

**Minutes of the Central Virginia Baptist Association
Fall Meeting
October 12, 2009
Broadus Memorial Baptist Church**

David Meadors, pastor of Broadus Memorial Church, opened with a welcome to Broadus. Alan Thompson, moderator, called the meeting to order. Bruce Hunter, pastor of Crossroads Community Church, led in prayer.

Jared Buchanan and Evan Hansen of All Souls led in Congregational Praise.

Alan Thompson presented the minutes from the last meeting. There was a motion to accept the minutes, a second, and a vote to accept the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Jack Thomas, assisted by Judy Stiteler, presented the Treasurers report. He shared the parable of the talents from Matthew 25. Giving has been down 20%, and the Day Care property has not sold. When the commitment was made to All Souls it was thought that the property would sell. It is projected that giving will be \$15,000 this year. This will leave a projected shortfall of \$42,306.63.

The mortgage on the Day Care Property is almost paid off, and it is currently earning rent. This will help with the yearly shortfall.

Designated giving is up this year.

Reports from Ministry Leaders

Cari Kerwick - Clothing Center

The clothing center provides clothes to the community and shares Christ with those that come in. The donations of clothing have been overwhelming. They have had several workday missions come help with the facility. University Baptist replaced the stair rails and Effort Baptist gave them a fresh coat of paint and donated plumbing time. Many churches are represented with volunteers at the clothing center.

Mildred Cox, a long time volunteer at the clothing center, passed away this September. The family asked for donations to the clothing center instead of flowers. They have collected \$1,000 and are using it to purchase underclothes for prisoners and to buy shoes. They still are in need of volunteers.

Evan Hanson – Collegiate Ministry

Evan noticed that artists and other creative people were not being served by the intellectual atmosphere in the colligate community. He wanted the Baptist Student Ministry to have a new identity. They changed their name to Eunoia, which is Greek for Beautiful Thinking. Their web site is www.beautifulthinking.org .

The building was in bad shape, as it had not been updated since the 1970's. They raised funds, 2/3 from alumni, to renovate the space. They now have a gallery space and can invite artists to have shows.

Artists in the community are excited to meet with students there.

The new format for the Thursday night meals are on a four week rotation: week 1, Evan shares; week 2, guest speaker; week 3, creative worship; week 4, a film and discussion.

Bruce Hunter – Crossroads Community Church

Bruce thanked the association for the support his church has received. He noticed that Zions Crossroads has had a recent increase in population, but at the same time local church attendance was decreasing. How Crossroads Community Church is different:

1. They don't have as strong a denominational identity
2. They don't exclusively partner with Baptists
3. There is less emphasis on maintaining the institution
4. The focus is on mission outreach instead of bringing people to the church
5. There is a non-inflated organizational structure (i.e. no deacons or choir)

They are planning on sharing their building with a Latino congregation.

Alan Thompson and the Steering Committee presented Crossroads Community Church for membership in the Association. The vote was positive. Alan Thompson also presented Bruce Hunter with a check for a grant that will allow Crossroads Community Church to start a daycare. The church must report back on the progress within 18 months.

Jeff Cranford – Virginia Baptist Mission Board

Jeff reported that the Mission Board is also feeling the financial crunch. They are having a conference in Frederick with the theme of "A Time For Extravagance."

Winn Collier – All Souls

Winn thanked the association for their hospitality in the past year as his family has acclimated to Charlottesville. All Souls started meeting in his home in January, and in June moved to City Space on the mall in Charlottesville. The church has started growing. They are connecting with people who had given up on God in some way in their past. They currently have 40-60 people on a Sunday evening at 5:00 P.M.

All Souls has three "Hopes":

1. Hospitality
2. Restoration
3. Shalom (good news)

There was a motion to accept All Souls into the association, a second, and the vote passed.

Jared Buchanan offered a beautiful meditation song.

Kyle Clements - Pastor of Ruckersville Baptist

Pastor Clements visited an area four hours north of Manila. He and his wife partnered with missionaries and lived with the people. They visited seven churches and pastors. They were the first Americans that many people had seen. As they have returned to Ruckersville they have seen the trip move their church into a more missions oriented church. They recently had a visiting Filipino missionary and had the largest love offering in 130 years.

Pastor Clements would like to see a collective Baptist mission effort in the Charlottesville area. They are having a meeting on Wednesday October 27 at the Blue Ridge Café. Wayne Faison from

Courageous Churches and Dennis Pethers, working with Lifeway, will be there. This is a FREE LUNCH from CVB Missions – call 985-7365 to RSVP or check the association web site.

