



Goshen News

Goshen Baptist Association

WWW.GOSHENASSOCIATION.COM

March 2021

Volume XXXVII Number 3

"The purpose of this Association shall be to proclaim Christ as Lord, to expand the Kingdom of God, and to assist our affiliate churches to carry out their mission before God."

Forty Years of Ministry and Still Going

This year marks Joy Dickens' fortieth year as Ministry Assistant with Goshen Baptist Association. Under the inspiration of the moderator, Paul Hepler, Goshen Baptist decided to rent a small cottage in Mineral to house a central office. Joy Dickens was called as the Ministry Assistant in July 1981 and in 1988, Goshen called the first Director of Missions.

When Joy began her ministry the only thing done on a computer was the list of newsletter recipients which printed out in a long continuous line. The old Apple computer was slow and often gave her a big headache. All other work was done on a typewriter. Computers still give her a headache.

In 1995, Joy and Tommy Dickens went to a conference in the Norfolk area and visited a ministry there that Goshen used as a model for RuraLove under the direction of the Director of Missions, Murphy Terry.

Joy says she appreciates the reception area volunteers so much since moving into the Goshen Ministry Center in 1997. The volunteers help answer phone lines, answer questions, handle mailouts, and take applications for RuraLove which allows her to concentrate on admin work.

Working with Goshen afforded her the flexibility to serve on 22 foreign mission trips and to also work closely with local missions through RuraLove by not only doing administrative work, but also by doing manual labor in the warehouse for many years.

"I have come to realize that the only thing that will keep Goshen a thriving and vital organism for the furtherance of the Gospel is our focus on missions and sharing God's word

faithfully." Joy continued, "You have blessed me more than you will ever know by allowing me to serve my call among you.

Each Director of Missions has brought his God given gifts to us and blessed my life and ministry. It has

been my pleasure to serve alongside the excellent men of God. I look forward with great anticipation to what wonderful things God has in store for Goshen in the days ahead as we share in the Kingdom's work."

Joy plans to continue to serve as Ministry Assistant as long as God gives her the ability to continue her ministry.

Editor's Note: On March 15, Joy celebrates her 80th birthday. It would be a wonderful gift if people would share their favorite memory in a card or letter.

If you'd like to also give a gift in her honor to missions, please make a donation to the Goshen Missions Offering. Send your memory to: Joy Dickens; Goshen Baptist Association; P.O. Box 296, Mineral, VA 23117.

If making a donation, please make payable to "Goshen Baptist Association" and note in memo, "GMO in honor."



Goshen Missions Celebration

Sunday, April 11 ~ 3-4:15 p.m.

Orange Baptist Church

221 West Main Street, Orange VA 22960

Missions Unlimited Panama ~ Jan Oliver & Debby Jenkins

Missions Unlimited Romania ~ Ginger Garton

Offering for Mission Projects in Panama & Romania

Goshen Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 27 ~ 2 p.m.

Mechanicsville Baptist Church

10200 Louisa Road, Gordonsville VA 22942

Rob Bratcher (New Hope) will bring the Devotional

Chris Gourley (Rhoadesville) will bring the Doctrinal Message

Mission Opportunities

Project for March: Military Ministries and Project Ruth we are collecting funds for summer VBS camps throughout the summer break for Roma children who attend The Ruth School (\$2400 needed) and \$4400 for the Warm Clothing Project needed ASAP. We have already received & sent the funds for the kitchen grater and plates.

RuraLove 540.894.8440, 587 Mica Road, Mineral, is a ministry of Goshen Association to local families in crisis. We need churches who will **follow up** with families in crisis to build a relationship with the goal of meeting spiritual needs.

The Thrift Store is open year-round on Wednesdays 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month April-Nov. RuraLove always needs: Chest of drawers, refrigerators, electric stoves, washers/dryers, twin & full mattresses, good vehicles.

RuraLove accepts a wide variety of items not listed. Smaller donations may be left in the green wooden donation shed anytime. Please call ahead for larger donations. Volunteers may also be **scheduled** to pick up **LARGE** items on a Wednesday morning.

RuraLove does not accept old style TVs, lg. entertainment centers, sleeper sofas, office desks, appliances which have issues. Also, no torn, damaged, moldy, or dirty items. If you have pets, RuraLove cannot accept upholstered items or mattresses due to allergies. All items are to be nice enough to give in Jesus' name.

