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## Psalm 25

Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.  
<sup>2</sup> O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.  
<sup>3</sup> Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.  
<sup>4</sup> Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.  
<sup>5</sup> Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.  
<sup>6</sup> Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old.  
<sup>7</sup> Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.  
<sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.  
<sup>9</sup> The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.  
<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.  
<sup>11</sup> For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great.  
<sup>12</sup> What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.  
<sup>13</sup> His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.  
<sup>14</sup> The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.  
<sup>15</sup> Mine eyes are ever toward the LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.  
<sup>16</sup> Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted.  
<sup>17</sup> The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring thou me out of my distresses.  
<sup>18</sup> Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins.  
<sup>19</sup> Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.  
<sup>20</sup> O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee.  
<sup>21</sup> Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.  
<sup>22</sup> Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

## Finance Report— 4-30-20

Total Income: \$41,187.43

Church Giving Income: \$39,867.43

Expenses: \$38,401.22

Net Income: \$3,282.20



## High Country Impact

For the past three years the Association has held an annual event to encourage churches to participate in one or more outreach or service projects, all on the same day, in order for all of our churches to have an impact on the High Country. Due to the combination of the impact of COVID—19 and the new direction of the Association, High Country Impact will need to look quite different this year. We will be putting together a new team of people to redesign and implement High Country Impact. If you have an interest in being a part of this team, please call Jennifer at 828-264-4482.

## Semi-Annual Meetings

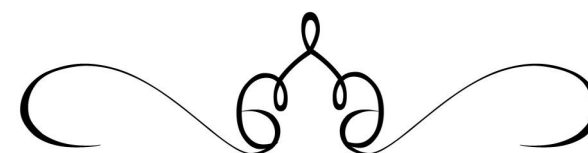
As of now, there are no plans for a Semi-Annual meeting. We are currently waiting for the Executive Council to be able to meet, to determine if we are going to try to reschedule the Spring Semi-Annual, or if we are going to skip that and only have a fall meeting this year.

The Association is also looking at the most effective way to let the churches know the full results of the Malphurs Group Strategic Envisioning Process. We were originally going to be presenting these results to the churches at the Spring meeting and voting on their implementation in the fall. We are now in the process of determining how best to communicate this information to the greatest amount of people, and how best to answer any questions you may have regarding this information.

It is also uncertain at this time what that fall meeting may look like. The Executive Council will be meeting as soon as possible to discuss these and other questions that need to be answered as the Association moves forward. The best way to keep updated is through our weekly email updates. If you do not receive these updates, please contact the office at 828-264-4482 or office@3forksassoc.org to be added to the list.

## Blessing Box

Our Blessing Box supplies have been running low lately, and this is anticipated to continue, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, when many seniors and people who are immune-compromised are concerned about trips to the grocery store to buy essentials. Please consider picking up extra items during your next shop, and stocking a community blessing box or little free pantry, such as the one here at the association office, or donating to Greenway food pantry, or the Hunger and Health Coalition.



THREE FORKS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
Phone: 828.264.4482 email: threeforks@bellsouth.net  
Visit us on the web: www.3forksassoc.org  
Office Hours: Mon-Thur. 8:30am-2:00pm  
Rev. Garland Honeycutt, Director of Missions

THE INFORMER



THREE FORKS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

June—July—August — 2020





**June Birthdays**

6—Seth Norris—Perkinsville—Pastor  
26—Gary Watson—Tabernacle—Pastor

**June Anniversaries**

4—David and Rosalind Lunceford—Clark’s Creek  
13—Phillip and Sarah Woodring—Stony Fork  
21— Josh and Akesha McMillan—Laurel Springs

**July Birthdays:**

2—Rusty Guenther—1st Blowing Rock—Pastor  
23—Amy Brown—Brushy Fork—Pastor’s Wife  
26—Vertie Watson—Tabernacle—Pastor’s Wife  
26—Sandy Cooper—South Fork—Pastor’s Wife  
28—Burl Greene—Howard’s Creek—Pastor

**July Anniversaries:**

2—Dan and Barbara Featherstone—Laurel Fork  
15—Burl and Linda Greer—Cool Springs  
17—John Mark and Amy Brown—Brushy Fork  
20—David and Sandy Cooper—South Fork  
22—Bud and Betty Russell—Mt. Vernon  
31—George and Debbie Wright—Mt. Calvary

**August Birthdays:**

13—Sarah Woodring—Stony Fork—Pastor’s Wife  
15—Laura Perry—Pleasant Grove—Pastor’s Wife  
16—Robin Dobyns—First Baptist Boone—Pastor’s Wife  
17—Sandra Townsend—Meat Camp—Pastor’s Wife  
26—Mitzi London—Howard’s Creek— Associate Pastor’s Wife  
30—Pam Hobbs— Greenway— Associate Pastor’s Wife

**August Anniversaries:**

1—Allan and Laura Perry—Pleasant Grove—  
5—Ray and Jeannette Greene—Willow Valley

**Hunger and Health Coalition**

The Hunger and Health Coalition is facing a substantial financial shortfall, due to having to cancel their primary fundraisers, such as Empty Bowls, at a time when more people than ever are in need of their services . Please prayerfully consider donating to the Hunger and Health Coalition at this time.

