

Tar River Baptist Association 195th Annual Spring Meeting



April 28, 2025

Hosted by Sandy Creek Baptist Church

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Agenda

Recognition of Entity Partners	
Call to Order	Michael McCray
Hymn	
Scripture & Prayer	Kaden Williamson
Hymn	
Organization of the Session	Michael McCray
Recognition of New Pastors	Caleb Gibson
Committee Reports	
Credentials Report	Rich Cash
Finance Report	Irma Boulden
Board of Directors Report	Ben McRoy
Acting Associational Missions Strategist Report	Caleb Gibson
Annual Sermon	Dr. Terry Long
Adjournment and Benediction	Mark Cottrell
Hymn	

Board of Directors Report

Over the last several months, the Board of Directors have been focused on 3 main tasks. First, in our fall meeting, the association voted to clarify the vision of the association by focusing on three ministry priorities: church health, community outreach, and pastoral investment. In light of this, the Board of Directors have worked to create some upcoming opportunities that focus on these priorities.

We plan to host a lunch for pastors of the TRBA on Friday, May 23rd at 11:30 AM at the associational office in Louisburg. Sandy Marks from NC Baptists will be speaking on the importance of pastoral friendship. Our desire is to invest in the pastors of the association and provide an opportunity for encouragement and new friendships.

With regard to church health, the association is partnering with NC Baptists and the Disciple Leaders Network to host a one-day Discipleship Workshop at Faith Baptist Church on September 5th. This workshop is designed to help churches evaluate their current disciple-making strategy and walk away with a plan for improving or strengthening their current disciple-making efforts. We believe this will be an important event in the life of our association, as we partner together to focus on church health.

The second task that the Board of Directors has been working on is addressing some maintenance needs of the associational office in Louisburg. We desire for the associational office to be a hub for regional ministry for many years to come. As such, we have been working with Caleb to address some maintenance issues and are happy to report that those are in process of being fixed. We plan to continue to improve the facilities and make it a great location for various ministry activities.

Finally, the Board of Directors have taken the charge of finding a new Associational Missional Strategist (AMS) very seriously. We have met with local associations, leaders from the NC Baptists, and the national SBC Associational Leaders Convention. These meetings were very informative and helped us understand what we need to be looking for in the next AMS. We believe that given our associational size, geographical spread, and increasing financial health that we need to look for a full time AMS. We desire to begin that search this summer and hope by God's grace to have the position filled by the end of this year. As we are preparing to begin this search, we would like to ask for your help. We have constructed a brief survey that will help us build the job description and meet the needs of our association. Would you take a few minutes to complete this survey? Your input is very valuable! You can pick up and complete a physical copy as you leave the meeting, or you can fill it out digitally by scanning this QR code. If you have any questions about the AMS search feel free to contact us at board@tarriverbaptist.com.



Blessed to serve the churches of our association,

The TRBA Board

TRBA Balance Report
Consolidated – March 2025

ASSETS		Current Year
BANK ACCOUNTS		
CHECKING ACCOUNTS		
	Premier Business Checking	\$65,560.95
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS		
	Premium Money Market	\$63,939.44
<i>Subtotal Bank Accounts</i>		<i>\$129,500.39</i>
FIXED ASSETS		
LAND		
	Lot ¹	\$30,530.00
BUILDINGS		
	Office Building ¹	\$584,230.00
EQUIPMENT		
	Office Equipment ²	\$15,000.00
	Office Furniture	\$5,000.00
Subtotal Equipment		\$20,000.00
Subtotal Fixed Assets		\$634,760.00
TOTAL ASSETS		\$764,397.41
LIABILITIES		
PASS THRU CONTRIBUTIONS		
	Patsy Cook	\$1,800.00
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
	Copier Lease	\$5,822.55
<i>Subtotal Current Liabilities</i>		<i>\$7,622.55</i>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$7,622.55
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED		
	Unrestricted Net Assets	\$727,310.11
DONOR RESTRICTED		
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED		
	CFM (Toy) Ministry	\$5,728.27
	Puerto Rico Partnership	\$7,533.53
	Rebuilding Hope Partnership	\$3,000.00
	Hispanic Ministry	\$9,456.22
	Food Ministry	\$2,728.79
	TRBA Restructure	\$217.94
	Replenish Grant	\$800.00
<i>Subtotal Temporarily Restricted</i>		<i>\$29,464.75</i>
TOTAL EQUITY	(Total Assets minus Total Liabilities)	\$756,774.86
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	(Total Equity plus Total Liabilities)	\$764,397.41