Bethany Christian Services 540.373.5165 Christ-Centered Crisis Pregnancy Center and Adoption Services. www.bethany.org/Fredericksburg 5610 Southpoint Centre Blvd. #107, Fredericksburg 22407

Fred. Pregnancy Center 540.370.1800

1616 Stafford Ave., Fredericksburg 22401

www.FredericksburgPregnancyCenter.org

Hope House 540.371.0831 Battered women's shelter for abused women and their children, 902 Lafayette Blvd., Fredericksburg

Shelter for HELP in Emergency 434.963.4676

Working to end domestic violence. Charlottesville

Thank You for Chaplain Support

Thank you for the **\$4,500** donated to support Chaplain Rita Willett in Goochland. During Covid, she has been ministering by email, phone calls, and sending materials and letters through the mail. It's been tough on residents as they miss the worship services and their families who haven't been allowed to visit due to the lockdown.

Baby Bottle Project Results

Bethany Christian Services thanks you for your support of the Baby Bottle Project in January and your generous donations of a total of **\$2,379**.

Mission Stitchers

All are invited on Sat, March 20, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bring a lunch or about \$10 for lunch. Bring your machine and tools or fabric scissors to cut out the patterns. For more information on this ministry contact Terry Graham 540.661.6268 or email mrsjrg@aol.com

Pray for our Goshen Churches:

Pray for **Goldmine** (Louisa Co) and Pastor John Ellington.

Pray for **Gordonsville** and Pastor Wayne Collis.

Pray for **Hebron** (Spotsylvania) and Pastor John Hodgins.

Pray for **Louisa** and Pastor Richard Sandberg & Rudy Hornburger, Minister of Children and Youth.

2020-2021 Annual Budget Report

Budget for 2020-2021	156,742.00
Monthly Needs	13,062.00
Received Jan.	14,627.00
Received Oct-Jan.	48,742.00
Budget	- 3,306.00

RuraLove Ministry Update



RuraLove is open to the public while asking customers to practice safe distancing and wear masks inside buildings. In the past month (through your contributions and donations to RuraLove) you have helped local families in crisis by providing:

- 8 Families with financial needs (**\$4,767.00**) (Rent, Mortgage, Utilities)
- 8 Families with a household need
- 2 Families with a whole house
- 2 Families with a medical equipment loan
- 2 Families with clothing

In the past month the RuraLove Thrift Store sales have:

Served 90 families with clothing

Served 276 families with household items

Total sales from the Thrift Store for clothing and other donated yard sale items for the month: **\$2,416.50**

One hundred percent of all sales and donations go to local families in crisis.

Before bringing larger donations, please call: 540.894.8440.

An Old Solution to A New Problem

Back in August, Louisa Baptist Church decided to open a day camp for children who didn't have a place to go on the days they couldn't attend school. This decision was not just to help meet the physical needs of working families, but to help with the goal of spreading the Good News of Jesus. In doing so, we wanted to be very intentional about teaching the children about who God, His word, salvation and how they could lean on the promises of God in times of difficulty. To accomplish this, we decided to use a very old solution to this new problem... **Bible Drill**.

Every day at camp, the kids hear stories from the Bible, learn about how they can be saved and what it means to be a Christian, practice using their Bible and memorize verses and key passages from the Bible. The results have been astonishing. Of the 16 children at day camp, only four of them attended our church or any church regularly. None of them could recite the books of the Bible and only a couple had had experience memorizing scripture. Of those 16 children ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade, 12 of them can now say every book of the Bible in order; the other four can say the entire New Testament and much of the Old Testament.

From the youngest to the oldest children, we are seeing them grow by leaps and bounds. Most of our older students have memorized more than 20 Bible verses, some even the entire twenty-third Psalm, and are finding books like Obadiah in less than 10 seconds. Our kindergartener is memorizing scripture verses like Psalm 56:3 and finding books of the Bible and she can't even read yet. Parents are talking about how their kids can't wait to get home and tell them about what they learned, and kids are sending us notes with a picture saying, "Day camp is the 'best place ever'". **Most importantly, four of the boys at day camp have made professions of faith and are getting connected with their family to church outside of day camp.**

The program has been so successful that our church has decided to launch **Bible Drill** on Wednesday nights as our children's discipleship program. In the future, it is our hope to expand our participation and be a part of the associational and state **Bible Drill** competitions. If this sounds like something you would like to consider starting at your church and you want more information or some insight into what has made it so successful for us, I would be happy to help you in any way I can.

At the end of the day it is not the program that matters, but we have truly seen how teaching God's word has not returned void. Knowing God through His word is at the core of every healthy believer and church and I have seen firsthand how God can take **Bible Drill** and use it to make an eternal impact for the kingdom of God.

Rev. Richard Sandberg, 540-223-5840 (cell)
PastorRichardSandberg@gmail.com

Editor's Note: *We wanted to share this testimony with you in hopes of encouraging other Goshen churches to use **Bible Drill** with their children. If more of our Goshen churches used **Bible Drill**, then Goshen could hold competitions and/or exhibitions to challenge and test their skills. Praise God for the four precious souls saved so far!*

Parkinson's Support Group

Call Cathy for more info 540.894.3973.

