



Goshen News

Goshen Baptist Association

WWW.GOSHENASSOCIATION.COM

July 2023

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Email address: GoshenAssociation@hughes.net

"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."

Volunteers pack 242 "Baby Boxes"

On the morning of May 20th at the Mineral Baptist Church Family Life Center, nearly 40 volunteers from 9 churches within the Goshen Baptist Association gathered to pack 242 Disaster Response Baby Boxes, containing

baby items generously donated by many churches, church groups, and individuals within the Goshen community. Virginia Baptist Disaster Response currently have "Mud out" Buckets and non-perishable "Food Boxes", as well as "Hygiene kits" that are distributed during disasters to people in crisis. Pastor Richard Sandberg, of Louisa Baptist Church, saw a need for "Baby Boxes" to give to families with infants and toddlers.

Pastor Sandberg has personally lived through several disasters and coordinated disaster relief efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi. After working and ministering through these disasters and getting to know what people need most, Sandberg had the idea to prepare and organize baby boxes for distribution. The Goshen Missions Committee liked the idea and decided to pilot the development of the "Baby Boxes."

Sandberg also trains people interested in being disaster site coordinators with a program he developed for the BGAV.

The boxes packed on May 20th were all uniform in size and contained enough supplies for about two weeks: 2 packs of name brand diapers (25-35 diapers per pack) or Pull-Up diapers (17-24 per pack), 3 packs of unscented baby wipes (50-80 in each), 1 new 8 ounce bottle (in packaging), 1 pacifier (sealed in packaging), 1 diaper rash ointment, 1 blanket (prewashed in a baby friendly detergent and sealed in a plastic zipper bag), 1 box of diaper sacks or 4 gallon trash bags, a "Hope" New Testament Bible (purchased from Christianbook.com), and a "Where is God in our suffering?" pamphlet (also from Christianbook.com). Premie and Newborn boxes contained 2 prewashed receiving blankets and a 4 or 5-ounce bottle.

The 15"x12"x10" boxes, purchased from Walmart.com were the ideal size for the items and stacked well onto the pallets. Each pallet had 36 boxes total with 2 boxes of each size diaper or pull-up noted on the outside label. All pallets were organized to be uniform with the same diaper size boxes loaded onto the same spot on each



Baby Boxes continued on page 6



RuraLove Ministry

587 Mica Road, Mineral
540.894.8440

The RuraLove Thrift Store is open to the public to purchase clothing and yard sale items on Wednesdays (year-round) and the first Saturday of the month April-November from 8-12:30. In the past month (through your contributions and donations to RuraLove) you have helped local families in crisis by providing:

- 10 Families with financial needs (**\$6358.66**)
(Rent, Mortgage, Utilities)
- 2 Families with household needs
- 2 Families with a medical equipment loan

- ◆ 816.5 volunteer hours were donated in May with the average of 10-12 volunteers on Mondays (sorting) and 18-22 volunteers each Wednesday (sale day).

In May volunteers made:

- ◆ 2 delivery of donated items
- ◆ 4 deliveries of purchased items
- ◆ 16 pick ups of donations
- ◆ 734 total miles driven for pick ups and deliveries
- ◆ Received \$354.30 for recycling metal

In the past month the RuraLove Thrift Store sales have:

- ◆ Served 322 families with clothing
- ◆ Served 778 families with household items

Total sales from the Thrift Store for clothing and donated yard sale items for the past month: **\$8,778.75**

We are concentrating on focusing on better outcomes allowing the Lord to provide the income and for us to be good stewards of His income.

RuraLove is in need of:

bed frames (*metal or wood in all sizes*),
microwaves
electric stoves, refrigerators, washers & dryers
chest of drawers

RuraLove is a ministry of Goshen Association churches to local families in crisis. Churches are needed to **follow up** with families in crisis to build a relationship with the goal of meeting spiritual needs.

