

# Strawberry Baptist Association

## *Spirit*



David Timma- Moderator

Vernon DeLong –Secretary

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## Resurrection Day

It is time to celebrate the Resurrection! This is one of the great events of the Christian year, when we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. Usually, we surround this date with activities and anticipate it through service projects and outreaches and such. And we do so gladly, because Easter/Resurrection Sunday is a big deal to the Bride of Christ! We look forward to Easter with anticipation because it is a great event by which we remember the power of God over death in Christ.

But I am often struck by the story of the Road to Emmaus as recorded Luke 24. That after the grandeur of the annual Passover and reports of the Resurrection of Jesus; Cleopas and his companion were going home in ignorance, amazed but mostly unchanged, and possibly disappointed! Their words to Jesus (*in Luke 24:21*) were that they were “*hoping it was He who would redeem Israel*”. They had hoped but were disappointed! They feared the failure of God because Jesus had died, and they would not believe the reports of resurrection. It would take an encounter with Jesus who would open their eyes with the use of Scripture that would change them forever. I wonder sometime how many Christians get busy about celebrating Easter yet are essentially ‘hoping’ for something yet unchanged the day after. We above all people should be celebrating because we are already changed by the resurrection and transformed by the Word of God. We do not have to ‘just’ Hope, we have the risen Lord and should be changed by Christ! Our future eternal hope is informed by our hope fulfilled in salvation. We celebrate because the risen Lord has given us life more abundant, and we are living that now. Despite the sinful world we are surrounded by, we have something amazing in Christ that is worthy of every effort we make in celebration and praise.

When we celebrate the resurrection, let’s not just ‘hope’ God will revive the church or do something else ‘great’. Let us remember that Jesus already **HAS** beaten death! He has already given new birth to every believer who professes. We are indwelt with the Holy Spirit; that is **GOD** in us! We are supposed to be walking, talking, miracles of new life made by Christ for His Glory. We have a miracle to celebrate and testify of and it should permeate our lives. So don’t just invite people to a bigger service than normal, invite them to the God who has saved you. Let them see your excitement over what God has done in your family, marriage, work, and life. Be a living testimony that hope is fulfilled in Christ.

*David*

***He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.”***

# Around the Association

- \*The **247<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** of the **Strawberry Baptist Association** will be held at **Bedford Baptist Church** on **Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**, beginning with a Catered Meal at 5:00 pm. The Worship Service & Business Meeting will follow the Meal (*around 6pm*).
- \*Please let us know the count of all church members attending the Meeting, even if they are not messengers. Visitors may attend the meal & the meeting but are not allowed to vote on any business.
- \*Call your Messenger & Visitor Count to Lois Stevens at 540-583-8258, or email her at [lois62844@gmail.com](mailto:lois62844@gmail.com). We Need the Count of those Attending by **Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**.

## Church Messenger List *(based on 2024 Receipts)*

Beaverdam	<u>7</u>	Hunting Creek	<u>2</u>	Sedalia	<u>2</u>
Bedford	<u>3</u>	Mentow	<u>5</u>	Shady Grove	<u>2</u>
Bethlehem	<u>2</u>	Mount Hermon	<u>3</u>	Suck Spring	<u>2</u>
Big Island	<u>2</u>	Mount Olivet	<u>2</u>	Thaxton	<u>2</u>
Diamond Hill	<u>2</u>	Mountain View	<u>2</u>	Timber Ridge	<u>4</u>
Flint Hill	<u>4</u>	Pecks	<u>2</u>	Trinity	<u>4</u>
Glade Creek	<u>2</u>	Quaker	<u>3</u>	Walnut Grove	<u>2</u>

### Bedford

- \*We will be Hosting the **247<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** of **Strawberry Baptist Association** on Monday, **April 28<sup>th</sup>**. Come for the Food and Fellowship as we Worship and conduct the Business of the Association together.

### Flint Hill

- \*Easter Sunrise Service will be at 6:30 am followed by Breakfast at 7:00, Sunday School will begin at 8:00 and Worship Service starts at 9:00 am. All are invited to attend.
- \*We have donated 68 jars of peanut butter for Food for Kids, collecting hygiene items for Ronald McDonald House in Roanoke in March and will be observing the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions in April. We also made donations to God's Pit Crew and Food for Kids.

### Shady Grove

- \*We have called Jason Grisso as our new Associate Pastor of Discipleship, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. His address is 1185 Old Indian Trail, Moneta, VA 24121. Jason may be reached at (757)593-5781 (Cell)

### Trinity

- \*Easter Eggstravaganza - Saturday, April 19th @ 10:00 am - 1:00 pm; Children: 12 and under; Games, crafts, egg hunt and presentation of the Easter Story. Lunch will be provided. Everyone welcome to attend!
- \*Resurrection Sunday Service Times: Sunrise Service - 7:00 am, Breakfast - 7:30 am, Sunday School - 9:00 am, Worship Service - 10:00 am
- \*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing, lunch and New Playground dedication on March 30th.
- \*Men's Prayer Breakfast every Thursday morning @ 6:30 a.m. open to any man who would like to join us as we pray for God to move in Bedford

*Proposed 2025 SBA Budget*

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024	2024	2025
<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<i>Expenses</i>	<b>Budget</b>
CenterFest	0.00	100.00	100.00	<i>0.00</i>	100.00
Missions Grants	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	<i>23,800.00</i>	<i>25,000.00</i>
Local Church Ministry & Outreach	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	<i>0.00</i>	5,000.00
<i>Disaster Relief</i>	0.00	0.00	0.00	<i>0.00</i>	<i>1,500.00</i>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,100.00</b>	<b>\$15,100.00</b>	<b>\$23,800.00</b>	<b>\$31,600.00</b>
<b>Personnel</b>					
Clerk's Expense Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00	<i>0.00</i>	0.00
Secretary's Salary	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	<i>3,126.71</i>	5,000.00
Treasurer's Mileage Reimbursement	250.00	250.00	250.00	<i>243.88</i>	250.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$3,370.59</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>
<b>Associational Office</b>					
Office Supplies	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,700.00	<i>1,381.69</i>	<i>1,500.00</i>
Website	300.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	<i>1,153.50</i>	1,200.00
Computer Maintenance	250.00	250.00	250.00	<i>0.00</i>	250.00
SBA Office Rent	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	<i>3,600.00</i>	3,600.00
SBA Insurance	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,200.00	<i>987.00</i>	1,200.00
Telephone & Internet	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,600.00	<i>1,505.70</i>	<i>1,600.00</i>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<b>\$8,150.00</b>	<b>\$9,050.00</b>	<b>\$9,550.00</b>	<b>\$8,627.89</b>	<b>\$9,350.00</b>
<b>Other</b>					
Annual Meeting	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	<i>1,400.00</i>	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00	100.00	<i>1,703.46</i>	<i>200.00</i>
<i>Subtotal</i>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$3,103.46</b>	<b>\$1,700.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$21,000.00</b>	<b>\$31,500.00</b>	<b>\$38,901.94</b>	<b>\$47,900.00</b>
<i>*The SBA Fiscal Year runs from January 1 through December 31.</i>					
<i>*This Proposed Budget runs from Now until the Next Annual Meeting.</i>					

Strawberry Baptist Association  
P.O. Box 91  
Bedford, VA 24523

## **April**

**4/8**      **Pastor's Conference**  
**4/20**      **RESURRECTION DAY**  
**4/28**      **SBA Annual Meeting**