



# MID-LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**“WHERE EVERY CHURCH MATTERS”**



*“Mid Lakes, Where EVERY Church Matters”*



*May 2022*

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				





# Missions and Ministry Together

By John Rhodes

AMS (Associational Missions Strategist)

Hello Mid Lakes Family.

What a joy it was for our association family to join together and worship on April 24th. I want to thank Noble Hill for being great hosts. All our speakers challenged us to be all we can be for Christ! In case you missed it, you can find the entire service on our Midlakes Baptist Association Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/MLBABolivar/videos/2827709334202925>

There are some exciting things coming up for Mid Lakes!

Mark the dates and plan on joining us. June 25 - July 2, we will be going on an association mission trip to Cayce, KY. We will be helping build a house for a family who lost everything to the December 10th tornado that hit four states. We will also help Cayce Baptist Church conduct a VBS for this community. Please contact the association office if you are interested in joining us. We are setting up an email group for all those who are interested! There is something for everyone. You don't have to be a carpenter or VBS teacher to be valuable. We will need all kinds of help, including cooks.

Check out the Mission Trip Page and post it in your church to advertise the mission trip.

We have a GREAT announcement! Please see the NEXT page to see how God is providing through the generous hearts of a sweet couple.

With summer on our heels, be sure not to forget to plan for CAMP this year. The dates and location are different, so be sure to take note of the Newsletter page about Camp.

On a sad note, Pomme De Terre Baptist Church has asked to leave the association, the MBC, and the SBC. We hate to see them departing, but we wish them well as they seek another avenue in serving the Lord.

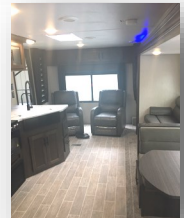
**Eccl. 4:9-10** *Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up.*

God bless and we love all of you,  
Bro. John & Gayle Rhodes



# MISSIONS

A sweet couple has donated a gift to the association for us to sell and put the money towards MISSIONS. Especially Disaster Relief, Block Party Trailer, Mission Trips, etc.



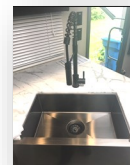
**Money Goes to Missions**

**Let us know if you are interested.**

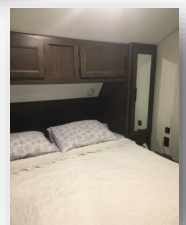
**2020 Cherokee Travel Trailer**

**35' with one slide out.**

**Est. Value \$30,000 - \$35,000**



*To this Anonymous Couple  
we say **THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!***



## 14 Surprising Facts About Pastors by Josh Weldmann

By definition, a pastor is one who “shepherds his flock.” You know this means he preaches, officiates weddings, and probably has meetings in his office to explain some theological question; but what is the role of pastor really like? Here are 14 surprising facts you may not know about pastors:

1. **We fight the balance between pleasing people and pleasing God every day.** We do what we do because we love God... and people. Trying to please both is a common reason for pastor burnout in part because people and God don't always want the same thing. Pleasing God wins, but living with the pressure of pleasing people can be extremely draining.
2. **We often hear more negative than positive feedback.** People assume pastors get praised often for their good sermons. Not true. We hear complaints often and more readily than we hear compliments. Healthy pastors can live without a lot of compliments (at least they should be able to) but the reality is we often hear much more negative than positive feedback on the preaching, worship service, theological points, etc...
3. **We say “no” because we love our sheep.** Pastors have families and lives too. We have to say “no” sometimes in order to be a good dad, a present husband, a good friend or for self-care. When a pastor says “no” to a church event, it should not be received as an indication that the pastor does not love the sheep, but as a protective measure for the greater good of the church body so the pastor can continue serving them well.

**Our families feel the weight of our calling more than they will ever tell you.** My kids are young, yet they feel the weight I bring home at times. So does my wife. Pastor's families are well aware of what they do and [even the youngest member](#) will feel the weight of what it means to lead a church. Be mindful that pastors are not called to serve without it affecting the family who is called, even if by default, to be in the ministry alongside them.

1. **Eating well, exercising well, and sleeping well is hard work for us.** Pastors are often selfless to a fault. We will more quickly go serve someone than to work out, sleep or prioritize self-care. While it may sound nice for a pastor to be selfless and think of others first, there is a balance to be practiced or it will not be good for the pastor or the person being served.
2. **Many of us are “Professional Extraverts.”** Pastors have to do a lot of deep thinking and study. We are used to being alone and actually love it (most of us). We enjoy our time with people too, but we are often professional extraverts, relating to crowds and leading people out of a secondary set of gifts.