2024 Church Contributions Report

January 1 – December 31, 2024

Envelope Number	Church Contributions
1	\$4,456.94
2	\$5,700.00
3	\$2,500.00
4	\$6,179.42
5	\$1,000.00
6	\$1,000.00
7	\$3,425.36
8	\$4,500.00
9	\$3,398.90
10	\$1,000.08
11	\$10,024.32
12	\$145.00
13	\$750.00
14	\$5,550.00

Envelope Number	Church Contributions
15	\$2,250.00
16	\$1,200.00
17	\$250.00
18	\$600.00
19	\$1,749.06
20	\$4,000.00
21	\$600.00
22	\$600.00
23	\$2,250.00
24	\$6,000.00
25	\$1,000.00
26	\$1,691.00
27	\$3,001.00
28	\$3,258.38

Envelope Number	Church Contributions
29	\$900.00
30	\$100.00
31	\$2,000.00
32	\$763.10
33	\$450.00
34	\$225.00
35	\$2,310.00
36	\$2,400.00
37	\$250.00
38	\$3,750.00
39	\$720.00
40	\$1,399.92
41	\$1,000.00
42	\$4,000.00

Church Contributions January – December 2024	\$98,347.48
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2025 Church Contributions Report

January 1 – March 31, 2025

Envelope Number	Church Contributions
1	\$1,016.91
2	\$1,425.00
3	\$989.58
4	\$1,469.50
5	\$1,000.00
6	\$250.00
7	\$686.64
8	\$1,125.00
9	\$983.31
10	\$583.34

Envelope Number	Church Contributions
11	\$647.33
12	\$239.64
13	\$250.00
14	\$375.00
15	\$262.50
16	\$150.00
17	\$548.54
18	\$100.00
19	\$1,500.00
20	\$830.73

Envelope Number	Church Contributions
21	\$100.00
22	\$500.00
23	\$222.72
24	\$385.00
25	\$600.00
26	\$62.50
27	\$120.00
28	\$410.00
29	\$1,000.00

Church Contributions January – March 2025	\$17,833.25
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2024 Income & Expense Report

January 1 – December 31, 2024

	Current Period	Annual Budget
INCOME		
CONTRIBUTED INCOME		
UNRESTRICTED		
Church Contributions	\$98,347.48	
Banking Interest	\$95.80	
Miscellaneous	\$7,358.82	
<i>Subtotal Unrestricted</i>	<i>\$105,802.10</i>	
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED		
CFM (Toy) Ministry	\$1,491.49	
Food Ministry	\$430.94	
<i>Subtotal Temporarily Restricted</i>	<i>\$1,922.43</i>	
TOTAL INCOME	\$107,724.53	
EXPENSES	Current Period	Annual Budget
FIXED EXPENSES		
MINISTRY EXPENSES		
ASSOCIATIONAL PRIORITIES		
CHURCH HEALTH	\$3,013.27	\$10,000.00
OUTREACH	\$391.21	\$10,000.00
PASTORAL INVESTMENT	\$1,332.36	\$10,000.00
SUBTOTAL ASSOCIATIONAL PRIORITIES	\$4,736.84	\$30,000.00
STAFF AND EMPLOYER EXPENSES		
ACTING ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS STRATEGIST		
Acting AMS Salary	\$20,000.04	\$20,000.00
Acting AMS Annuity	\$600.00	\$600.00
<i>Total Acting AMS Expenses</i>	<i>\$20,600.04</i>	<i>\$20,600.00</i>
SUPPORT STAFF		
Financial Assistant	\$5,203.82	\$6,000.00
<i>Total Support Staff Expenses</i>	<i>\$5,203.82</i>	<i>\$6,000.00</i>
EMPLOYER EXPENSES		
Staff Christmas Bonus	\$250.00	\$0.00
Payroll Taxes	\$1,549.13	\$1,530.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$749.00	\$500.00
AMS Travel/Hospitality	\$4,857.48	\$6,750.00
<i>Subtotal Employer Expenses</i>	<i>\$7,405.61</i>	<i>\$8,780.00</i>
SUBTOTAL STAFF AND EMPLOYER EXPENSES	\$33,208.65	\$35,480.00

