



# MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

BOLIVAR, MO

August  
2024

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## Missions and Ministry Together

By John Rhodes, AMS (Associational Missions Strategist)



Challenges,

We all have challenges in ministry.

**Churches** have challenges. Some struggle with gaining more people. Some have difficulty paying the monthly bills. Some just cannot find preachers to fill the pulpit. There are some who struggle with what to do next. Some may be asking the question, *“In ten years where will our church be???”*

**Pastors** have struggles. They can find themselves discouraged. They may feel unappreciated or unimportant. They can find themselves burdened down with the burdens of others while trying to juggle their own burdens.

**Church members** have challenges too. Some don't like the preacher. Some underestimate the importance of the church in their lives. Some have lost any vision for serving God and have become lukewarm. Some have become apathetic.

Now I know what you're probably thinking, Bro. John, how is this encouraging to us, and that is a good question. In everything I have mentioned, there is one element that brings hope: TRUTH. The Bible says that the Truth shall set us free. If we are truthful with ourselves, we can find answers to each of these problems in the scriptures. You see, God is not dead, but He is very much alive and able to answer our prayers far and above what we can imagine. I have to realize that our answers to these questions and problems usually just get us by, where God's answers do far more than we could ever imagine.

In the future we will all face challenges, but if we face them by faith, in truth, and with God, we will find ourselves amazed at the wonderful grace of God that will work through our lives. Take that step of faith, get out of your comfort zone, go where you have never gone before, and see what amazing things God has for you.

We love you all,

Bro. John and Mrs. Gayle

# PRAY For CAMP



## MLBA CAMPS

**Kids Camp: Saturday, August 3rd @ 2pm -**

**Tuesday, August 6th @ 2PM.**

**\$140 per student**

**Youth Camp: Wednesday, August 7th @**

**2 PM - Sunday, August 11th @ 2PM.**

**\$150 per student**

Camp registration is now  
available online.

<https://midlakescamps.weebly.com/>



## NEW UPDATE

# Hispanic Ministry Update

### The BEGINNING

On August 16, 2023, five people met at the association office to discuss the possible need for a Hispanic work in the Bolivar and surrounding areas. One month later we met again, along with some other leaders, and a plan was developed to host a Block Party for the Hispanic Community. On September 15th multiple people worked together to host a Hispanic Block Party. Through this effort, between 75—100 Hispanics attended the Block Party. The next Monday evening a Hispanic Bible study began with two people from the community attending. Now lets fast forward to today. Each Monday evening at 7 PM, a group of 20-25 Hispanics meet to study God's Word and fellowship. This group has developed into a good core group who have a passion for following Jesus.

### The NEXT STEPS

Since our last report we have had some changes. The young man who we believed would be leading the Bible Study and Worship Service was presented with another ministry opportunity and felt led to go that direction. So for now, Pastor Rodríguez will be leading the Bible Study as they seek for a new person to lead this ministry. This change is not in any way stopping the ministry, but actually gives us more time to plan and prepare for what God has next.

- Find the person God has to lead the Bible Study and to begin local worship services for the Hispanic Community.
- Whenever this person is found, and plans are made to begin worship services, we will still support this church planting process with financial support from our churches. Any monies received before this happens will be held for the purpose of supporting the church planter God sends.
- At our July Executive Board Meeting the Executive Board voted to allow our Moderator, Bro. Chase Wagner to appoint an ad hoc committee to oversee our aspect of this ministry. This committee will report to the personnel committee. This ad hoc committee will consist of Don Hodson, Gustavo Nix, and Tom Stanford, and will be assisted by our AMS, John Rhodes.

### The FUTURE

- How can YOU be a part? 1 - Pray for God to send the leader He desires for this ministry.
- Make plans for your church to give to this ministry. You can begin now, or plan for later. Give as God directs your church. We also have many individuals in our churches who would love to support this ministry. Please help encourage this. This is all a step of faith, and I am excited to see how God is putting all the pieces together.
- I would like to say "Thank You" to FBC, Bolivar for taking the lead in supporting this ministry. They not only have allowed the Bible study group to use their facility each week to meet in, but have also provided coffee and refreshments and made this group feel welcome. Don Hodson and Gustavo Nix have been instrumental in supporting this ministry. It helps that they speak Spanish.
- As soon as the Hispanic group begins the church plant status, they will petition the association to be a church plant of the association. Pastor Rodríguez has stressed how important it is for us to teach who Southern Baptist are and why.
- **So here is what we need to pray for:**
  - 1 - **For God to provide the right man, place, and time for the worship services to begin.**
  - 2 - **For God to direct each church in how they can help. If financially, then how much?**
  - 3 - **For God to place this ministry on the hearts of individuals. God can also use individuals to help finance this ministry.**
  - 4 - **For God to be glorified in everything we do. They already have individuals wishing to be baptized. How exciting!!**

Thank you for your prayers and support. I love watching people carry out the Great Commission together!!!!