"Campbell's Comments"

William Shakespeare, the "Bard of Avon" is credited with the familiar phrase "beware of the Ides of March". Why beware of the fifteenth day of March? According to some that is the date on which Julius Caesar was assassinated by Brutus. Actually, every month has it's 'Ides'. According to the Roman calendar the 'Ides' was the middle part of a month.



For us the middle of March is a time when we can celebrate the fact that spring is just a few days from arriving clothed as a lion or a lamb. However spring arrives be confident that the work of "The Goshen" will continue. Our churches will continue to worship. Our pastors will continue to minister to the needs of their families of faith. We will most likely do our work and our fellowshiping with masks on our faces. Some will feel confident because of their having been vaccinated while others will still be waiting for the call to get theirs. We will minister in the face of inconvenience as we contend for our faith.

We can do our part in combatting COVID and we can pray and support the best guidance of our leaders, science and government. Over 450 thousand dead and their grieving families could tell the story of the agony and terror of struggling for one more breath or one more time to hug their families. It takes more than naivete to delude yourself in thinking that "this" won't happen to you. It takes only one infected carrier to shatter a delusion. When I enlisted in the US Army I signed up to join the medical field. Before I got to my first school I had to go through 'basic training'. We were subjected to items of war. We crawled under barbed wire with real bullets above our heads. We had to spend time learning how to use a gas mask while in a tent of tear gas. Weeks later 'basic training' was over and graduation signified that we were trained soldiers before we went off to various schools.

In our churches we like to sing that we are "Christian Soldiers". Faith and the Holy Spirit prepare us to contend for the faith. On a physical level we have been given tools to defeat an insidious enemy: Masks, Social Distancing, Hand washing, Hand Sanitizers, and Vaccines. On the spiritual level let us not forget that we have been given the tools to share, be inspired by and contend for the grace giving faith given to us as followers of the lamb.

~ Don

CHURCH NEWS

Mechanicsville collected \$1640 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. They also shipped hats, scarves, and bands to the Tidewater Transportation Ministries. The Sanctity of Life Sunday was observed. www.mechbaptist.com

Mineral welcomes 5 new members. Mineral doubled their Lottie Moon offering goal. Upward Soccer plans to begin in March. A Covid testing will be held March 25, 3-7 p.m.

Waller's held a healing service led by Richland Baptist in January. Waller's Sisters of Strength and Fishers of Men Ministries are selling memorial bricks for the Memorial Garden to be constructed in the spring. The Fishers of Men are building a Blessing Box for donations to help local families. www.wallersbaptist.com

Goshen Counseling Center: 587 Mica Road, Mineral, VA 23117
Samantha J. Reynolds, BS, MSW, PA-C phone: 540.894.8440
email: samtheuropa10@hotmail.com

Ministry to Roma People at Ruth School—Romania contact
Brittany Garton: Brittany.garton@project-ruth.org or check out
Ruth School's website at : www.project-ruth.org

Living Hope Community Centre News—South Africa
(Ministering to those living with HIV/AIDS).
Www.livinghope.co.za

Door of Hope—South Africa (Saving unwanted babies)
www.doorofhopesa.com or facebook.com/doorofhopeSA

Arise Ministry Group—South Africa www.arisemg.org.za

Newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month.

Goshen News

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Tammy Wood, Editor

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Label

March

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7	Nancy Swain	Craigs
11	Swain Anniversary	Craigs
15	Joy Dickens	Ministry Assistant
16	Susan Wilson	Perkins
17	Ashton Sandberg	Louisa
18	Steve McClary	South Anna
24	Alan Miller	Orange
26	Fran Chancellor	Retired
26	Jan Campbell	(Wife of Int. DoM)
27	Lydia Hart	Waldrop
27	Pam Robertson	Elk Creek

4	Minister's Breakfast GMC 8:30 a.m.
7	Day of Prayer for Virginia Baptist Churches
7-14	Week of Prayer for North American Missions
20	Mission Stitchers GMC 9-2
22-26	Don & Jan Campbell's trip to Panama to plan (Please pray for their safety and a successful trip.)

Ideas for Children and Youth Groups

- 1. Handmade Cards for shut-ins**
- 2. New Testament giveaways on doorsteps**
- 3. Bird Feeders for shut-ins to place near a window**
- 4. Hand Sanitizer giveaways to first responders**

Email address: GoshenAssociation@hughes.net

To donate and help people effected by disasters go to: www.bgav.org or call 1.800.255.2428

100% of money donated goes to help people in crisis