



**MID LAKES
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
BOLIVAR, MO**



JANUARY



**MLBA
2024
Theme:**

HOLINESS MATTERS



... "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

1 PETER 1:16

2024 - TIME FOR REVIVAL

Missions and Ministry Together

By John Rhodes, AMS (Associational Missions Strategist)



Happy New Year

As I looked toward 2024, I have been reflecting on questions and observations from 2023. One question I have been asked the most in the past is, *“How can we make our church grow?”*. That’s a big question because each church is different, has different dynamics, and offers a variety of styles of worship and service. However, if I could pinpoint one thing that does affect the growth of the church spiritually, it would be a thought that Dr. John Marshall introduced to us during our annual meeting, and that thought is, *“HOLINESS MATTERS”*.

If we are going to see our churches grown numerically, we ourselves must grow spiritually. Our personal holiness is vital in order for our churches to be healthy, vibrant, and growing churches.

We live in a world where sin is not only allowed, but is looked at as normal, and that even includes those who call themselves Christians. We have failed to compare ourselves to Christ and are comparing ourselves to each other. Most people’s mindset is, as long as I look as good or better than that other person, then I am OK.

However, this mindset does not line up with God’s Holy Word. **1 Peter 1:13-16** says, *“¹³ Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; ¹⁵ but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”*

Whenever the church sets her focus on being like Jesus, then she is headed in the right direction. That means we sometimes have to ask ourselves the hard questions. That means we have to hold one another accountable in love. That means we may have to walk away from some things which are present in our lives in order for God to use us to our fullest potential. That means we may need to change who we are and how we do things. To sum it up, that means the church needs Revival.

Whenever we use the word Revival, most people think, “Oh, that is when we have a series of meetings and people come to get saved”. However, this is not the true definition of Revival. Can people get saved at a Revival service? Yes, but true Revival is for the church. Lost people are dead in their sin. You cannot revive what has never been alive spiritually. That’s a spiritual awakening and a miracle from God. Revival is when God’s people (the saved), make the time to draw closer to God through the power of the Holy Spirit. Spiritually speaking, a lot of people have lost their spiritual spark. Their zeal and desire to be what God wants them to be has wavered, and they have taken their eyes off of Jesus, and are watching more and more of the world. Can we all say, OUCH. But what would happen if in our churches, the saved people in the pew, caught a spark of Revival? What if we as the church began falling on our faces and praying for ourselves and for others to get right with God? I believe we could see a great movement of God.

Does it take a Revival service for this to happen? No. Can God still use Revival services to speak to hearts and bring people back to Jesus? Definitely. Can God still save souls in a Revival service? Sure He can. I was saved in a Revival service.

I would love for all of our churches to pray about everyone is busy, I am too. However, is God not tend to put before Him? I would encourage you come together, and bring in a Holy Spirit-filled see what happens. God gave some the gift of could go together and have a joint Revival. I will believe lost people are hungry for the them!



having a revival service this year. Now I know more important than all those other things we to set aside a week for your church family to man of God to speak. Then pray and prepare, and evangelism. Use them. Maybe some churches be glad to help any way I can. Folks, I truly Word. Let’s prepare ourselves spiritually to feed

I am looking forward to seeing what God will do through the churches of Mid Lakes Baptist Association this year.

God bless and Happy New Year,
Bro. John and Mrs. Gayle



**In January we will be discussing the subject:
The Importance of DISCIPLESHIP.**

**Mid Lakes Baptist Association
Men's Breakfast and Fellowship**

1st and 3rd Tuesday each month at 8:30 AM.

at Mid Lakes Baptist Association Office.

Bring you Breakfast and a Bible.

We will provide the coffee!

All men are invited to join us.

722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO



**MID LAKES ASSOCIATION
WMU GROUP MEETING
Tuesday, January 30th 1 PM**

Mid Lakes Association is starting an Association WMU Group. This will allow ladies whose churches do not have WMU to join this group. Even if your church has a group, you are invited to attend. Mrs. Leidra Stunkel will be leading the group.

The meeting will be at the Association Office.
722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO.



The Midlakes Youth New Years Eve party was an awesome night! We had 60 students and several fantastic leaders/adults come out to party with us at First Baptist Bolivar recreation building. Pastor Dennis Mays of Noble Hill Baptist

Church brought a devotion of encouragement to the students. The kids enjoyed playing games, snacking all night, and staying up late together to ring in the New Year! Thanks to everyone for sending their kids and making this event happen. Happy New Year!

Breanna Piper



We are saddened to lose two pastors from our Association.

Bro. Randy Hargis has resigned as pastor of Caplinger Mills Baptist Church. He will be pastoring a church in Hermitage. We wish him well.

Bro. Scott Pruitt has resigned as pastor of Mt Etna. He and Heather have served there faithfully for twelve years. They live in Lebanon and are now expecting Baby #2. As you can see in the picture (blue cupcake), it is another boy.