Some churches have already pledged monthly support.



**August 6th - NO Meeting (Camp Week)**

**August 20th**

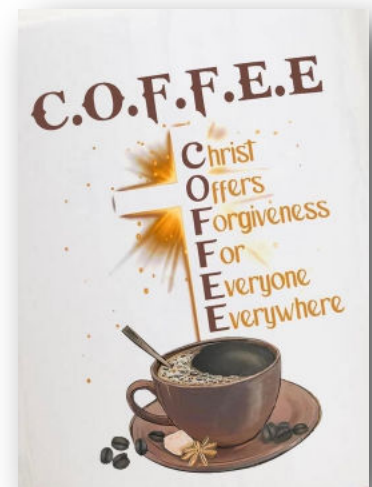
**Men's Breakfast and Fellowship**

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

**at Mid Lakes Baptist Association Office.**

**Bring your own Breakfast and a Bible.**

**We will provide the coffee!**



**MID LAKES ASSOCIATION  
WMU GROUP MEETING**

**Last Tuesday of each month at 2 PM.**

**New Time**

All ladies are invited to join in.

Mrs. Leidra Stunkel is leading the group.

The meeting will be at the Association Office.

722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO.



# SPURGEON COLLEGE

## U-MN 201 CLD Personal Evangelism and Discipleship

Contextualized Leadership Development (CLD)

**Location: Mid-Lakes Baptist Association**

**3 Credit Hours**

**Fall 2024**

**Cost: FREE**

### **Logistics:**

*Start and End Dates:* August 29, 2024 — December 12, 2024

*Class Times:* Thursday Nights from 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm

*Class Location:* 722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO (Mid-Lakes Baptist Association Conference Room)

### **Contact Information:**

**Instructor: 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

*Link for Enrollment:* [CLD Personal Evangelism and Discipleship Enrollment](#) (Only use this link if you want college credit for the course. If you want to audit the class, contact the instructor directly).

### **II. Course Description**

An introduction to personal evangelism and discipleship, including basic methods of personal Bible study, discipleship, and evangelistic witness in multi-cultural settings.

**This course offers 3 units of credit at Spurgeon College. These credits are transferrable to other colleges/universities (depending on their willingness to accept Spurgeon College credits).**