**We know we could get paid better doing something else, but we don't want to.** We can't do anything else... we could... but we “can't” because this is what we love the most and are called to do. We stay even though we don't always feel it. [Having a calling](#) is more than a feeling—we grapple with that reality regularly.

**Spiritual warfare is a way of life.** The devil hates all Christians. I used to say that there is no way he “hates” or targets pastors more. But the longer that I do this, the more I realize that the widespread repercussions from a leader who falls puts an automatic target on the pastor's back for the enemy to lob his arrows. [Spiritual warfare](#) is just part of the occupational hazard for a pastor.

1. **We are always fighting our own sin too.** Pastors are far from perfect. We have our own sins that we are always fighting. Be patient with us. Pray for us.
2. **It takes us about 7 days to “unplug” for a meaningful and true vacation.** It is REALLY hard for pastors to unplug. When we go on vacation, it can take up to a week for us to unwind before we are fully present. I try to take one two-week vacation a year just so that I can have one week where I am really unplugged.

**It is hard for us to have friends.** People assume we have lots of friends. Most of us don't. Think about it—our church is our place of worship, our place of work, and our friend circle; not three different contexts—all the same one. The leadership role of “pastor” is not a hat that can be easily set aside in those contexts. That makes it [difficult to have friends](#). We also struggle with people who treat us as a friend and not “pastor.” It is not impossible for us to have friends, but it takes effort and sometimes our best friends are not in the churches where we serve.

1. **We work more than one day a week.** People joke with me (almost weekly?) that I “only work one day a week, what is the big deal?” I know they are joking, but it is obviously not true. Due to most modern pastors being expected to fill roles that are both spiritual and administrative; most of us only have one day OFF a week. It takes a lot of intentionality for us to have two days off a week. Pray for your pastor in this and if you can, help him have times or rest. He needs them.
2. **Our greatest joy is when our sheep “Get it.”** When people understand what we are discipling them toward, or when a person “gets” salvation, we love it. That is why we do this. We want them to love Christ and we love it when they “Get it.”
3. **We are rewarded by being invited into a full spectrum of life's big moments.** Think about it, what other roles get to be an intimate part of births, deaths, baptisms, marriages, salvations, sacred holidays, struggles and victories? A physician tends to births and deaths. A counselor tends to struggles and victories. A pastor has the privilege of being invited into a full spectrum of the “moments” in lives of people he loves and serves. It is deeply rewarding, and is the one of the special gifts that makes it all worthwhile.



# Spring Retreat Report

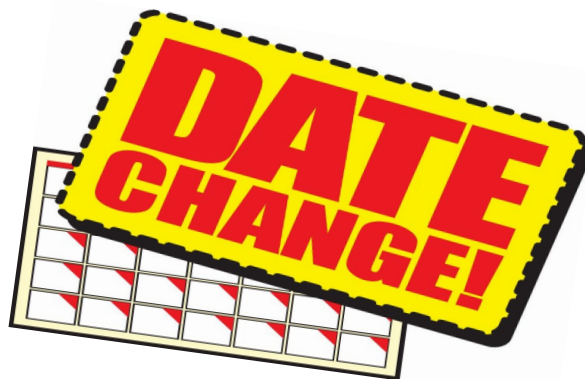
The Midlakes Spring Retreat was a wonderful pause in the busyness of this season! We are so grateful for our leaders and church families who made this weekend possible. Craig Stevenson from BBFI and Chad Burton from First Southern Stockton did an amazing job presenting scriptures to the students in a way that was relatable and applicable. As always, our youth had a wonderful time and we really enjoyed the new campus at Niangua. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to worship and read the Word of God with students! Now we are looking forward to summer camp all the more! Kids camp: Aug. 6th- 9th and Youth Camp: Aug. 10-14th.