All items are to be nice enough to give in Jesus' name.



You're Invited...

The Goshen Missions Committee would like to invite you to the

Commissioning Service

of Goshen's Mission Team to Armenia on
Sunday, August 13, at 2 p.m.
at Mineral Baptist Church.

The Team will be flying out on Thursday, August 17th. A reception will follow the commissioning service.

Please be in prayer:

Please commit to holding this team up in prayer as they plan and prepare for their trip this August. Pray that hearts would be prepared to hear the Gospel and the Armenian Christians will be encouraged and blessed.

Pray for safety and the health of the team. Pray the team will be flexible as the Lord works out all they cannot see. Pray there will be interpreters willing and available to help everyone communicate.

Mission Team to Armenia:

Rev. Kris Hutchinson (Mineral Baptist), Team Leader; Tucker Swanson (Louisa Baptist), construction; John Bevard (Mineral Baptist), construction; Kelly Taylor (Mineral Baptist), ladies conference & construction; Kim Rosson (Oakland Baptist), VBS; Catherine Young-Turgal (Antioch Baptist), VBS; Mindy Poland (Mineral Baptist), VBS and Upward Sports; Diane Ragland, (Mineral Baptist), VBS and Upward Sports.

Pray for Goshen churches in search of a pastor:

Elk Creek, Gordonsville, Mt. Gilead, & Zoar

Mission Opportunities

Projects for July:

Disaster Response Baby Boxes: collect unscented diaper wipes (50-100 count). This is an ongoing project. More info, page 5.

Funds for Warm Clothes for Roma Students at The Ruth School in Romania. We are collecting money now to ensure the very poor Roma students get the warm clothes and shoes needed for the coming winter.

Southwest Virginia Partnership Inc. based in Nickelsville, VA and ministering in Clinch Valley, Powell River and Wise Counties. Register a team of volunteers or get info at www.swvpartnership.org

Hope for Appalachia <http://hfavateam.com> ~ make "Hope Boxes" for students age 4-18 to be given out with salvation message at schools in Kentucky in the spring and fall. See website for info.

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.

Paul Stefan Home (Pro-Life Maternity Housing & Educational Center) www.paulstefanhome.org ~ 120 Caroline St., Orange. 540.854.2300 See website for current needs. **Volunteers also needed!**

International Mission Opportunities

Romania: Ministry to Roma People at Ruth School
Brittany Garton: Brittany.garton@project-ruth.org or see: www.project-ruth.org

Little Dresses for Africa: littledressesforafrica.org

Door of Hope, South Africa (*finding homes for unwanted children*) www.doorofhopesa.com & [facebook.com/doorofhopeSA](https://www.facebook.com/doorofhopeSA)

Collecting

~Old prescription eye glasses and reading glasses (found in stores) for a missionary in Guatemala.

~Old prescription bottles and non-prescription bottles (aspirin, vitamins, etc.) for Doctor's Without Borders. Labels do **NOT** have to be removed. Bring to the Goshen Ministry Center.

Collecting Completed ~ Please, **NO** more ties.

See www.WMUV.org

For: Camps; Mission Trips and see the qualifications to receive Grants for certain church ministries.

Ministry Action Budget 2022-2023

<u>Church</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>GMO</u>
Antioch	437.40	2,456.40	
Berea			
Blue Ridge Shores	289.29	1,534.27	
Craigs			
Crossroads CC	250.00	750.00	
Dogwood	341.00	2,216.00	
Elk Creek		3,830.00	
FBC, Louisa	200.00	200.00	
Gordonsville		15,228.61	
Louisa	788.87	6,347.37	
Mechanicsville	1,392.84	7,723.28	
Memorial of Columbia			
Mine Road	320.00	2,800.00	
Mineral	2,000.00	11,404.00	
Mount Gilead	221.31	2,043.29	
Mount Hermon		550.00	200.00
Mountain View	100.00	100.00	
North Pamunkey	1,248.28	4,304.17	
Oakland		3,995.00	
Orange	560.39	3,911.82	
Perkins	434.00	3,468.00	
Rhoadesville	583.39	4,383.71	201.00
Shady Grove	500.00	1,000.00	
Smyrna	425.00	1,275.00	
South Anna			
St. Mark		250.00	
Trinity	100.00	800.00	
Waldrops		1,161.00	200.00
Walters	665.00	3,546.14	
Zoar	217.21	1,792.60	
Others	20,640.34	34,962.07	550.00
Total	31,289.32	122,032.73	1,151.00