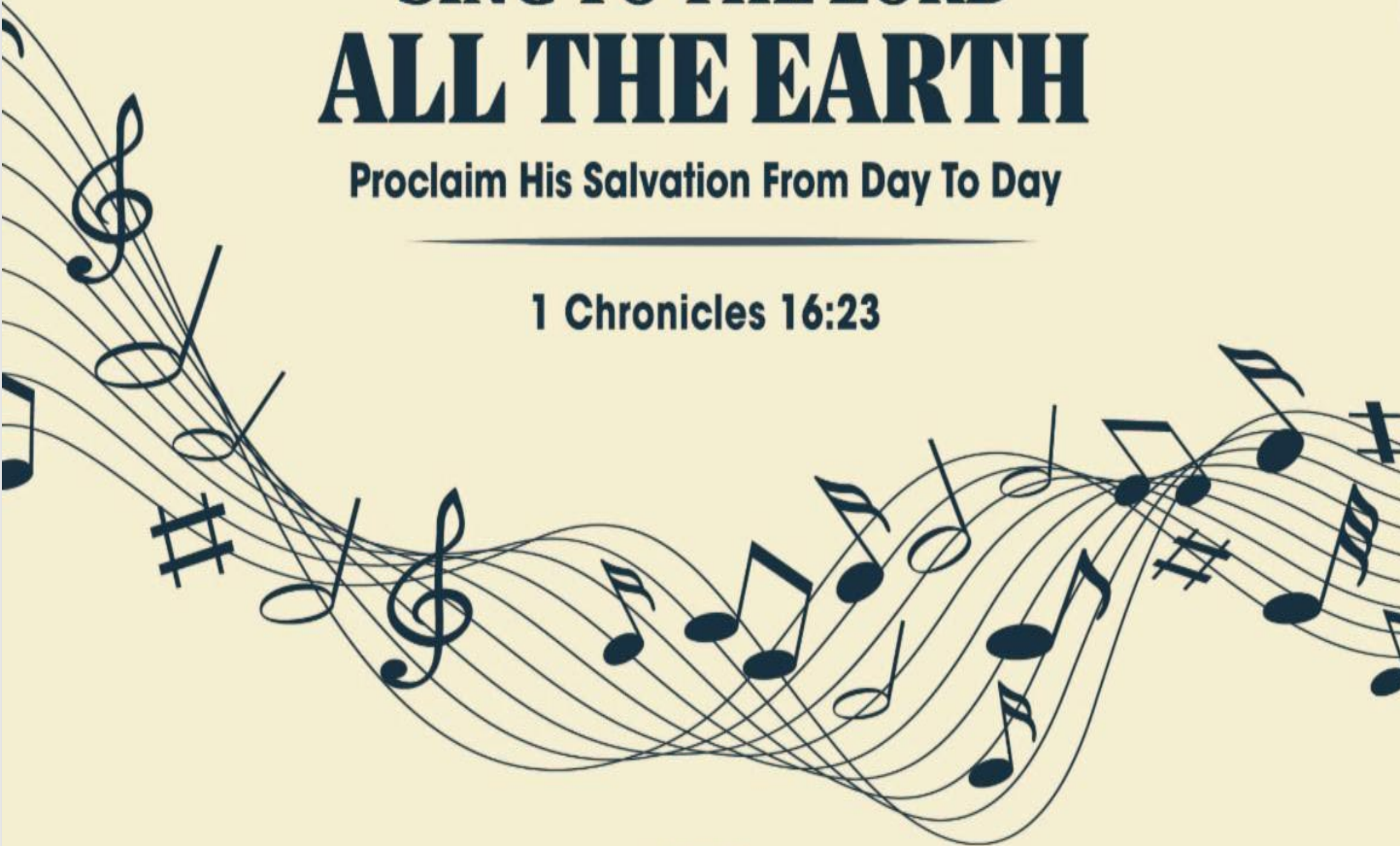
**This course is for anyone who desires solid biblical training from an accredited institution (from a junior in High School and up).**

2024

# SING TO THE LORD ALL THE EARTH

Proclaim His Salvation From Day To Day

1 Chronicles 16:23



**MMO**

RHEUBIN L. SOUTH

MISSOURI MISSIONS OFFERING

10% of what we give comes back to the association for missions.

# Women's Ministry in Missouri

# Truth F O R Girls

and the Mom's  
and leaders  
who love them

# Event

## 2024



### Psalm 25:5

*Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are God my Savior,*

**August 9-10, 2024**

**Friday: 10a-4p**

(Evening is Free time to enjoy on your own.)

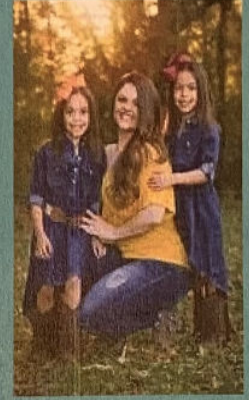
**Saturday: 9a-3p**



**Branson, MO**

Registration: \$45 per person (Inc. lunch on Fri and Sat)  
(Register at [MBCH.org](http://MBCH.org). Click on Events tab | Women's Ministry)

Hotel Reservations: \$92 per room. Call 417.334.8404.



This is a NEW and EXCITING event for tween girls in grades 3-6 and mom's and leaders. Worship segments will be together and the girl's will experience fun and interactive sessions that expose the lies of the culture and the truths from the Word of God. Women will study how to effectively share the truths of the Word of God with this new generation living in a toxic culture.



For more information contact Wanda Shellenbarger, Women's Ministry Specialist  
at [Wanda.Shellenbarger@mbch.org](mailto:Wanda.Shellenbarger@mbch.org) or 417.529.0724.



# MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14TH - SOUTHERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15TH - FBC, HUMANSVILLE

## Holiness Matters

**Please put it on you calendar TODAY!**

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### Prayers for Mount Olive Baptist Church.

**On June 26th a Micro Burst hit the church with estimated 85 mph winds.  
The church sustained substantial damage.**

**So far people have donated \$1,240.00 to help Mount Olive recover.**



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**ACP**



Annual Church Profile

The Annual Church Profile (ACP) Forms have been mailed to each association church from the MBC. Please take time to fill out the document and return it to the MBC. This helps us with the record keeping process. If your church did not receive an ACP Form in the mail by mid-July, please let Bro. John know.