# MID-LAKES SUMMER CAMP



**Children's Camp: Saturday, August 6th - 9th**

**Youth Camp: Wednesday, August 10th - 14th**

**Place: Camp Niangua**

**(7627 State Highway M, Niangua, MO 65713)**

**After much thought and prayer, we are excited  
about the new opportunities this camp offers  
and the room it has for us to expand!**

**For more information and to register (when it  
opens): [www.midlakescamps.weebly.com](http://www.midlakescamps.weebly.com)**

Contact:

Tim Cossins (417) 327-5395 or Bre Piper at (417) 912-1152

# Block

# Party

# Trailer

# Fund



MLBA

HELP

**\$8,000**

Our goal

**Summer Missions  
and Ministries are  
just almost here.**

**\$3,065.00**

THANK  
YOU!

**We will begin our search  
for a 10'-14' enclosed  
trailer to purchase for  
our Block Party Ministry.  
Please help us be on the  
"lookout". We are  
praying for a good deal  
on a used one. If some-  
one has one you would  
be willing to part with  
(or even donate),  
please let  
Bro. John know.**

## Help us reach our goal!



*Ronnie & Mary Lou Warren*  
*in concert*

When **Sunday May 1, 6:30 P.M.**

Where **First Baptist Church, Morrisville**



**Fellowship Following A Love Offering Will be Received**

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**Please pray for the Southern Baptist Convention's  
2022 Annual Meeting when they meet in June.**

**May God be glorified in all we do!**







**MAY 5TH | 5:30PM**  
**WORSHIP CENTER**

CAPITOL MINISTRIES PRESENTS

CAPITOL ministries®

**REVIVAL** IN THE  
**ROTUNDA**

**EVANGELIST SAM MOORE**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 11TH, 12:00 - 1:00 PM**  
**1ST FLOOR ROTUNDA AT STATE CAPITOL**

**Music by Abby Malloy & Heather Allen**



VBS Season is almost here. Be sure to pray for all our churches as they reach out in their communities.



Please let the office know if we can help in any way.



Proverbs 31:28 Her children rise up and call her blessed;  
Her husband also, and he praises her:

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

# Disaster Relief Appreciation Day

May 22, 2022

f t i @MOBaptistsDR



**Baptist Homes – Ozark Charity  
Golf Tournament  
Registration Details  
June 24, 2022  
Rivercut Golf Course,  
Springfield, MO**

**Format: 4-Person Scramble (White  
Tees / Red tees will be played by  
65+ years/ladies)  
Event Schedule:  
Registration – 7:30am  
Driving Range – 7:30am  
Welcome/Introductions – 8:30am  
Shotgun Tee Off – 9:00am  
Lunch/Awards – Following  
end of play**

**Contests:**

- **Hole-in-One Contest for \$10,000**
- **Longest Drive, Closest to the Hole  
and Longest Putt contests**



SPRING 2022 COMMENCEMENT

*Friday, May 20*

Bachelor Ceremony – 3 p.m.

Associate Ceremony – 7 p.m.

*Saturday, May 21*

Graduate Ceremony – 11 a.m.



