

Clinch Valley Baptist Association

What Do You See? **Numbers 13:28-33**

But the people who live there are powerful and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. 29 The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan." 30 Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it." 31 But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are." 32 And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. 33 We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them."

We all recognize these familiar scriptures as the conflicting report brought by the 12 spies Moses had sent into the Promised Land to check it out prior to him leading the Israelites to occupy it. We all know how the story turned out and each probably secretly hope we would have been like Joshua and Caleb, who saw opportunity where others saw only problems and overwhelming challenges. But in truth, we probably would have voted with the majority. Any reasonable person would have realized that the 10 negative spies were probably right – it wasn't humanly possible to conquer the land across the river. But they failed to realize that human resources were not all that they had at their disposal. In fact, all God required from them was faith, obedience, and their participation in His Miracle. In other words, He didn't need their ability, only their availability.

As we face a new Associational Year, any reasonable person would conclude that we have significant challenges before us. We must select a new DOM, we need to settle a number of important organizational issues about which we are divided, we need to find willing individuals to fill important CVBA leadership positions, we need to formulate new goals under each of our Vision categories, etc.. My question is this – when you consider the new CVBA Year, do you primarily see giant problems that we can't possibly overcome, or do you see opportunities to accomplish even more for "The Kingdom"?

If you feel a bit discouraged, overwhelmed, and perhaps inclined to withdraw your personal involvement, let me encourage you to consider that God may have placed you in the position you are in today to be a key ingredient in what He plans to do in our midst in the coming year. And let me remind you that He won't need our human wisdom, skills, and advice – only our availability!

Danny Dixon, Moderator



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CVBA Missions Statement

"The Mission of the CVBA is to assist and equip our churches in understanding and accomplishing the work of God's Kingdom."

CVBA Vision Statement

"Our Vision is to see our Churches unified in fulfilling the Great Commissions in a spirit of love."



Church News

Community Fellowship:

Pastor John Sheppard ...Upward Soccer is well under way. Games began on August 18. Teams practice three nights a week on the church grounds with games on Saturdays. The season celebration will be October 20. The youth celebrated a day off from school and enjoyed a day of fun at Dollywood on Labor Day. The church held the annual blood drive on September 5. The youth have provided breakfast every Sunday in September as part of the September Sunday school promotion, "Every Attender - a Sunday School Member". Several of our worshipers have found their place in a morning Bible study class this month. The WINGS and Philo circles sponsored a Luau for the ladies at Monarch Manor on September 16. The ladies enjoyed the grass skirts, leis, food and fellowship. The church is preparing for revival at Ewing Chapel October 7-10. (Reported by Judy McConnell)

Dungannon, First:

Pastor Larry Beavers...August 2007..... We had an exciting month at Dungannon First. On Sunday, August 12th, we had a picnic at Natural Tunnel. Everyone enjoyed themselves, whether they were swimming, playing or just relaxing in the shade. School supplies were distributed to the kids to help with back to school costs. The Good News Club started back this month, meeting on Tuesdays, after school, at Ft. Blackmore Elementary School. Our Drama team has "wowed" us with 3 new dramas. All the hard work from the week long training session at LampLight Theatre has truly inspired our Drama team. We are so blessed by our youth, they are the future of our church. On September 1st, the town of Dungannon will be hosting a Youth Revival, brought to us by the Mike Jenkins Evangelistic Association. We are making plans for our 29th year Homecoming on September 9th. Pastor Steve Collins from Nickelsville First Baptist will be our guest speaker. We continue to pray that God will bless us as we strive to do His will in our lives. (Submitted by Lisa Dingus).

Free Hill:

Pastor Carlos Wolfe ...We have begun a new youth program at Free Hill. Emphasis of this program is being placed on Bible Study and Helping the Youth Face the Problems of Today. These groups are divided into three classes – the pre-school group, primary school group and the teenage group. We meet on the first and third Sunday afternoons 4:30 to 6:30 pm. All youth are invited to come join with us. Our Seniors enjoyed a trip to Breaks Interstate Park on Tuesday, August 14th. Our next trip will be Jonesboro, Tennessee to the story-telling festival on Saturday, September 15th and following we will go to Farmers Daughter Restaurant for supper. Everyone is welcome to go with us. Our next Senior's meeting will be Tuesday morning October 2nd at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. Sunday, September 23rd will be denim day at our church. On that Sunday afternoon we will be going to the Pumpkin Patch in Nickelsville. The annual Grigsby Family Reunion will be on Saturday, September 29th. Come early and visit with friends and family members. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. On Sunday morning September 30th, we will observe the Lord's Supper. Sunday night will be our 5th Sunday night singing.