Congratulations and we wish you well.





Biblical **PREACHING** WORKSHOP

at the GCBA Ministry Center

18
JANUARY

6:30 - 8:00 PM

25
JANUARY

6:30 - 8:00 PM

1
FEBRUARY

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Leader
HOSEA BILYEU

Entry is
FREE

REGISTER BY 1.4.24

@ www.gbaptist.org

The Biblical Preacher's Workshop is a time-tested approach to sermon development that will allow you to stay fresh in the pulpit until you finish the race. It will teach you how to develop a text-based sermon.



WILL YOU BE BOLD? WILL YOU BE DIFFERENT?
SEND ME
WILL YOU CALL OTHERS TO DO THE SAME?

Cost \$25 Per Person
To Register:

mb STUDENTS

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE
JANUARY 14-15, 2023
CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH, JEFFERSON CITY, MO

<https://mo.sbcworkspace.com/pub/event/register/55236589>



Hispanic Bible Study

There is a Hispanic Bible Study which now meets every Monday evening at the FBC, Bolivar Rose Building, at 114 Springfield Ave in Bolivar. Pastor Hazael Rodriguez is currently leading the class. Feel free to invite all your Spanish speaking friends to join in. You may say, What can I do?

- 1 - Pray, pray, and pray some more. Pray for God's will and for God's Word to be shared and for many to come to Christ through this ministry.
- 2 - Participate. Whenever a need is shared, jump in and help meet that need. If you speak Spanish, come participate in the Bible study. You may even want to take some Spanish classes.
- 3 - Give. Our prayer is for a church plant to develop from this Bible study. However, ministering to any group of people involves finances. Maybe your church would like to designate a certain amount to this ministry. Individuals may want to make a one time donation, or give to it monthly. Understand God is putting this together. We are just here to serve Him. So pray, participate where you can, and give.



U-HT 450 CLD The Church

Contextualized Leadership Development (CLD)

3 Credit Hours

Spring 2024

II. Course Description

A survey of the development of the Baptist identity and polity, with special reference to the essence, purpose, and governance of the New Testament church. Attention is given to the history and structure of the Southern Baptist Convention.

III. Course Objectives

Students who complete this course will be able to:

1. Evaluate ecclesiological positions and practices in light of evangelical Baptist convictions
2. Explain the historical developments and contemporary expressions of Baptist identity
3. Employ historical and theological understanding to apply evangelical Baptist convictions to ministry

Equip believers to participate in the local church and its cooperative efforts

All instruction, activities, and assessments in this class will relate to one or more of these course objectives.

Enrollment link: <https://share.hsforms.com/1H7WARq2lTtGFzqyESE19IQ3lggp>

Start and End Dates: January 18, 2024 – May 2, 2024

Class Times: 6:00 P.M. – 7:15 P.M.

Class Location: Southern Hills Baptist Church, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO

Contact Information:

Instructor Name, Title, and Credentials: Darren Bradley, Instructor, M.A. Educational Leadership (Gateway Seminary); PhD Student – Applied Theology, Leadership Emphasis (Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary).

Instructor Contact Info: 916-218-8024

Additional Contact Info: cldcoursework@gmail.com



**Join us for our Raising Passionate
Jesus Followers Event!**

**To register go to: [https://share.fluro.io/
form/6578d48f09c9b000375788d1](https://share.fluro.io/form/6578d48f09c9b000375788d1)**



RAISING PASSIONATE JESUS FOLLOWERS

FEBRUARY 9 - 10

FRIDAY: 6-8 PM
DINNER SERVED AT 5:15 PM

SATURDAY: 8:30-10:30 AM
LIGHT BREAKFAST AT 8 AM

RAISING CHILDREN IN TODAY'S WORLD IS CHALLENGING. THROUGH OUR 2 SESSIONS WE WILL WALK THROUGH EACH STAGE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT (BIRTH-22), HELPING YOU CULTIVATE PASSIONATE JESUS FOLLOWERS. WE EXPLORE AGE-SPECIFIC TOOLS, INTENTIONAL PRACTICES, AND BIBLICAL WISDOM TO NURTURE LOVE FOR GOD. FROM MANAGING MELTDOWNS TO NAVIGATING TEENS, DISCOVER SOLUTIONS FOR BUILDING STRONG FAITH FOUNDATIONS. LET'S LEARN HOW WE CAN EQUIP OUR CHILDREN TO OWN THEIR UNIQUE CALLINGS AND SHINE BRIGHTLY IN A WORLD THAT NEEDS THEIR LIGHT.



SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP!
OR VISIT THEHERITAGEBAPTIST.CHURCH

*CHILDCARE PROVIDED FOR AGES 0-5

SPEAKER:

WANDA SHELLNBARGER
MISSOURI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME



Women's Ministry Training Clinic 2024



Date: March 8-9, 2024
(Fri. 6p-9p | Sat. 9a-3p)
Location: AmericInn by Wyndham Hotel and Conference Center
275 Tanger Blvd | Branson, MO
Register: www.mbch.org (click on link at top of site) \$40 per person
(includes lunch on Saturday and all materials needed)
Hotel Room: 417.334.8404 (ask for Women's Ministry Training Clinic)
\$82 per room (includes breakfast and dessert)
(Cutoff for rate is Feb. 8, 2024)
More Information: Wanda Shellenbarger, Women's Ministry Specialist,
417.529.0724 or Wanda.Shellenbarger@mbch.org

This is a new training clinic for those wanting to understand the new issues of the day and how to be prepared to do serious ministry in difficult and trying times! We'll look at key aspects of Women's Ministry AND training in the following areas:

Dealing Scripturally with Conflict
Difficult Parenting Issues
Training the Next Generation
Ministry to Victims of Domestic Violence
Preparing for the Next Season of Women's Ministry
Biblical View and Ministry to Cultural Issues of our Day
Effective Ministry to Those Grieving Various Types of Loss
Resources and Trainings Availability and **much, much more!**

Seating is limited and registrations are already coming in. Register soon to secure your seat!



Date: May 3-4, 2024 (Fri. 6p-9p | Sat. 9a-3p)
Location: AmericInn by Wyndham Hotel and Conference Center
275 Tanger Blvd | Branson, MO 65616
Register: www.mobaptist.org | \$45 per person (early bird rate) \$50 after April 5th. (includes lunch on Saturday)
Hotel Room: 417.334.8404 (ask for The Gathering)
\$82 per room (includes breakfast and dessert)
(Cutoff for rate is April 15, 2024)
More Information: Wanda Shellenbarger, Women's Ministry Specialist,
417.529.0724 or Wanda.Shellenbarger@mbch.org
Cheryl Stahlman, WMU Executive Director and Consultant,
cstahlman@mobaptist.org
Becca Moore, Ministry Wives, beccaw30@gmail.com

Great worship segments, multiple breakout sessions and lunch fellowship on Saturday.

Sponsored by:



Women's Ministry



WMU Ministry Wives



Registration opens
01/01/24.



MLBA
AN EVENING WITH
DR. WES FOWLER
SUNDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 25TH
5 PM FELLOWSHIP
6 PM SERVICE
AT HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH



Dr. Wes Fowler is the new Executive Director for the MO Baptist Convention. He was the Senior Pastor of FBC, Mayfield, KY. His church lost their campus to the December 10, 2021 Tornado. His passion is for churches and evangelism.

We would like for all our churches to come and hear his heart and vision for MO Baptist and also hear him share God's Word with us.

There will be a meet and greet time at 5 PM with refreshments before the service.





Berean:

Now has a Transportation Ministry

Caplinger Mills:

Caplinger Mills pastor has resigned. His last Sunday was Christmas Eve. Please pray for the church as they begin their search for a new pastor.

FBC, Bolivar:

Has called Bro. Michael Green as their College Pastor, and Mrs. Julie DuVall is their new Children's Director.

FBC, Fair Play:

Had great community participation for the Bethlehem Village in December.

FBC, Humansville:

Pastor David Cloud will begin live streaming messages for the church on a weekly basis until they are able to return home. Bro. David is in LA with his wife as she seeks answers for her MS. Please keep Mrs. Karol in your prayers.

First Southern, Stockton:

Will be helping distribute Meals on Wheels in January.

Heritage Baptist Church:

Will be hosting a MBCH Conference, "Raising Passionate Jesus Followers. February 9-10.

Mt Etna:

Pastor Scott Pruitt resigned after 12 years as pastor. Please pray for the church and Bro. Scott.

Meetings in January:

2nd - Men's BYOB Fellowship at 8:30 AM at MLBA (Discussing The Importance of Discipleship).

8th - Personnel Committee Meeting - MLBA Office 4:30 PM

9th - Executive Board Meeting at Rondo Baptist Church at 7 PM. Scott Hudgin will be sharing about Manna Ministries.

14th - Camp Committee Meeting - 1 PM at MLBA Office

16th - 2 - Men's BYOB Fellowship at 8:30 AM at MLBA (Discussing The Importance of Discipleship).

16th - Missions Committee Meeting at 5 PM at MLBA Office

30 - MLBA WMU Group Meeting at 1 PM.



Mid Lakes Baptist Association

Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 9th

7 PM at Rondo Baptist Church

Guest Speaker: Bro. Scott Hudgins

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 8TH

4:30 PM

MLBA OFFICE

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

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

Website: www.midlakesba.com

Email: midlakessba@gmail.com

Facebook Page: *Mid Lakes Baptist Association*

