

Goshen News

Goshen Baptist Association

www.goshenassociation.com

November 2014

Volume XXXV Number 11

Reorganized structure of Goshen

Three years ago the people of Goshen were asked some very specific questions about the future of our Association. The most basic of the questions was, "Does the Goshen Association have a place in the twenty-first century?" The answer received was honest, blunt, and more than a bit frightening. People told us: "As it is currently acting and configured, the answer is, 'No'."

Hearing this reply, the Association created a Vision Team and tasked them to find ways that the Goshen might effectively operate in this day while remaining faithful to our basic purpose as expressed in our Constitution and Bylaws. At our Fall Meeting on Tuesday, October 28th, the report of the Vision Team was received and adopted. This calls for a reorganized structure that would reflect our legal status as an Incorporated LLC and create a flexible working structure that would carry out the directions of the affiliated churches of the Goshen.

A Board of Directors was created to lead the Association. Five standing committees, called Operational Committees, will be created to fulfill specific ministries and du-

ties. These committees are: a Communication Committee to insure the sharing of information throughout the Association; a Discipleship Committee to help promote and encourage training and education; a Fellowship Committee to seek ways to build unity within this body; a Finance Committee to enable the Association to follow Biblical stewardship as well as best financial practices; and a Missions Committee to seek the salvation of the lost in every way possible.

Affiliate churches are asked to send representatives who will form an Advisory Council to help the Board of Directors and all committees pursue the goals set for them by the Bylaws and the will of the churches. This group is also tasked with taking to their own congregations information about the events occurring within the Goshen at any one time.

The report from the Vision Team is now being examined by the Constitution and Bylaws committee for incorporation into our current operating guidelines. For questions concerning the new structure or to receive a complete copy of the guidelines now being implemented please contact the Goshen Ministry Center.

Project for 2015 ~ Sleep-Away Camp

My senior year in high school, I moved to the island of Kauai in Hawaii. Without exception my friends, teachers, and neighbors thought I was moving to Paradise, a land of tropical breezes, beautiful scenery, and even more beautiful girls. Of course I most looked forward to the beautiful "scenery." Arriving there, I found the breezes, the scenery, and the girls just as promised, but I also found that to many of the people there I was a "haole." The term at its most basic means "foreigner" and particularly a white foreigner. It has other connotations but, as I experienced it those first weeks in Paradise, it practically meant "intruder" and "unwelcome." I had always lived in predominantly white, middle class areas and gone to schools that matched the neighborhood. But the first day of my senior year I learned that I was to be one of six Caucasians out of a student population of just under one thousand. The others were of Asian or Polynesian background. I have

never forgotten the lesson God taught me that year about being different and about being judged based on matters over which I had no control.

My first encounters with the Roma people brought back memories of those early days in Hawaii. Those people did not know me or seem to want to know me. To them, I was a white, privileged stranger and was to be treated as such. The Roma, even in their own homeland experience much the same treatment, but where mine lasted for a few weeks, theirs has no end date. They are a people written off by society. Illiterate, they are denied jobs. Undocumented, they are denied access to basic social services. Different, they are pushed aside and forgotten. And this is the life each Roma quickly learns will be theirs to death. It is theirs because they were born Roma.

Roma continued on page 3

Yarn & Fabric

If you have leftover skeins of yarn, we have a request for them. Bring to the Goshen Ministry Center Monday - Thursday 9-1 or drop by the RuraLove Warehouse on Wednesdays from 9-1.

We are collecting cotton quilting fabric for the Missionary Learning Center in Rockville. If you have some to donate bring to the RuraLove Warehouse on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-12 noon or call the Ministry Center to set up a delivery time. 540.894.8440. The Missionary Learning Center invites groups who would like a tour to call and schedule one. They thank everyone who donated material for the center.

Operation Inasmuch

Operation Inasmuch - If your church held an Operation Inasmuch and it hasn't been reported to the Goshen Ministry Center please contact John at 540.894.8440 to let him know or email goshenba@nexet.net.

More Than Nets

Our Deadline for collecting for More than Nets was October 31, 2014. We will give you a grand total in the December newsletter.

Local Needs

RuraLove has 2 requests for **wood stoves** that we cannot fill. If you have a good working wood stove you would like to donate please call 540.894.8440. RuraLove also has a need for **BOY layettes**... please mark "boy" and "summer" or "winter." To find out how to make a layette email Joy at goshenba@nexet.net or refer to the WMU Ideas handbook.

Ghana Water Project

First Baptist Church asks that we help them with a project to help innocent children and their families get clean useable water in the Ghana area. Currently they are walking for miles and yet the water is contaminated. Church members have traveled to Ghana and are working to help them raise the \$4,000 needed for this urgent project. To help with this fundraising or for more information contact Ceola at 540.967.1994.

