



MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

"Mid Lakes, Where EVERY Church Matters"

**Merry
Christmas**

December
2022

Missions and Ministry Together

By John Rhodes, AMS (Associational Missions Strategist)



Here we find ourselves in another Christmas season. This year has flown by with great speed, but also with many blessings. I have watched as our churches have drawn a little bit closer. I have watched churches minister to another churches. I have watched pastors encouraging other pastors. I have witnessed churches sharing with other churches items that could bless them in special ways. Things like pews, U-Hauls, pulpits, song books, floor cleaners, light bulb changing poles, church vans, plus a ton of encouragement. What I am trying to say is THANK YOU Mid Lakes Churches for caring and sharing with one another. I am excited to see what this next year has in store for us.

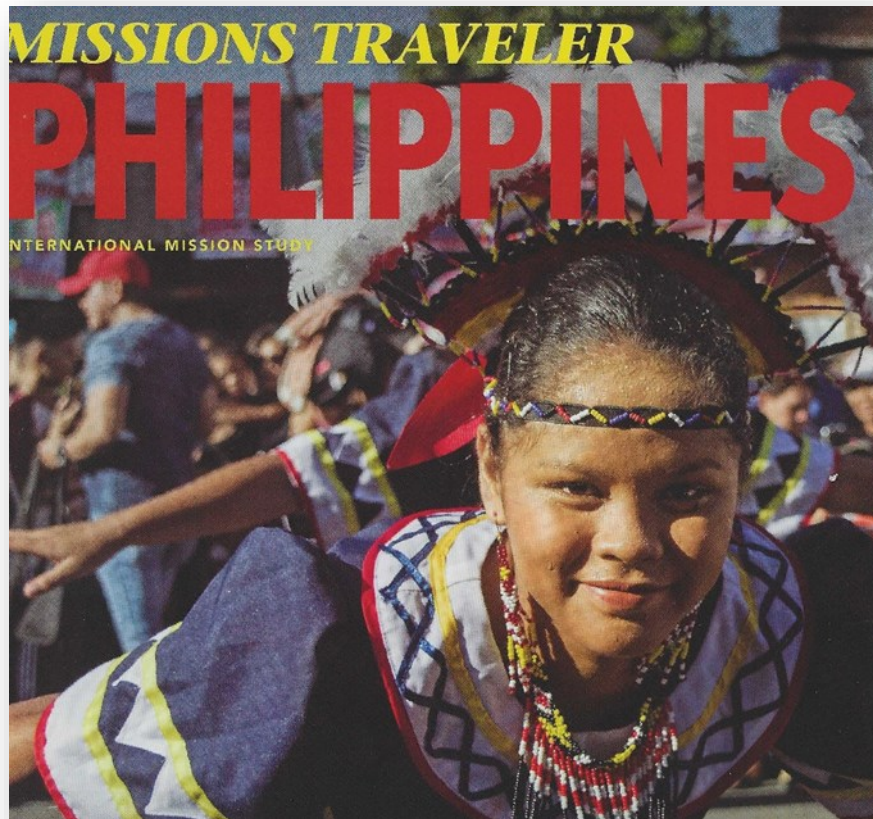
In 2021 we used the theme for our association, *"Iron Sharpens Iron"*. This theme helped us understand how we as churches need each other. In 2022 we have been using the theme, *"Where Every Church Matters"*. I doesn't matter where you are, if you are in the center of God's perfect will for your church, you are in the most important place in the world, regardless of size or finances. Now I would like to introduce to you our theme for 2023, *"Called to Connect"*. We as churches, and as an association of churches are called to: 1 - *Connect to our Creator*, 2 - *Connect to our Churches*, 3 - *Connect to our Communities*. I believe we can find this calling in the great commission that the Lord left for us.

Matthew 28:19-20 ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

It will be exciting to see what God has in store for us in 2023, but until then, be sure to finish 2022 well!!!

Merry Christmas,
Bro. John & Gayle Rhodes





First Baptist Church, Bolivar
invites the Mid-Lakes Churches
to join them for the
Annual Lottie Moon Mission Study Dinner
Speakers will be Phil and Pam Beasley
Retired IMB Missionaries to the Philippines
Dec, 5, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

Adults \$7.00

Child \$4.00

Family maximum \$20.00

RSVP: Ann Brown- 417-326-7872
or FBC 417-326-2431 by Nov. 30



Mid Lakes Association has one of the best camps there is!!!!

Our Camp Ministry Committee does a fabulous job!

Each year, camp struggles with finances because most of the camp fees come in after camp is over. The association budget line for camp helps some, but is not enough.

The Mid Lakes Personnel / Church Relations Ministry Committee has a plan! We would like to raise and maintain \$12,000 for the camp fund so the camps can thrive and not struggle every year. With a well supplied camp account and good budgeting, Mid Lakes Camps can continue to advance the Kingdom of Heaven and bless the churches of the Mid Lakes Association for a long time to come. What we are proposing is for every church in the association to take up a LOVE OFFERING in their Churches for camp, and bring that offering to our Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday Evening, April 23rd at Noble Hill Baptist Church. With all 20 churches participating, this goal could be easily met.

We also would like to ask for the churches to help financially sponsor sending leaders to camp. We have to pay just as much for leaders as we do the kids and youth.

Please join us in promoting this worth while goal!!!!!!





Please be in Prayer for
Humansville First Baptist
Church, Rondo Baptist Church, and
FBC Pleasant Hope as they search for
the next pastor God has for them.

**MLBA HAS NOW PURCHASED A
TRAILER TO USE AS OUR NEW BLOCK
PARTY TRAILER.**

EXCITING THINGS TO COME!

**P.S. WE ARE ALREADY TAKING
RESERVATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR'S
EVENTS. RESERVATIONS ARE FIRST
COME FIRST SERVE.**

**THE BP TRAILER IS AUTOMATICALLY
RESERVED FOR ALL CAMP DATES.**



**JANUARY 10TH EXECUTIVE BOARD
MEETING AT BRIGHTON BAPTIST CHURCH.
7:00 PM**

**GUEST SPEAKER: JOE NOGALSKI OF THE
MBC CHILDREN'S HOME**



YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

**JAN 15 & 16
2023**

FRESHWATER CHURCH • JEFFERSON CITY



**ROMANS
10:14**

**OUT
LOUD**

\$25 PER PERSON

<https://mobaptist.org/student-ministries/youth-evangelism-conference/>

MERRY CHRISTMAS

For there is
born to you this day
in the city of David a
savior, who is Christ the Lord.
And this will be the sign to you:
You will find a Babe wrapped in
swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.

Isaiah 9:6



*Merry Christmas from
Mid Lakes Baptist Association*



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

REACHING THE NATIONS, TOGETHER.

100% of your gifts go to the
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®
to enable gospel transformation
among the unreached.

imb.org/lottiemoon

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Monthly Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Men come join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each
month at Smith's Restaurant at 8:30 AM!

December 6 & 20



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
Shepherd's Way Church
Pomme De Terre Baptist Church
Rondo Baptist Church
Southern Hills Baptist Church

Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

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Associational Missions Strategist: John Rhodes

Hours: Monday—Wednesday 9 AM - 4 PM

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