we have given away vegetables to 284 families. If we had vegetables left over, we shared them with St. Theresa's Catholic Church who does a food giveaway on Wednesday mornings. We also estimate that we have given away 132 bags of clothing. A total of 43 church members have assisted in the project in one or more ways. We are grateful to God for helping us carry out this ministry. We look forward to the plans God has for us this Fall. To God be the Glory!!



## CHURCH NEWS

**JONESBORO:** We continue to praise God that we have remained well and are able to continue to meet for worship inside our sanctuary, listening to music, keeping our social distance and following guidelines set by the CDC. We sure do miss our Sunday School and our fellowship together but trust that all will return to normal in due time. Our annual GIVE-AWAY, which is normally held in August before school starts, had to be cancelled and we were disappointed about that because there are so many with needs in our area. Our finance team was able to meet on the 20th as we enjoyed a meal together before planning the budget and our church calendar for the coming year. We normally end our month of August with a "Banana Split Sunday" as an end to summer event, but this year we opted for a time to enjoy freezers of homemade ice cream. It made for a very special time together and everyone really enjoyed the frozen treat to end our summer month. We are still planning on our annual October Homecoming, planned for October 11th with Rev. John Upton as our guest. An update of this will come as we get closer to the date. In the meantime, we wish good health for everyone and let's all continue to PRAY for our leaders and for an end to this pandemic. May God continue to bless each of you.

**MT. TIRZAH:** In the light of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, Mount Tirzah Baptist Church in Charlotte Court House has continued worshipping together at drive-in church services held at the Dixie Youth ball field in Charlotte Court House. On August 2, the services were moved to 9 a.m. to beat the summer heat. While this is a different environment from worshipping in the church sanctuary, the ballpark has proven to be a great, relaxed environment in which to worship while maintaining social distancing. We are continually reminded that worship and Christian fellowship can take place in all kinds of locations. During this season of challenges, we continue to connect as a church family through email, Facebook sermon postings, cards, calls, texts, and Open-Air Shared Bible Study hosted on Tuesday mornings at the home of members. We recently had an ice cream social to bid farewell to long-time members who are relocating to North Carolina. Also, we have been collecting items for Operation Christmas Child, and this month's focus is on collecting gloves and winter hats in various sizes. We will continue to seek ways to support one another and our community while praising our Savior and Lord through all of life's seasons.

**PISGAH:** For fellowship, good music and praise, join us at Pisgah Baptist Church each Sunday. Services begin at 10 a.m. All are invited to participate in Bible study each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Tune in to 870 AM to hear Pastor Wallace on morning devotions Sept. 7-11 and Oct. 5-9. Pray for those affected by the floods, fires, and earthquakes as well as those effected by riots and destruction in many cities. Spiral notebooks and coloring books are being collected for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Choir members are meeting each week through Zoom. What a great way to practice music, share events, devotions and prayers. Thanks to all participants. Pisgah is planning a Fall VBS for September. Watch for more information on Facebook. Continued prayers for our members who are ill, grieving the loss of loved ones and especially for the lost. The eternal God is your refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms. Deut. 33:7.

**VICTORIA:** We continue indoor worship services on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in our sanctuary with social distancing. Our services are still being recorded live on the church Facebook page for those who wish to attend from home. The church has also started to meet in small groups for Bible Study during the week as well as at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Our Pre-school will begin on September 8<sup>th</sup> for 3 and 4 year olds. We are grateful to everyone who has supported and helped us during these unusual times. God Bless you all and stay safe!

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*"And now these three remain:  
FAITH, HOPE & LOVE  
But the greatest of these is Love."*  
1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUEST**

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The SBA Executive Board Meeting scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled due to the Covid 19.

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The Southside Baptist Association mission offering will be divided equally between two of our missions: Our DDM home in Farmville and the BCM debt retirement for their building at Longwood University. Please send your offering to the SBA Office at PO Box #566, Kenbridge, VA 23944, by **September 15, 2020**. Thank you!

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**ATTENTION CHURCH CLERKS:** The ACP Report will be mailed to you this month. Please contact Jean Fowlkes with any questions at (434) 767-3738 or email: [jeanfowlkes@gmail.com](mailto:jeanfowlkes@gmail.com). The completed ACP should be mailed to her by the deadline of October 12, 2020. Address: 1215 Grape Lawn Rd., Burkeville, VA 23922. Thanks!

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***PRAYER REQUESTS:***

**Pray for the SBA churches seeking a pastor: Blackstone Baptist Church, Crewe Baptist Church, Farmville Baptist Church and Kenbridge Baptist Church.**

**Pray for all the churches in the SBA, the pastors and the WMU.**

**Pray for the Baptist Collegiate Ministries and Austin Williams, Interim Campus Minister.**

**Pray for the teachers and children as they began a new school year.**

**Pray for our policemen and for their safety.**