2022-2023 Annual Budget Report

Budget for 2022-2023	174,384.00
Monthly Needs	14,532.00
Received May	31,289.00
Received Oct-May	122,033.00
Budget	+ 5,777.00

Totals as of 5-31-2023

Mission Stitches

All are invited on Sat, July 15, from 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 to the Goshen Ministry Center (587 Mica Road, Mineral).

Needs: Flannel by the yard (new), flannel bed sheets and pillowcases (new or gently used), 100% cotton quilt batting or 80% cotton/20% polyester quilt batting, cotton pillowcases (new or used-no stains, no microfiber), cotton fabric by the yard (new), girls underwear sizes 14, 16 & 18 (new), modern white wedding dresses (gently used). For more information on this ministry contact Terry Graham, 540.661.6268 or email mrsjrg@aol.com.

CHURCH NEWS

Blue Ridge Shores is currently having a Family Movie Night at 7 p.m. each Friday evening.

Elk Creek continues to seek the Lord's direction in finding a new pastor. Goshen prayers are requested. Much gratitude for the numerous excellent supply pastors helping in the meantime. Elk Creek opened the lakefront property finally for outdoor worship and welcomed 100+ members and visitors. They are currently signing up volunteers for the upcoming 3rd annual blood drive.

First Baptist of Louisa recently welcomed six new members, five by Christian experience and one by baptism.

Louisa welcomes three new members. Louisa is hosting Impact VA! July 9-15. Please be in prayer for the Impact teams. Vacation Bible School will be held from July 24-28, with the theme: "Stellar—Shine Jesus' Light" from 5:30-8:00 p.m. for ages 3 through upcoming 5th graders. Dinner will be provided for participating children. Register online at www.louisabaptistva.org

Mechanicsville The 2023 Vacation Bible School is July 17-21 for ages 0-12 with commencement after Sunday worship, July 23 with a picnic after Sunday School. Men of all ages are invited to a Men's Breakfast (free) Saturday, July 8 at 7 a.m. A picnic will be held at church on July 29. All are welcome. For more info, see www.mechbaptist.com

Mineral ~ For Upward Sports information and events see www.mineralbaptistchurch.org

Orange held an ordination service for Lindsay Wiles to ordain her into the Gospel Ministry in June. VBS will be held Sunday, July 16-Thursday, July 20 at 6 p.m. with the theme, "Stellar ~ Shine Jesus' Light." Register online at: www.myvbs.org/orangebaptist. A 2-week Summer Chess Camp for ages 6-15 years will be held July 24-August 3 for beginners through advanced players. Pre-registration is required through the church office, 540.672.2996. Orange's Bazaar and Yardsale will be held August 12 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Commons and Pine Room areas. Spots are also available for crafters and vendors for \$15.

Wallers welcomed a new family in May. The Summer Children's program kicked off with "Cowboy Church" in June and will continue with fishing on July 5, Bible Bingo & crafts on July 19. VBS will be held July 12-15 with a VBS celebration worship service on July 16.