Thank You.





# **Mid Lakes Baptist Association Introduces**

## **Disaster Relief Ministry**

With all the recent tornados, we have a **severe shortage** of DR Volunteers. Come learn more about Disaster Relief, see our equipment trailer, and pray about being a part of this great ministry.

(Trained and untrained individuals are encouraged to attend, regardless what area you wish to serve.)

Dallas County Association and Ozark Prairie Association  
have a special invitation to join us.

# **Saturday, August 24, 2024**

## **At Grace Fellowship Baptist Church, Bolivar, MO**

### **9 AM - 12 Noon**

4395 S 82nd Road, Bolivar, MO

(at the intersection of S 82nd and Hwy 32)

Call John Rhodes at 573-579-5993

for more information.



# DEFENDING LIFE & FREEDOM IN MISSOURI



# CULTURAL IMPACT CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

9:30AM

FIRST BAPTIST OZARK  
1400 W JACKSON ST, OZARK, MO 65721

## FEATURING SPECIAL GUESTS



**CHRIS WILLIAMS**  
SENIOR PASTOR,  
FELLOWSHIP CHURCH



**WILLIAM FEDERER**  
HOST OF THE AMERICAN  
MINUTE RADIO FEATURE



**TONY PERKINS**  
PRESIDENT, FAMILY  
RESEARCH COUNCIL



**SETH GRUBER**  
FOUNDER & CEO, THE  
WHITE ROSE RESISTANCE

**REGISTRATION IS FREE**

For more information and to register,  
**visit [ciconference.org](https://ciconference.org)**

# MISSOURI BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF training dates

# 2024



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



@MOBAPTISTSDR

## Dates to remember:

8/3 - 6 Kid's Camp  
8/7-11 Youth Camp  
8/13 MLBA Nominating Committee Meeting  
8/14 BP Trailer, FBC, Bolivar Youth  
8/17 BP Trailer - Shepherd's Way Ministry  
9/19 Budget Committee Meeting  
8/24 Disaster Relief Reintroduction Meeting  
8/26 DOM Regional Meeting  
9/7 BP Trailer - Country Days Ministry sponsored by Mount Olive (for all churches)  
9/14 Hispanic Block Party - BP Trailer (we will need help)  
9/21 BP Trailer - Bethel Southern  
9/25 SEE YOU AT THE POLE  
9/27 Shuttle - FBC, Bolivar (Senior group)  
9/30 DOM Regional Meeting



## Hispanic Bible Study

Each Monday Night at 7 PM  
at FBC, Bolivar Rose Building

Help us invite our Hispanic neighbors to attend.

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  
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*

### Office Hours

**Monday—Wednesday**

**9 AM - 4 PM**



# MLBA Church News

**Caplinger Mills:** Is in the process of adding new bathroom and kitchen facilities.

**FBC, Bolivar:** Hosting the MLBA Hispanic Bible Study each Monday evening.

**FBC, Fair Play:** Has a WMU group who uses their sewing skills to minister to different ministry groups.

**FBC, Humansville:** Is still praying for the doctors to figure out what is causing their pastor's wife's seizures. Please continue to pray for Bro. David and Mrs. Karol Cloud and for the church as they navigate this uncertain time.

**FBC, Morrisville:** FBC Morrisville has been seeing an increase in attendance. VBS July 18-20

**Fender's Chapel:** VBS Saturday, July 20 10 AM - 2:30 PM

**Grace Fellowship:** Held a Celebration of Freedom event at the end of June. VBS July 22-26

**Heritage:** VBS Pre-registration June 1, VBS 9-14

**Mt Olive:** VBS July 22-24 Sustained major damage from Micro Burst on June 26, 2024

**Rondo:** VBS July 8-12

**Shepherd's Way: Church** Hosts the local Farmer's Market. Celebrated their 5th Anniversary as a church on Sunday, June 30th.

**MLBA:** Kayak Ministry ministered to the MO Deaf Camp, June 24 & 27

**Camp Committee:** Almost ready for camp. Kids, youth, and leaders need to sign up ASAP to help us plan. Register at <https://midlakescamps.weebly.com>.

**Hispanic Ministry:** Bible Study every Monday evening at 7 PM at the Rose Building. Worship services beginning soon.

**Disaster Relief Introduction:** August 24, 2024 at Grace Fellowship Church. 9 AM–12 Noon