Cards of Thanks

Goshen Baptist Association,
Thank you for all the cards, calls, prayers, thoughts, and concerns while Tim (Wilson, pastor of Perkins) was in the hospital. Tim is doing better each and every day. Thank you again,
Tim and Susan

Dear Goshen Baptist Association,
I just want to say thank you for your help in my time of need. As a single mother this meant so much for my family and I.
name withheld

Mission Opportunities

Project for November: Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes; Chaplain Powell Support instead of Inmate bags. If each person who filled a bag for the inmates donates the \$10 usually spent on filling *each* bag we could provide Chaplain Powell an additional month of ministering to the ladies at Goochland Women's Correctional Center. Our goal is \$3,000.

RuraLove - A ministry of Goshen Association to local families in crisis ~ 540.894.8440

URGENT: wood stove, can openers, small kitchenettes, dressers, TWIN, FULL, QUEEN mattresses (separates or sets - we'll match), bed frames, pots and pans, electric stoves, washing machines, dryers, refrigerators, good vehicles, etc. Please make sure all donations work properly and are clean.

Also NEED VOLUNTEERS for pick-ups and deliveries, and to help sort Mon., Tues., or Wed. mornings or another by appointment. **REMINDER:** Requests should come from the church to help meet the needs in the community in the name of Jesus. Thus our motto "Neighbor Helping Neighbor" - meeting physical needs, developing trust through relationships and ministering spiritually. **PLEASE make sure to FOLLOW UP with families after they have been helped. This is key to making the most of opportunities to minister spiritually to families in crisis.**

RuraLove Ministry Update

During the past month RuraLove helped churches minister to:

- 15 families with financial help
- 14 families with household needs
- 3 families with a whole house
- 3 families with baby layettes
- 16 families with clothing
- 3 families with medical
- 2 families with a vehicle



Brittany Garton to visit area

Brittany Garton, who works at the Ruth School in Romania with the Roma children will be in Central Virginia from the end of November through the 12th of January. She is available to come to your church to talk about the Ruth School and the Sleep Away Camp June 22-27 in Romania.

I recommend Brittany to your mission councils, WMU groups, Sunday School classes and church meetings who wish to know more about how the Lord is working with the Roma (Gypsy) people in Romania.

If you have people interested in supporting the sleep away camp or in being part of the team that will staff the camp, Brittany would be an excellent resource. She would be willing to share with small groups or the entire congregation as might be appropriate. She is an inspiring and excellent speaker.

Brittany's schedule is on a first come basis. You may contact her at Garton.Brittany@gmail.com or by contacting me at the Goshen Ministry Center, 540.894.8440.

John

Baptists in Romania and in the Goshen have decided this is unacceptable. We cannot change the prejudices of any group or open the minds of any people who wish them shut, but we can walk alongside those Christ would accept. We can reach out to love and encourage those for whom He died.

The Ruth School provides a quality education to Roma children and helps prepare them to succeed in a hostile world. It is unashamedly Christian in its approach and often this school is the first place these Roma children ever hear about God and of His dying for them. The school faces serious disadvantages due to their target student population, the chronic shortage of funds and materials and the suspicions of any such organization will encounter. But the Ruth School stands as a testimony to what God's people can and must do when confronted with injustice.

For the Goshen's part, I ask that we enable the school to hold what we call a Sleep-Away Camp. The school does not send all their children but the camp is used as an incentive for the students, a reward for those who excel in three areas: attendance, grades, and behavior. Spending a week in the mountains may seem to be a small thing for us here in Virginia, but for a child living among uncollected trash, roving packs of dogs, crime, disease, and want, this week can show them a world far different from that which they have known. The cost is \$175 to give this gift to one child. Small as the amount may be by our measures, it is significant enough to prevent the school from holding the camp if it cannot find groups like the Goshen Association to meet the cost.

My challenge to you all is to postpone that purchase, delay that vacation and use your money to give to another something they could not receive without your direct help. Realize that we who have been blessed to have enough are called by our Lord to bless those who lack. If we in the Goshen Association believe that our money and needs surpass those of children we will never meet or see apart from some testimony or video, the Roma will understand this perfectly. After all, it is what they have been taught to believe and expect their entire life. ~ John

CHURCH NEWS

Antioch rejoices over four baptized this past month.

First Baptist recently held a random acts of kindness community project. They have also welcomed four new members with three baptisms, and one by Christian experience.

Louisa recently baptized two new members.

Mine Road pastor, Ray Farrow has resigned and accepted a call to serve a church in North Carolina.

Mount Gilead Sun., Nov. 23 a Thanksgiving Feast will be held following worship service. The WMU sponsored a hot dog supper and auction to benefit the Pure Water Ministry in third world countries. So far gifts have totaled over \$2,000.

Rhoadesville has called Rachel Miller Wolfe as Youth Director. Her ministry officially began on October 1.

Waller's recently celebrated 245 years of worshipping and serving God. The Fall Festival Community Outreach will be held Sat., Nov. 1 from 11-2. Freshly made apple butter \$5 a pint.