Southwest Baptist  
UNIVERSITY



**3-on-3 Basketball Tournament**

**Saturday, May 7th**

**Cribbs Family Youth Park**

**(410 W. Madison St.)**

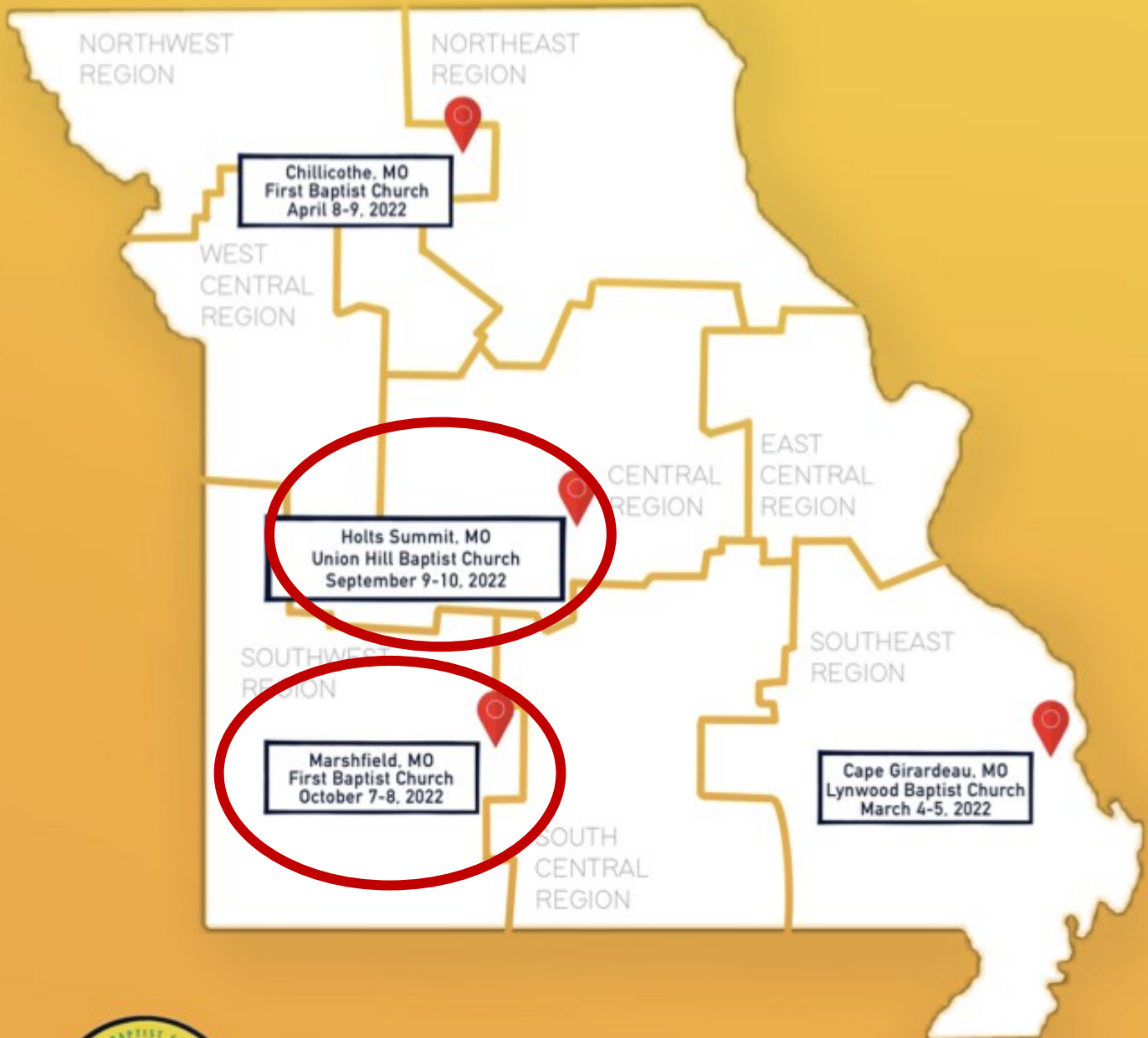
Phone: (417) 326-7758

Website: [bbcbolivar.com](http://bbcbolivar.com)

- **Registration @ 9:30 a.m., First game @ 10:00 a.m.**
- **Age 15 - Adult (male and female participants)**
- **Teams must consist of 3 players or 3 plus sub**
- **\$10 per person**
- **To pre-register a team, send us an email with your name and t-shirt sizes to [berean@windstream.com](mailto:berean@windstream.com)**

# 2022

## MISSOURI BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF *TRAINING DATES*



Additional training information and online registration can be found by visiting <https://modr.org/dr-training/>, emailing [disasterrelief@mobaptist.org](mailto:disasterrelief@mobaptist.org), or by calling 800-736-6227 ext 317.





**Mid Lakes Baptist Association  
Where Every Church Matters!**

Mid Lakes Baptist Association Churches

Berean Baptist Church  
Bethel Southern Baptist Church  
Brighton Baptist Church  
Caplinger Mills Baptist Church  
Fender Chapel Baptist Church  
First Baptist Church, Bolivar  
First Baptist Church, Fair Play  
First Baptist Church, Humansville  
First Baptist Church, Morrisville  
First Baptist Church, Pleasant Hope  
First Southern Baptist Church, Stockton  
Grace Fellowship Baptist Church  
Heritage Baptist Church  
Mt Etna Baptist Church  
Mt Olive Baptist Church  
New Hope Baptist Church  
Noble Hill Baptist Church  
  
Rondo Baptist Church  
Southern Hills Baptist Church



## Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO 65613

Associational Missions Strategist: John Rhodes

Hours: Monday—Wednesday 9 AM - 4 PM

Office 417-326-4667, AMS Cell 573-579-5993

Website: [www.midlakesba.com](http://www.midlakesba.com)

Email: [midlakessba@gmail.com](mailto:midlakessba@gmail.com)

Facebook Page: *Mid Lakes Baptist Association*