GriefShare Support Groups

If you need help in dealing with the loss of a loved one, you may want to join a GriefShare support group near you. For information on GriefShare and where a group is meeting near you, see www.GriefShare.org

"A word with Dee"

Healthy Churches Have a Very Positive Culture



Dee Whitten

One of my favorite books in the past several years is entitled *Culture Wins: The Roadmap to an Irresistible Workplace* by William Vanderbloemen. The author served as the pastor of a large Presbyterian Church in Texas, and he said that the culture of the church was not very positive at all (he assumes much of the blame for this). So, he left the church and went to work for a large oil and gas company in Texas. Again, the culture of the workplace left much to be desired. So, William decided to launch his own company (called Vanderbloemen Search Group) which helps to find pastors and staff members for churches throughout the country.

Several years after beginning this new company, "Entrepreneur" magazine selected William's company to receive the "Best Company Culture Award" in the entire country.

Vanderbloemen says that the success of any organization (including a church) is determined by the culture. He goes on to emphasize that "when culture is bad, no matter how talented the team or great the strategy, a team will never reach its potential. Because whether good or bad, culture is the trump card that determines your team's outcome. During my early years, in a different life, I had an incredibly talented team with a good strategy and a bad culture – which was largely my fault. It didn't go well. Why? Because culture always wins" (page xi).

The culture of a church is shaped by the personality, style, and approach of the pastor and the key leaders. Almost all of the time, the culture just happens by "accident." No one in the leadership of the church is intentionally striving to achieve a positive or effective culture. The culture is formed because of the normal behavior of the leaders.

So, there are a variety of steps that church leaders need to take in order to create a healthy and effective church culture:

1. Make a serious and honest attempt to determine the nature of the current church culture (healthy and not-so-healthy).
2. Make a prayerful decision about what kind of church culture God wants you to have.
3. What actions and attitudes need to be displayed in order for the change of culture to take place?
4. Be willing to make significant changes in the programs and activities of the church in order to achieve the desired culture.
5. Remember, your primary goal is to build a, positive, irresistible atmosphere in which the mission of Christ can flourish.

~ Dee

Notice to Churches

Please include: GoshenAssociation@hughes.net in your church's email list for your newsletter, prayer concerns, and event news blasts.

Goshen to Commemorate Religious Liberty

At the Intersection of Constitution Highway and Clifton Road (Orange County) sits a park. It is the Leland-Madison Park which was created to commemorate the meeting of two champions of religious liberty, John Leland and James Madison.

These men met to discuss the upcoming constitutional convention and the desire of those once called “Dissenters” to have safeguards within the new document which would protect their right to worship as they saw fit. The law of England had guaranteed religious toleration to all the people within their lands. But to the Baptists, Quakers, Presbyterians, and others, toleration was often absent in their treatment by the Church and government officials.

A proposal has been made to the Goshen Association that the park be used to celebrate the process of Religious Liberty within Virginia and by extension, the United States. Although the name of the park may not change, the focus would be expanded beyond the one meeting to include information on the people and events that led to the First Amendment. A committee will be formed to carry out this work under the sponsorship of the Goshen Association.



If you would be interested in learning more about the project, please attend the information meeting which will be held:

Saturday, July 29, 2023 at 10 a.m.
at the Goshen Ministry Center
587 Mica Road, Mineral, VA 23117

For more information please attend the meeting. To register, contact the Goshen Ministry Center at 540.894.8440.



DISASTER RESPONSE BABY BOXES

Goshen is continuing to collect supplies for Disaster Response Baby Boxes so families can have the essentials to care for their baby during a crisis.

Each box (we provide boxes) contains:

- a 4 ounce tube of Desitin or store brand version (*which is much cheaper*)
- 1 pacifier (*sealed in packaging*)
- 1 bottle (*8-ounce sealed in packaging*)
- 1 blanket (*we wash in baby friendly detergent, sealed in a zipper bag & ready to use*)
- 1 sm. box of diaper sacks **or** 4 gal trash bags
- 3 packs wipes (*unscented 50-100 count each*)
- 2 packs of name brand diapers (*25-35 count*)
- Or 2 packs of Pull-Up type diapers (*17-25 count*)

Bring items to Goshen Ministry Center during office hours. For any questions call, 540.894.8440. Funds are welcomed and we will shop for you at \$50 per box. Part of the GMO will provide the boxes, “Hope” New Testaments, and “Where is God in our Suffering?” tract. The next Baby Box packing day is March 9, 2024. **ALL** items must be delivered to GMC by 1 p.m. on Feb 1, 2024. We will not be accepting items on packing day.

