



# MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

BOLIVAR, MO

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## Mid Lakes Baptist Association 157th Annual Meeting

**Monday, October 9th FBC, Bolivar**  
**Tuesday, October 10th Berean Baptist**  
**Meal at 6 PM each night**  
**Service begins 6:45 PM**



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10/1 Cooperative Program Sunday  
10/3 & 17 Men's Fellowship 10 AM at MLBA Office  
10/6-7 Disaster Relief Training, Houston, MO  
10/9 MLBA Annual Meeting, FBC, Bolivar  
10/10 MLBA Annual Meeting, Berean Baptist  
10/14 Multicultural Celebration, Crossway Baptist Church  
10/17 Alpha House Banquet  
10/21 Pastors Families Cookout  
10/23-24 MBC Annual Meeting, Crossway Baptist Church  
Every Monday Night - Hispanic Bible Study 7 PM at FBC, Bolivar Rose Building

# Missions and Ministry Together

By John Rhodes, AMS (Associational Missions Strategist)



Hello Mid Lakes Family,

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Now we all know the old saying about pastors, “*They only work three hours a week*”. I will say I have met a few who may have met that standard. However, a real pastor, one who truly shepherds his flock, puts in much more time than that. The pastors of Mid Lakes Baptist Association are much more than three hour pastors.

Mid Lakes Association has 18 churches who voluntarily work together. Thirteen of those churches have pastors who are bi-vocational. Only five of our churches are considered full time. Yet each week, both the full time and bi-vocational pastors spend countless hours studying God’s Holy Word so they can share 1-3 different messages to their flock. Most of our pastors work other full time or part-time jobs in order to make ends meet. They also make hospital visits, home visits, and are involved in the ministries of the church. For those with children at home, they have to juggle family time and activities with church, school, and work. Then factor in mowing the grass, yard chores, and when possible, sleeping, the pastor defiantly has his plate full.

I would encourage you to take time this month, (and all the time) to pray for your pastor, his wife, and his family. Lift up his health, heart, and his hurts. You see, pastors are human too. They ache physically, emotionally, and even spiritually. They struggle just like you do, and have the same temptations you do. When they see you hurting, they hurt too. They care for their flock and want what is best for those God has placed in their care.

Every pastor is different. They have different skills, gifts, and styles. Yet they all serve the same God and have the same purpose. Take time to thank God for your pastor, and remember, his service reaches much farther than from behind the pulpit, it reaches into peoples lives.

In **1 Timothy 5:17**, Paul encourages us to give “double honor” to those who preach and teach. Certainly, our pastors who so willingly serve and shepherd their congregations are worthy of appreciation. But when we show honor, it is not only the pastor who is blessed—the church congregation is blessed too.

*<sup>17</sup> Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. <sup>18</sup> For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer is worthy of his wages.” 1 Tim 5:17-18*

Saturday, October 21st is our Pastor’s Family Cookout at our house. I hope all pastors and their families can join us. We have a great time of fellowship.

Blessings and we love all of you,

Bro. John and Mrs. Gayle



*Date: November 7-10, 2023*

*Place: Chillicothe, MO*

*Purpose: To finish building 9 resident shelving units for The Baptist Home.*

*Cost: Mostly travel expense. They will feed and house us. Email or call the MLBA Office for more information.*

*See Bro. John for more details!*



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Mid Lakes Baptist  
Association**

# **Annual Meeting**



**Monday, October 9th FBC, Bolivar**  
**Tuesday, October 10th Berean Baptist**  
**Meal at 6 PM each night**  
**Service begins 6:45 PM**



**Guest Speaker  
Each Night:  
Dr. John  
Marshall**

**Retired Pastor from 2nd Baptist  
Church, Springfield, MO**

**Extra Tuesday night guest.  
Pastor Hazael Rodriguez**



**Pastor of Iglesia Cristiana Casa Oracion  
Christian Church House of Prayer**

**Will be sharing his vision of starting 5 Hispanic  
Church plants in the SW MO region over the next  
five years.**

**Bro. Scott Hudgins from Berean Baptist Church will  
be translating for us.**

**Our Annual Mtg Focus**



**“Connecting the  
Called”**

**What is God calling**





**MID LAKES CAMPS  
FALL YOUTH RETREAT**



**MID LAKES CAMPS FALL YOUTH RETREAT**

**OCTOBER 27<sup>TH</sup> — 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**FRIDAY 6 PM — SUNDAY 2 PM**

**PLACE: BAPTIST RIDGE CAMP, WARSAW, MO**

**COST \$60 PER CAMPER**

**CAMP PASTOR: BRADEN JONES, BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH YOUTH PASTOR**

**REGISTER AT <https://midlakescamps.weebly.com>**



**Mid-Lakes Camps**

WORSHIP, LEARN, GROW



## **Monthly Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

*Trial Period*



**OCTOBER  
3RD AND 17TH**

**Our Men's Fellowship has moved to a new TIME and PLACE. We will try this through October and see what attendance looks like.**

### **10 AM at the Association Office**

We will still meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month, but we will now meet at 10:00 AM at the Association Office. This will allow us more privacy to be able to look deeper into God's Word and to give us more flexibility with our meetings. At the office we have access to technology which can be used for presentations which will hopefully enhance our time together. Afterwards, all who want to can gather together at a restaurant for lunch (which gives us variety). So if someone can't or doesn't want to eat, they don't have to. I look forward to seeing God use this to grow our group spiritually, and numerically.



# Church and Associational News

**Berean** - Great time at Youth Rally. Thank you to all the association churches who attended.  
Fall Festival, Sunday October 29th.

**FBC Bolivar** - Introducing Michael Green as a candidate for College Minister.

**FBC Humansville** - 2 recent baptisms and 1 more planned.

**Rondo** - 2nd Sunday Potluck and Family Fun Day, Sunday, October 8th right after morning service.

**Camp Committee** - FALL RETREAT October 27-29 at Baptist Ridge Camp Warsaw.

**Mid Lakes Association** - Hispanic Bible Study every Monday night at the FBC, Bolivar Rose Building 7 PM.

10/6-7 DR Training, Houston, MO

10/9 Annual Meeting - FBC, Bolivar - Meal 6 PM, Meeting 6:45 PM

10/10 Annual Meeting - Berean Baptist - Meal 6 PM, Meeting 6:45 PM

10/14 MBC Multicultural Celebration 12noon—6 PM Crossway Baptist  
Springfield

10/21 Pastor's Family Cookout

10/23-24 MBC Annual Meeting, Crossway, Springfield, MO





# Pastors and their Families Cookout

Saturday, October 21st

(Rain date 28th)

Place: Bro. John & Gayle Rhodes' House

Please RSVP the Association Office



**Bring your lawn chairs!**

**New this year— the Joust and Bounce House will be there!!!!**







**CALLED TO CONNECT:**  
**Connect to Our Creator.**  
**Connect to Our Churches.**  
**Connect to Our Communities.**



Berean Baptist; Bethel Southern Baptist; Brighton Baptist; Caplinger Mills Baptist; Fender Chapel Baptist; First Baptist, Bolivar; First Baptist, Fair Play; First Baptist, Humansville; First Baptist, Morrisville; First Southern Baptist, Stockton; Grace Fellowship Baptist; Heritage Baptist; Mt Etna Baptist; Mt Olive Baptist; Noble Hill Baptist; Rondo Baptist; Shepherd's Way Church; Southern Hills Baptist.

## **Mid Lakes Baptist Association**

722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO 65613

Associational Missions Strategist: John Rhodes

Hours: Monday - Wednesday 9 AM - 4 PM

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