Moore's Memorial:

Pastor W. Patrick Johnson ...Praise God for revival without having a series of meetings. This is what God is doing in our church. Souls are being saved and the church is growing. I praise God that 2 of our youth were saved on August 15, Sabrina Collins and Jodi Skeens. Through evangelizing, another soul, Dee Mullins was saved on Thursday September 13 and his wife Jennifer was saved on Sunday the 16th. My first baptizing was held on Sunday the 13 at Antioch in the Big Moccasin Creek, Sabrina was baptized. At the baptizing Jodi and Dee came forth, wanting to be baptized on the following Sunday, so our church will be having another creek baptizing on Sunday September 23. We have also started moving our services every 3rd Wednesday night to the Brian Center in Weber City. This has been a great opportunity for our church to get out of the 4 walls and visit, sing and preach. The residents really enjoy it. Our youth are excited about the changes in our church as well. Calling themselves **EXIT 416** from 1Thess. 4:16-17, Jesus is their EXIT out of here. They are working on songs, skits and dramas to perform before the church and having a spaghetti dinner fundraiser afterwards. This being their mission project the money raised will go towards needy children for Christmas. This will take place on Saturday October 13 at 6:00 and all are invited. On September 12 we started a Wednesday night Bible study beginning in the book of Genesis. Although just getting started, the study promises to be a great learning experience. Please remember the Taylor family. Sophie Taylor has been a member of our church for many years and due to health problems has not been able to attend church. Her family, being her care givers, is unable to attend as she needs constant care. Sophie is currently at Wellmont Hospital and we are praying for her recovery and look forward to having some

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services at her home when she returns. Please remember this entire family in your prayers. The 3rd Thursday of every month we have a Touching Lives Meal. This is a dinner at the church free of charge. We ask all that would like to come and eat to do so and enjoy some good food and fellowship. Everyone is invited to come. We just want to praise God for all that He is doing and ask that you keep praying for the church and the leadership that we would give God our very best. (Submitted by: Ruth Collins and W. Patrick Johnson)

Nickelsville, First:

Pastor Steve Collins ... At the first of September, the GA's took school supplies to the school. The men of our church had a breakfast on September 15th and really enjoyed the good food and fellowship. They are planning this on a bi-monthly basis and hopefully will get some new prospects to come and be with them. Several members of our church will be doing the CERT Training (Community Emergency Response Team) on September 29th. They are excited about the training and hope others will want to take the training with them. On Sunday, September 23rd, the church hosted a Community Celebration at Keith Memorial Park marking her 200th Anniversary. Our festivities began with worship in the park at 11:00 AM. The Girls in Action participated by doing "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship" in sign language. This was followed by a lunch for everyone in attendance consisting of barbeque, hot dogs, and all of the trimmings. From 1 to 4 PM several singing groups performed at the amphitheatre and there were numerous activities for the children and all other age groups. In addition, the activities building held a variety of displays celebrating the church's rich heritage. Danny Dixon presented a brief history of the church and community that lasted from 4 to 5:30 PM. (Submitted by Edna Keith)

Weber City, First:

Pastor Johnny Kendrick ... We have received 2 new members, Mrs. Florence Frazier by letter and Emily McConnell who was baptized on September 16, The 2007-2008 AWANA year got off to a good start with 72 clubbers, 23 leaders, and 7 listeners on September 12. We have had two very special times of worship in September, the first being our combined service in the family life center on the 9th when both morning congregations came together for worship following a pancake breakfast and fellowship. The sanctuary choir, the praise and worship choir, the ensemble, "Sprirt Wind", and our instrumental worship ensemble joined together in leading the worship. It was a wonderful time of worship and fellowship. On the 16th, we worshiped in both services through the observance of the Lord's Supper. We just finished an exciting study of THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT HEAVEN by Judson Cornwall on Sunday evening, and will begin the study of WHEN THE GAME IS OVER, IT ALL GOES BACK IN THE BOX by John Ortberg on October 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, led by the pastor. Kathie Noe is currently leading another class in the "Fit to Serve" study on Sunday evening at 7:00. A Wednesday evening study of LOVE BEYOND REASON by John Ortberg is in progress at 7:15 p.m. Our annual churchwide picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 30, at Natural Tunnel State Park, from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Have a wonderful day! (Reported by Christine Phillips)