2024 Income & Expense Report

January 1 – December 31, 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	Current Period	Annual Budget
Bank Charges	\$29.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$1,775.38	\$3,250.00
Postage	\$18.80	\$100.00
Office Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Comprehensive Insurance	\$12,672.50	\$8,790.00
Phone/Internet	\$1,865.75	\$1,900.00
Copier Lease	\$514.79	\$4,000.00
<i>Subtotal Administrative Expenses</i>	<i>\$16,876.22</i>	<i>\$19,240.00</i>
BUILDING & GROUNDS UTILITIES		
Electricity	\$3,262.86	\$5,000.00
Water & Sewer	\$1,084.71	\$1,000.00
Gas	\$1,172.92	\$2,000.00
Waste	\$1,565.38	\$0.00
<i>Subtotal Utilities</i>	<i>\$7,085.87</i>	<i>\$8,000.00</i>
BUILDING MAINTENANCE		
Kitchen Supplies	\$35.52	\$50.00
Pest Control	\$802.00	\$1,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance	\$892.86	\$1,500.00
<i>Subtotal Building Maintenance</i>	<i>\$1,730.38</i>	<i>\$2,550.00</i>
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE		
Lawn Service	\$1,518.00	\$1,656.00
<i>Subtotal Grounds Maintenance</i>	<i>\$1,518.00</i>	<i>\$1,656.00</i>
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$27,210.47	\$31,446.00
SUBTOTAL FIXED EXPENSES	\$65,156.78	\$96,826.00
OTHER EXPENSES		
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$2,304.06	
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED EXPENSES		
Baptists on Mission	\$1,818.06	
CFM (Toy) Ministry Expenses	\$3,384.97	
Puerto Rico Partnership Expenses	\$1,228.88	
Hispanic Ministry Expenses	\$74.19	
Food Ministry Expenses	\$430.94	
TRBA Restructure Expenses	\$622.21	
<i>Subtotal Temporarily Restricted Expenses</i>	<i>\$7,559.25</i>	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$75,020.09	

2025 Income & Expense Report

January 1 - March 31, 2025

	Current Period	Annual Budget
INCOME		
CONTRIBUTED INCOME		
UNRESTRICTED		
Church Contributions	\$17,833.25	
Youth Activities	\$90.64	
Banking Interest	\$15.50	
Miscellaneous	\$931.15	
<i>Subtotal Unrestricted</i>	\$18,870.54	
TOTAL INCOME	\$18,870.54	
EXPENSES	Current Period	2025 Budget
ASSOCIATIONAL PRIORITIES		
Church Health	\$3,349.36	\$10,000.00
Outreach	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Pastoral Investment	\$194.36	\$10,000.00
SUBTOTAL ASSOCIATIONAL PRIORITIES	\$3,543.72	\$30,000.00
STAFF AND EMPLOYER EXPENSES		
Acting Associational Missions Strategist		
Acting AMS Salary	\$5,000.01	\$20,000.00
Acting AMS Annuity	\$150.00	\$600.00
Total Acting AMS Expenses	\$5,150.01	\$20,600.00
Financial Assistant	\$1,376.29	\$6,000.00
Total Support Staff Expenses	\$1,376.29	\$6,000.00
Employer Expenses		
Payroll Taxes	\$382.50	\$1,530.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$0.00	\$500.00
AMS Travel/Hospitality	\$1,486.29	\$6,750.00
Total Employer Expenses	\$1,868.79	\$8,780.00
SUBTOTAL STAFF AND EMPLOYER EXPENSES	\$8,395.09	\$35,380.00
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
Office Supplies	\$269.99	\$2,000.00
Postage	\$0.00	\$50.00
Office Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Comprehensive Insurance	\$0.00	\$8,790.00
Phone/Internet	\$569.22	\$1,900.00
Copier Lease	\$763.78	\$4,000.00
<i>Subtotal Administrative Expenses</i>	\$1,602.99	\$19,240.00

