



Jay and Lane participated in a Zoom call with youth ministers from around CBF to discuss technology issues.

CBFSC supports churches responding to Coronavirus

CBFSC responded to the initial reports of churches suspending worship and other gatherings in response to Covid-19 with immediate offers of material support.

Recognizing the desire of churches to offer worship online and the need to maintain options for tithing, CBFSC initiated a \$250 technology grant for churches and offered to allow individuals to give to their church through the CBFSC online giving portal.

“CBFSC recognized the desire of churches to continue worship while maintaining social distancing,” coordinator Jay Kieve said, “but knew this would require new or enhanced technology for

some churches. A small grant from our Advancement Team’s funds could help.”

Churches have used the technology grants to purchase new or upgraded equipment, subscribe to streaming or online meeting providers, and pay for technical support.

“The technology grant from CBF of SC allowed us to quickly purchase some basic equipment to live stream,” said Greg Dover, pastor of Augusta Heights Baptist Church in Greenville. “Having a gimbal phone mount and a quality microphone has greatly improved our ability to stay connected with our community of faith.”

To help lessen the economic impact of the suspension of worship for churches without established online giving programs, CBFSC added a “give to your church” tab on the cbfsc.org giving page.

“We decided to welcome churches without current online giving options to invite their members to give through us. CBFSC will absorb the fees for online giving and pass 100% of the designated contributions back to the church,” Jay said.

“In a time of rapid change and adaptation, and heightened responsibilities for ministers, we didn’t want having to select and setup a new giving portal to add to a pastor’s burden.”

To give to your church through CBFSC visit www.cbfsc.org/giving.

Child & Teen PROTECTION

Ideas for Safer Programs Online

Most sexual abuse of children/teens occurs in isolated, one-on-one settings.

The internet can be an isolated, one-on-one interaction between adults and children or between older and younger children.

To protect children from sexual abuse, adults need to take actions that minimize the opportunity for harmful, one-on-one communication. The church's policies that protect children in your program should extend to online activities, too.

Clergy, volunteers, and parents/guardians should respect the same boundaries and guidelines.

TEXTING / PRIVATE MESSAGING



Know your church's policy on texting/messaging with minors. Be sure that all communication between adults and children is observable by other adults. All communications should be saved and visible to a parent/guardian or supervisor.

SCHEDULE INTERACTIONS



Publish times for online lessons and other gatherings with students. Provide parents/guardians and supervisors with schedules. Parents/guardians and/or supervisors should be aware of contact with students outside of scheduled program times.

TWO-ADULT RULE



The "2-Adult Rule" applies for online interaction. No isolated, 1-on-1 interactions through video, chat, or messaging apps.

CLEAR GUIDELINES



Provide clear guidelines for clergy, volunteers, and parents/guardians that describe which apps/programs will be used and in the manner of their use. Set limits on contact to the scheduled times and methods. Give clergy, volunteers, and parents/guardians explicit permission and a mechanism to report violations of the guidelines.

TALK ABOUT SAFETY



Equip parents/guardians with general internet safety information. Discuss ways parents/guardians can talk with their children/teen about safety. Encourage parents/guardians to monitor child/teen internet usage and consider "screen-free" times.

RESTRICT SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWING

No adults should follow children/teens on social media without parent/guardian and/or supervisor consent. No private messaging through social media apps.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.d2l.org/safe-digital-learning-plans | www.connectsafely.org
www.fosi.org | www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/home



Cooperative Baptist
Fellowship of South Carolina
cbfsc.org

CBFSC MISSIONS PARTNER

Koinonia adjusts to help children and families

By Lane Riley

CBFSC Associate Coordinator

When the school districts and afterschool programs closed across the state, the staff and volunteers of Koinonia of Columbia knew they had to adjust how they served the Eau Claire neighborhood of Columbia.

They wondered what the children and families in their neighborhood would do for food. Koinonia signed up with its local school district to deliver meals to seven locations across North Columbia, providing meals to 39 children in the community.