Don't Forget

Our CVBA Annual Fall Meeting

Sunday, October 21st, 2007

Hosted by: First Baptist Church, Gate City

Registration begins at 2:30 PM

Meeting starts at 3:00 PM





Partnership News

Regional

Brumley Cove Baptist Camp –

Progress continues on the newly built Conference / Retreat center at the camp. We recently received a \$1,000.00 gift from our partners in ministry at the Virginia Baptist Mission Board and an encouraging letter from our Executive Director, John Upton.

The building inspector from Washington County recently approved the final inspection of our building. This means we will soon be open for ministry usage by churches from our association and region.

The beds, tables, and chairs for the guest rooms have arrived from the Amish country in Berlin, Ohio and have been assembled by members of our churches working on the Missions Team. Sister churches that had representation in this project were Community Fellowship, Darthula, Dungannon, Gate City, Heritage, Moore's Memorial, Nickelsville and Zion. Tables and chairs for the dining / conference areas have been purchased and set up in these rooms. Also, appliances are being installed in the kitchens.

Throughout the summer months our facilities at the camp were used by many churches in Southwest, Virginia. At the present time one of our sister churches within our association has the camp booked for the last weekend in November. They are excited about their upcoming stay at the camp.

Each room at the camp has a maximum occupancy rating of six people. There are ten rooms with three beds in each room: two twin bunk beds and one full / twin bunk bed. Each dining / conference area can seat approximately 40+ people comfortably. As you can imagine this is an extremely well-equipped facility.

If you haven't been to the camp at Brumley Gap you might want to consider a one day trip to look over the rich blessings that God has placed within our care. And more than likely you'll want to book the facilities for usage by your home churches.

For more information about scheduling or pricing you can contact our camp director at 276-944-4673 or your Brumley Cove Camp representatives who are Darrell Fletcher, Vannis Scalf, or Steve Collins.

State & National

Virginia Baptist Mission Board News –

- “Gloria Deo! A Church Music Conference” – Thursday, October 4th – Saturday, October 6th. This is a Church Music Conference co-sponsored with Pine Lake Music! Gloria Deo is a two day musical feast focused on music ministry in the traditional/liturgical worship style. Choral reading sessions, workshops and concerts form some of the highlights of these days. Special guests will be Joseph Martin, Anna Laura Page, Mary McDonald, Pepper Choplin, David Schwoebel, and Benjamin Harlan. For more information contact Tom Ingram/Debbie Cobb at debbie.cobb@vbmb.org or call 1-800-255-2428, ext. 6235. Sponsored by the Courageous Churches Team.
- “Annual Partnership Missions Gathering” – Friday, October 5th. Location: to be announced. The guest speaker for this event is Rev. Peter Pinder, Executive Secretary Treasurer of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship. At this meeting you will be able to hear volunteers' testimonies, learn about 2008 Partnerships and projects, pray for Virginia and the world. For more information contact Craig Waddell at Craig.waddell@vbmb.org or call 1-800-255-2428, extension 7263. Sponsored by the Global Missions & Evangelism Team.
- Junior High Weekend at Eagle Eyrie – October 12th – 14th. Don't miss out on this popular weekend event. Awesome worship, fellowship, conferences, talent time, adult leadership training and more. Bring your 6-8th graders to JHW for a weekend to remember. There is still room available and you can make your reservation by calling Eagle Eyrie directly at 434-384-2211. Don't miss out! Check out all the specifics at www.vbmb.org/emergingleaders/jrhigh.htm. Sponsored by the Emerging Leaders team.

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- “A Gathering of Silence” Retreat – Monday, October 15th through Friday, October 19th. The location for this retreat is: CrossRoads Camp & Conference Center. For more information contact John Tadlock at john.tadlock@vbmb.org or call 1-800-255-2428, extension 5215. Sponsored by the Empowering Leaders Team.
- “Consider Your Call Sunday” – Sunday, October 28th. This is a resource provided by the Mission Board that focuses entirely on the people of God responding to His call on their lives. Each church of the BGAV should receive resources for use concerning this important date in the mail. For information, or resources, contact Ken Dibble at ken.dibble@vbmb.org or call 1-800-255-2428, extension 2255. You can also look at these resources online at consideryourcall.org/. Sponsored by the Emerging Leaders Team.
- Baptist General Association of Virginia Annual Meeting at Richmond, Virginia – Tuesday, November 13th through Wednesday, November 14th.