Steering Committee Report

Alan Thompson presented the steering committee report (attached). For details he referred everyone to the written report inside the agenda. Alan expressed that communication is tough, and there are many things happening in the association that people do not know about.

The nominating committee put forth the following candidates to fill the spots on the steering committee:

- Clark Hawkins
- Warren Johnson
- Judy Stitler
- Dan Carlton

Also, Buddy Wilson is leaving for the mission field and his position needs to be filled. The candidate for that position is:

- Gladys Bryant

For the representative to the Virginia Missions Board

- David Collyer

There was a vote to accept the nominating committee's recommendations, and the candidates were accepted.

2010 Budget

The budget for the year 2010 was presented by Jack Thomas. As in 2009, part of the funds (\$5,020) will come out of the reserves. A vote was taken and the budget was adopted.

The new moderator, treasurer, and clerk were installed.

Jared Buchanan and Evan Hansen led in a closing praise song.

Philip Taylor, the new moderator, gave the benediction.

Central Virginia Baptist Association, Fall 2009 CVBA Moderator Steering Committee Report

Alan Thompson

Partnership Missions

The CVBA, partnering with several of our local churches, assisted 15 people in overseas and domestic mission projects.

Church Planting

Together, we continued to provide support for two new churches – All Souls in downtown Charlottesville, and Crossroads in the rapidly expanding Zion Crossroads area.

Former Daycare Property

A major change has taken place on our Palmyra property. The building, which has been vacant, has been converted for residential use with the addition of a bathroom/shower at no cost to the CVBA. A family is currently renting that facility, eliminating our utility bills and providing rental income to substantially offset the monthly mortgage payments, and improve our cashflow for ministry.

Summer Ministry Interns

This summer we had two college students – Lindsay Fender, who is a member of Fork Union Baptist Church and attends Lynchburg College, and Emily Woodley, who is a member of a Baptist church in Chesapeake and attends UVA – serving as our summer ministry interns. These two young ladies tackled 17 different assignments for various churches over the summer, leading in Vacation Bible School, a tutoring camp, children's camps, a music camp, mission trips, local mission projects, and assisting with administrative and publicity work.

Church Grants

The Steering Committee approved two separate "Church Growth and Ministry Grants" to assist local churches in jump starting creative ministries for sharing Christ with our community: University Baptist's "Operation InAsMuch" which connected the church with community needs and projects, and Crossroads' plans to begin a Day Care ministry in the Zions Crossroads area. In addition, through the regular budget we assisted with the Camp Young at Heart ministry to Senior Adults, of which Broadus Memorial is a part.

Spring Mission and Ministry Fair

In April, the Central Virginia Baptist Association gathered ministry groups, services, and mission causes, and resources at University Baptist Church for our second annual Charlottesville Mission and Ministry Fair. About 26 different groups, such as Crown Financial Ministries, the Leland Center, Eagle Eyrie, Guidestone, Baptist Campus Ministry at UVA, Love, INC., Virginia Baptist Mission Board Stewardship Resources, etc., set up booths to share about the resources and opportunities they provide to assist and partner with local churches in advancing the Kingdom of God.

CVBA Website – MyCVBA.org

The Central Virginia Baptist Association website changed last year to a new address: www.MyCVBA.org. The site functions as an electronic bulletin board, carrying information about our leadership, meetings, ministry opportunities, and upcoming events. We encourage churches and ministry groups to send news and updates for posting there, and to check that site for news about

upcoming meetings. The site is maintained by Al Thompson, who can be contacted at Alan@HBCnet.org.

Where do we go from here?

The divide between healthy, growing churches and churches in decline seems to grow with every passing year. And the same difficult changes that churches are facing are also being faced in local Associations.

Thankfully, the CVBA's approach is "ahead of the curve." Other Associations are inquiring about our new structure as they find supporting a staff and maintaining an office more and more difficult.

Because of our Steering Committee approach, the contributions received from our churches go directly to mission and ministry, rather than to support "overhead" costs. So we have been able to devote very significant funding to planting new churches, funding new ministries, assisting in missions work, and providing ministry support to our churches through our summer intern program. And being streamlined means we can respond faster to opportunities and challenges.

So we need our member congregations to be in touch – contacting the moderator with questions and ideas; we need you to lift up in prayer this volunteer network of ministry called the CVBA; and we need you to continue to support the Kingdom work we do together in our community and around the world.