

CONNECTIONS FOCUS POINT REPORT

April 2020

The Connections Focal Point in the Intentional Interim Process provides an opportunity for congregations to review their relationships with their denomination, mission partners, and organizations to which they provide financial support. The Leadership Team emphasized our church's denominational relationship with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) at both the national and state levels, and the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV).

Celebrating our connections, the Leadership Team sponsored a Connections Fair, invited Rev. Terry Maples (CBF Virginia) to speak the day of the Fair, and scheduled Dr. John Upton, executive director of the BGAV, to address the congregation in late May.

Very well attended and supported by the Hospitality Committee, the Fair took place in the Fellowship Hall with table-top representation from the following:

- Disaster Relief--Giles Gilly
- Rescue Mission—Barbara Carroll
- Operation Christmas Child—Pat Dillon
- Hope Tree Family Services—Chas Colley
- First Responders—Scott Jones
- Christian Motorcyclists Association—Debbie Hill
- Backpack Ministry—Lynette Martin
- BGAV—Butch Meredith
- Appalachian Outreach—Joel Hetherington and Nick Crawford
- Keystone Community Center—Joyce Ikenberry
- Friendship House—Aaron Dowdy
- Stitch and a Prayer—Janet Bain
- CBF—Rev. Terry Maples

Those in attendance were provided with promotional materials, pamphlets, pens, and other items designed to encourage involvement in their respective ministries. The Melrose family enjoys many effective connections with its ministry partners.