If you are currently in need of food assistance, Hunger and Health Coalition is open Monday - Friday from 10:00 - 3:00. Greenway and Casting Bread food pantries are also still open to give out food donations. Greenway is open Thursday from 10:00 - 2:30 and Casting Bread is open from 10:30 - 3:00 Wednesday and Thursday. All three are currently operating in a curbside pickup style of distribution.

**Association Office Hours**

The Three Forks Baptist Association office has re-opened, however we are not yet observing our full office hours. If you are in need of assistance, please email [office@3forksassoc.org](mailto:office@3forksassoc.org) or leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank You—Jennifer Waldorf

Office Manager

**Vacation Bible School**

Please let us know how your church will be handling Vacation Bible School this year. Will you be holding a virtual VBS, or another socially distant option, postponing, or canceling? Let us know how your church is handling this issue, and other creative ways your church will be engaging your congregations this summer, during a time of social distancing. Please let us know how we can promote your online events.

**Church Mobilization Catalyst**

For the past two years, Travis Burt has served as the TFBA Church Mobilization Catalyst. Earlier this month, the contract for Travis’ services was completed. We would like to express our appreciation for Travis, and for all that he has done for the Association during the past two years. Due to the necessity of the stay at home order, we were unable to have a gathering to thank Travis for his service. If you would like to send an expression of appreciation to Travis, please email it to [office@3forksassoc.org](mailto:office@3forksassoc.org) and I will forward it on to him.

**From Travis**

May 4, 2020

Dear Three Forks Baptist Association,

First, I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve as your Church Mobilization Catalyst these past two years. As of May, my contract with you comes to an end. God has blessed me through getting to know you all and learning to love what makes church in these mountains such a unique and special blend of grit and love. From those churches who have existed for almost 200 years to those with shorter histories, I've witnessed how God's hand is upon you all in unique ways. I am so thankful He led me to follow Him in obedience to join TFBA back in 2018.

While our journey together has not been without its ups and downs, it has been a great opportunity to see how God can pull churches together to pray and get to know one another's needs and concerns, and to serve our communities and even our world through outreaches like High Country Impact and the Christmas parade. My time at TFBA has shown me just how capable we are of loving one another. This is something we must continue going forward, even in this unusual time.

COVID-19 has served as a reminder that we are not guaranteed anything. It reminds us that we are all subject to things outside of our control. When we realize this, God steps in to show us Who is in control. We need to continue clinging to the cross and to love each other as Brothers and Sisters. This glorifies God. Just read Christ's High Priestly Prayer in John 17. Unity comes through realizing Christ died for us and purchased our obedience on the cross. That is why we should continue to pull-together like we have in the months leading up to the stay-at-home order. We need each other. I know with the mountain grit God has given us, loving and serving one another is not only possible, it is what we are called to do, both church to church and church to our lost communities.

The coronavirus has also served to remind us that life is a fragile thing. No matter your age, health status, social status or location, we can all die at any moment. That's why the Good News of the Gospel is so important. It needs to remain our calling and the impetus for every effort we make in our communities. Working with you all has re-invigorated, not only my love for our local community, but my love for the lost who have never heard of Jesus.

Although my time with you has come to an end as your Church Mobilization Catalyst, I move on to a new calling that God has laid upon my heart. If you want to know more you can visit [www.eastwest.org/travisburt](http://www.eastwest.org/travisburt). My family and I will remain with you, making Boone our base of operations. My heart is still very much for the people of the Appalachian Mountains and their loving grit. I believe our Lord has great things ahead for us here in these mountains as we strive to maintain our obedience, born out of thankfulness, to His Lordship in our lives. Brothers and Sisters, remain vigilant for Jesus' return and tenacious in your obedience to Him. "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help." - Psalms 121:1 Come Lord Jesus, come!

I am praying for you all as you enter into a new season of working together to reach our community for our Lord Jesus. Please pray for me and my family as we transition during this season as well. Give me a call or email if you'd like to know more about my new ministry role (828-406-8968 or [tburt@eastwest.org](mailto:tburt@eastwest.org)). Thank you!

Your Co-Laborer in the Gospel,

Travis Burt

**Associational Update**

What a strange spring it has been! Our churches have been unable to meet, and we are sorely missing the fellowship. But what a blessing that many of us have been able to continue to sit under the teaching of our own pastors, and other pastors as well, due to the benefits of technology. Praise God that he has given us ways to connect with one another during this time.

The measures put in place to flatten the curve have had an effect here at the Association as well. We had to postpone the Semi-Annual meeting, which meant delaying presenting our Association churches with the plan to move our Association forward, developed by the Executive Council, in conjunction with the Malphurs group. The Executive Council will be meeting on May 26 to make some decisions regarding rescheduling the Semi-Annual meeting as well as making provisions to get the information about the new direction to as many people as possible prior to an Associational vote.

Many of you have been asking about the search for a new DOM. The Executive Council will also be discussing this at the next meeting, and we hope to have a search plan in place to present to the Association at the next Semi-Annual meeting as well.

The best way to stay abreast of what is happening in the Association is to read our weekly email updates. If you would like to be added to this email list, please send a request to [office@3forksassoc.org](mailto:office@3forksassoc.org).