Thank you notes!

God bless you with the same peace, hope, and love that you bring to the lives of others. You will never know how much your kindness meant to me! Thank you from the bottom of my heart! It helped so much. Please remember me in your prayers!

~ From Mrs. Donna. Please remember Mrs. Donna in your prayers as she continues her battle with cancer.

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Thank you so much. I absolutely thank and appreciate Him and all the people that are assisting us in this process. You have no idea how thankful we are.

~ From a young working family who got behind on rent because the wife was out of work for the birth of their third

## **\*Pray for our Goshen Churches:**

~Pray for Memorial of Columbia and Pastor Jim Benson

~Pray for Mine Road and Pastor Keith Wollenberg

~Pray for Mineral and Pastor Tom Everett and Associate Pastor Kris Hutchinson

~Pray for Mt. Gilead as they search for a pastor

pallet, which will help those distributing the boxes in a disaster. After stacking and organizing, the 36 boxes were saran wrapped together so as not to shift in transit. The wrapped pallets were then loaded on the BGAV Disaster Response box truck and headed to the storage warehouse, where they will be ready to go to a specific distribution site when our Virginia Baptist Disaster Response Teams receive a call out from the American Red Cross.



When a disaster occurs, one or more of the pallets will be loaded on a box truck or trailer located at the BGAV warehouse and delivered to the staging site with follow-up deliveries made to the site to replenish supplies, as long as needed.

The following churches participated in providing supplies for the 242 boxes: Antioch, Berea, Craigs WMU, Dogwood, Gordonsville, Hebron Baptist Women, Louisa, Mechanicsville, Mineral, Mount Gilead, Oakland, Orange (Kay Culpeper and Carrie Webb Circles), Smyrna, Wallers,

Zoar Baptist Churches and the West Louisa United Methodist Women's Ministry. Some of the supplies needed to fill the boxes were purchased with donated funds from churches and church groups along with some funds from the Goshen Missions Offering. Volunteers came from Antioch, Hebron, Louisa, Mechanicsville, Mineral, Oakland, Perkins, Rhoadesville, and Wallers Baptist Churches to assist in packing.

This will be an ongoing project for the Goshen Baptist Association, and our next packing day is planned for Saturday, March 9, 2024. Collected items need to be inventoried to ensure there are enough of all items needed for packing day, and to allow time to purchase necessary supplies with donated funds. Please keep collecting the specified baby items and bring all donations during office hours to GMC by February 1, 2024.

Betsy McGinnis, Rhoadesville Baptist Church

## July Calendar

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

|    |                   |         |
|----|-------------------|---------|
| 18 | Lowell Wright     | Retired |
| 24 | Phyliss Nelson    | Smyrna  |
| 25 | Gerald Chancellor | Retired |
| 29 | Mabel Holmberg    | Retired |
| 31 | Sarah Reid        | Retired |
| 31 | Janey Barton      | Oakland |

### Events

|    |                                    |                   |
|----|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1  | RuraLove Yardsale                  | 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| 4  | Office closed for Independence Day |                   |
| 6  | Minister's Breakfast               | GMC 8:30 a.m.     |
| 10 | Board of Directors Meeting         | GMC 7 p.m.        |
| 15 | Mission Stitchers                  | GMC 9 a.m.-2 p.m. |
| 29 | Religious Liberty Meeting          | GMC 10 a.m.       |
| 31 | Advisory Council                   | GMC 7 p.m.        |

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**Newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month.**

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