Disaster Relief Updates

- Crisis Care Chaplaincy Training – November 5th – 7th. The location for this training will be the Virginia Baptist Resource Center and will begin at 9:30 AM on the 5th and conclude by noon on the 7th. Please contact Jeannette Hildebrand to register for this event. She can be reached by e-mail at jeannettehildebrand@vbmb.org or you can call her at 1-804-915-5000.
- Katrina recovery efforts continue on the Gulf Coast. If you, or your church, would like to be a part of these ongoing relief efforts. Please contact Patrick E. Johnson at patrickj@mounet.com or Craig Waddell at craig.waddell@vbmb.org. Or if you would like to contribute financially to the general Disaster Relief Fund you may do so by sending a check to:

Disaster Relief Fund
Virginia Baptist Resource Center
P.O. Box 8568
Richmond, VA 23226



Partnership Missions

Our current missions partnerships are in Brazil, the Carribean (projects in Bahamas, Barbados, Trinidad, Grenada, Jamaica, Belize), China with the European Baptist Federation (Moldova, Latvia) and with the Gypsy People Group (Romania, Moldova), India, Italy, Macau, the Northeastern U.S., and South Africa.

The missions partnerships make it possible to work together on many different projects such as: church planting, outreach & evangelism, construction, combating poverty, disaster response, helping the sick, and leadership training.

Long-term church-to-church partnerships have been in greater demand this year. Many churches want to be able to develop a relationship with another church over two to three years, rather than working with a different church each year. This has several advantages.

Partners coming to Virginia is also an exciting chapter in the Virginia Baptist missions story. Partnership means mutuality, and our partners have much to offer us. In the areas of church planting, ministering to the post-modern world, as well as having a courageous vision to change the community, many of our partners could be our teachers.

This year we'll have teams from Brazil, South Africa, and Italy among us, helping Virginia churches minister in Virginia.

Your church can request volunteers from our partners to be guest speakers, vacation Bible school co-workers, youth event participants, etc.... your imagination is the only limit on what kind of project it could be. For more information *contact the Glocal Missions & Evangelism Team* at the Virginia Baptist Mission Board.

The Churches of The Clinch Valley Baptist Association

Community Fellowship Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. John Sheppard (276) 386-6024

CFBCGateCity@earthlink.net

Cowans Branch Baptist Church

Pastor - Rev. Mike Sampson (276) 386-6791

cbmbc@mounet.com

Daniel Boone Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. R. D. Stallard (276) 452-4368

melindap@mounet.com

Darthula Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Layton Bentley (276) 386-9280

laytonbentley@yahoo.com

Dungannon, First Baptist Church

Rev. Larry Beavers (276) 467-2140

salt_lit@mounet.com

Free Hill Baptist Church

Rev. Carlos Wolfe (276) 479-1489

carloswolfe@yahoo.com

Gate City, First Baptist Church

Pastor - Dr. Robert Jones (276) 386-3281

secretary@fbcgatecity.org

Heritage Baptist Church

Pastor - Rev. Larry Browder (276) 386-2403

Browder1726@earthlink.net

Hilton Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Randy Cleek (276) 386-2834

Donna_L_Cleek@wellmont.org

Marble Point Baptist Church

Interim Pastor Rev. J. W. Bowen (276) 386-2267

arc@mounet.com

Moore's Memorial Baptist Church

Pastor - Rev. Patrick (PJ) Johnson

pjandamandaj@mounet.com

New Bethel Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Larry Spivey (276) 386-9328

No e-mail address available

Nickelsville, First Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Steve Collins (276) 479-3222

fbcnick@mounet.com

Rivermont Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Jim Price (276) 591-5257

wwwfarm@mounet.com

Thomas Village Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Garry Edwards (276) 431-4101

tvbc@mounet.com

Weber City, First Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Johnny Kendrick (276) 386-7247

fbcwc@earthlink.net

Zion Baptist Church

Pastor Rev. Winston Hall (423) 272-2050

winston@winstonhall.com

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