2025 Income & Expense Report

January 1 - March 31, 2025

BUILDING AND GROUNDS		
Utilities		
Electricity	\$401.26	\$5,000.00
Water & Sewer	\$136.50	\$1,000.00
Gas	\$872.43	\$2,000.00
Waste	\$402.53	\$4,000.00
<i>Subtotal Utilities</i>	<i>\$1,812.72</i>	<i>\$12,000.00</i>
Building Maintenance		
Kitchen Supplies	\$0.00	\$50.00
Pest Control	\$464.00	\$1,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Lawn Service	\$414.00	\$1,656.00
<i>Subtotal Building Maintenance</i>	<i>\$878.00</i>	<i>\$4,206.00</i>
SUBTOTAL BUILDING AND GROUNDS		\$2,690.72
TOTAL FIXED EXPENSES		\$16,317.37
OTHER EXPENSES		
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED EXPENSES		
TRBA Restructure Expenses	\$84.85	
<i>Subtotal Temporarily Restricted Expenses</i>	<i>\$84.85</i>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$16,317.37

Acting Associational Missions Strategist Report

Tar River Baptists, let me once more begin by saying what a joy, honor, and privilege it has been to serve you and to serve with you in this role and for this season. Thank you again for entrusting to me a front row seat to see, share, and celebrate all that God is doing in and through the churches of the Tar River Baptist Association.

At last year's Fall meeting we completed the two-year process of restructuring around the 3 priorities of Outreach, Church Health, and Pastoral Investment. Since the Fall meeting, we've tried to steward our time, efforts, and energies around these priorities. We've worked to implement the new bylaws into our everyday operations. We've celebrated a new partnership with Samaria Baptist Church for a new and much-improved Tar River Toy Ride that we can be proud to have our name associated with, where the gospel is clearly shared. We again were able to serve children and families in need in our communities through that partnership and through the generous giving of your churches. We have continued to host a bi-monthly prayer breakfast for the Franklin County Sheriff's Department deputies and detention center staff. We've once again seen a tremendous turnout of teenagers and young adults at our TRBA D-Now, and we partnered with the Baptist Children's Homes to serve the staff and residents of the Kennedy Home. We've done this and more while remaining mindful of the financial obligations that we have both now and for the future, and we ended 2024 with the firmest financial footing that we have had in a long time. And there's more exciting news and more exciting events coming in the near future.

As we look to the future, I am as excited as I have ever been about what lies over the horizon for our association of churches. I am grateful for the team of leaders that you've appointed. Legally, we refer to them as a board of directors, but I know them as a band of brothers, pastors and church leaders who love the Lord, love the local church, and love our association of churches and strive to serve and steward it well. They've met multiple times monthly since officially coming on as a board of directors in January. They've consulted associational experts across the state and even the nation as they have pursued the best possible path forward for Tar River. And they've worked to create a clear and concise way for you and your church to communicate your thoughts and feelings to them through the remainder of this process.

On a personal note, I feel that the time has come for me to step away from the Acting AMS role, and I'm excited to be stepping into a new role at the state convention. This wasn't an easy decision, but it was my decision, and I believe that it's the right decision at the right time, as you begin to pursue a full-time AMS and as I have always intended to continue pastoring at Salem Community. As I personally prepare to close this chapter of my ministry and to turn the page to the next, I look forward to seeing and to hearing from our board the next steps they plan to take. As I continue pastoring a Tar River church, I am excited to see where we go from here. I feel confident placing my trust in the leadership of this team and I hope that you feel confident doing so as well.

When I first started working at the Tar River Baptist Association in 2017, I was still fairly new to the Tar River area and still fairly new to this arena of Southern Baptist life. But I was confident then in the feasibility and the future of the local Baptist association, and in the role that the association could play in the lives of local churches and communities. Seven years later, I am more confident than ever in this reality. In fact, I am convinced today, not only of the feasibility of the local association, but also of the necessity of local association for the future of the local church. Now, certainly, over the 195 years that the Tar River Baptist Association has been in existence, the means by which we associate have changed. But the message and the ministry for which we associate has not. And the need for that message and that ministry has only grown and will continue to do so.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caleb Gibson
Acting Associational Missions Strategist