And they were able to use some other local partners to assist them. Eau Claire Baptist Church, which houses Koinonia, loaned their bus to deliver the meals. The church's food pantry is also open on an "as-needed" basis through this crisis.

This has allowed Koinonia to deliver food to two families in the community, as well as feminine hygiene products to a nearby community.

They are partnering with North Columbia Youth Empowerment Initiative,



and other churches and nonprofits. Koinonia is participating with other community leaders to communicate about the needs of the community, and matching local assets to meet these upcoming needs.

Koinonia is also struggling with serving its community while protecting the health of its volunteers. They are adjusting to changes as they come, and need our prayers and support.

Even though many churches and organizations have shut their doors, they are seeking creative and safe ways to minister to their communities. For example, after school program volunteers are staying in touch with Koinonia Kids and families through phone calls, emails and packages in the mail.



CBFSC's mission partners serve some of the most vulnerable people in our state including children, immigrants, people living in poverty, and people living in rural areas.

These organizations are still open and serving their communities, and there are still ways for your church to be involved with their work. Check in with your local ministry partners, and find ways to stay involved and continue supporting the great work that these partners are providing across our state.

Jay celebrates seven years of meaningful ministry with CBFSC

Thank You! March 23 was my 7th anniversary as the coordinator for CBFSC.

Thank you for seven wonderful years of ministry. You have invited me into your churches, your mission trips, your homes, and your lives, and I have been greatly blessed by it.

I've seen how ministers love their churches and tirelessly serve them. I've seen how you love your clergy and seek to support them. I've met your children and petted your dogs.

I've heard your dreams for emerging ministry and your laments for ministry curtailed. I am honored and humbled to have walked with you in these places and ways...and my faith is stronger because of how you have lived your faith. Thank you.

Ministry in this moment and season of Coronavirus is uncertain. Churches and ministers are discovering new ways to accomplish the tasks of ministry but much remains unknown.

Please know that as churches and missions partners minister through crisis, I and CBFSC are praying for you and will support you in whatever ways we can. I'm sure of the grace and power of God that accompanies us. I'm also sure of the resilience and resourcefulness of our churches at work.

Thank you for the past seven years of meaningful ministry together. I look forward to our future together "nurturing spiritual development, encouraging congregations to thrive, and valuing innovative and collaborative missions and ministry."

With prayers for peace and wellness,
Jay



[In case you missed this in our e-news or on Facebook, you can subscribe at office@cbfsc.org.]



**P.O. Box 11159
Columbia, SC 29211**

SECOND ISSUE 2020

Cheryl Patterson MODERATOR
cherylpatterson235@gmail.com

Jay Kieve COORDINATOR
803.767.3456 | jay@cbfsc.org

Lane Riley ASSOCIATE COORDINATOR
864-992-6445 | lane@cbfsc.org

Wayne Patterson DISASTER RESPONSE
864.710.8239 | jwptt@clemsun.edu

Debbie Haag OFFICE MANAGER
803.779.1888 | debbie@cbfsc.org

Sue Poss COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST
864.934.6112 | editor@cbfsc.org

CBFSC Website: www.cbfsc.org

Churches adapting missions and ministries during Covid-19

Missions is an important part of church life! There are many ways that churches are adjusting to how they are doing missions during this time. Here are a few examples of creative ways that churches are continuing to minister and serve.

—FBC Greenville normally collects a different item every month. For April, they were planning on collecting diapers and wipes at their church. Now, they are encouraging their church to buy these items online and ship it directly to their community partner.

—Augusta Heights' quilting ministry, Peace by Piece, is now making face masks for their mission partners, nursing homes, and essential businesses.

—Oakland Baptist is encouraging all children and church members to decorate their driveways and sidewalks with pictures and encouraging words with chalk.

Go to the blog page on our website (<https://cbfsc.org/blog/>) for more about how our churches are doing ministry during the days of COVID-19.