"Grist from the Mill"

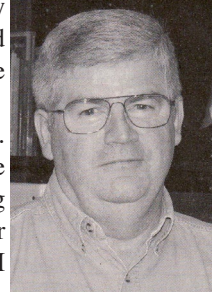
Nahash, an Ammonite enemy of Israel, came to the town of Jabesh Gilead located east of the Jordan River and besieged it. The people realized they could not hold out against him and asked for terms of surrender. He demanded that he be allowed to gouge out the right eye of every citizen of the town and "so bring disgrace on all Israel." The people asked for seven days to see if anyone would come and help them. Obviously expecting no one to come, Nahash allowed it. However, Saul, the newly anointed king of Israel, heard of this insult and attacked Nahash in his camp destroying the invading host.

About forty years later, in a battle on Mt. Gilboa, Saul and his sons were killed. The Philistines desecrated their bodies and hung their corpses on the walls of Beth Shan. Hear the reaction from Jabesh Gilead found in I Samuel 31:11-13:

"When the people of Jabesh Gilead heard of what the Philistines had done to Saul, all their valiant men journeyed through the night to Beth Shan. They took down the bodies of Saul and his sons from the wall of Beth Shan and went to Jabesh, where they burned them. Then they took their bones and buried them under a tamarisk tree at Jabesh and fasted seven days."

Many of the "valiant men" who retrieved the bodies of Saul and his sons would only have heard the story of how their king had saved their town. Yet their gratitude was such they were compelled to act. Their act of gratitude brings a question to my mind: "What have the actions of my King on my behalf spurred me to do?" Thanksgiving is coming. How shall I show my gratitude to Jesus? How should we all thank Him?

John



Bibles Needed

Through the years we have reached people around the globe by giving Bibles. Again we have three major requests:

Romania - Bibles for the Ruth School, the church, and outreach.

Panama Kuna Indians - Mission teams distributed 60,000 copies of the Gospel of John and many New Testaments in the jungles, San Blas Islands, and the mainland. They now have the whole Bible translated into their language and have requested assistance in purchasing some. Several churches have been started since the initial distribution. We need to continue to hold up this work in prayer and give so that we can have a part in world evangelism.

India - Bibles for Seminary Graduates in memory of Dr. Don Reid.

2013-2014 Ministry Action Budget

Budget	\$140,486.00
Monthly Needs	11,707.00
Received Sept.	9,647.00
Received Oct. - Sept.	137,800.00
Budget	-(2,686.00)

Ministry to Roma People at Ruth School - Rominia
www.project-ruth.org or contact Brittany Garton:
email: Garton.Brittany@gmail.com

South India - Dr. & Mrs. Kunjumon Chacko, P.O. Box 11,
Vadavathoor P.O, Kottayam, Kerala, India 686010
email: chackos@sancharnet.in www.preciouschildren.org

Living Hope Community Centre News - South Africa (Living Hope makes a difference in the lives of those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in the deep south of Cape Town in the Name of Jesus Christ.) www.livinghope.co.za

Door of Hope - South Africa (Christian Orphanages which place abandoned children) www.holeinthewall.org.za

Newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month.

Goshen News

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Tammy Wood, Editor

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November

- 1 RuraLove Clothing and Yard Sale - 8-1 - Warehouse
- 3 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer
- 6 Minister's Breakfast GMC 8:30 a.m.
- 7-8 Women's Get-Away I - Eagle Eyrie
- 8 RuraLove Volunteer Appreciation GMC 11 a.m.
- 8 WMUV Annual Meeting - Eagle Eyrie
- 8-9 Women's Get-Away II - Eagle Eyrie
- 11-13 BGAV Annual Meeting - Hampton Coliseum
- 15 RuraLove Clothing and Yard Sale - 8-1 - Warehouse
- 27 Thanksgiving - Office Closed

GMC = Goshen Ministry Center, 587 Mica Road, Mineral

EE = Eagle Eyrie Conference Center, Lynchburg

BGAV = Baptist General Association of Virginia

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|--------------|
| 01 | Toni Miller | wife of DoM |
| 04 | Moore Anniversary | Shady Grove |
| 05 | Nancy Corr | Retired |
| 07 | Walters Anniversary | Smyrna |
| 16 | Tina Collis | Gordonsville |
| 17 | Hubert Hart | Waldrops |
| 21 | Graham Anniversary | Walters |
| 22 | John Miller | DoM |
| 22 | Collis Anniversary | Gordonsville |
| 24 | Lillian Sparks | Retired |
| 25 | Woody Jenkins | Elk Creek |

Goshen Counseling Center Dwight Boston, LCSW, M.S.W. 540.894.8814

Member: American Association of Christian Counselors. Fees are covered by most insurance plans. Those with no insurance may be seen with an adjusted fee based on finances if funding allows. Counselor is trained to provide counseling to children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families. Dwight is available to provide educational seminars on specific topics of interest. Confidential.