



January 2025
Happy New Year!

**MID LAKES
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
BOLIVAR, MO**

Missions and Ministry Together

By John Rhodes, AMS (Associational Missions Strategist)



As believers, God never intended for us to walk this spiritual journey through life as lone rangers. We are blessed with brothers and sisters in Christ which we can work with, worship with, and fellowship together with.

Psalms 133:1 says, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.” Actually, the rest of that chapter explains how special it is for us to dwell together in unity.

We live in a day and time when many, if not most people, are focused on self. God never intended for mankind to go it alone. He actually created us to have fellowship with us, and for us to have fellowship with one another. I praise God that we, as an association of churches, can come together and dwell together in unity for the cause of Christ. Even though all our churches are autonomous and are individually unique in how they operate, we can still work together. That is what is wonderful about the church. God has each of us placed where we are, for a reason. As scripture says, for such a time as this. I am proud that God works through our different churches, and yet we can work together, in unity, because our end goal is all the same, sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with a lost and dying world.

This year, our associational theme is “Dwelling in Unity”. It is just a reminder that God loves all of us, can use all of us, and desires for us to love one another and to work together for His honor and glory. We are not in this alone.

I am looking forward to what God will do in 2025, and I am looking forward to working together,

**Happy New Year!
Bro. John & Mrs. Gayle**

Dwelling in Unity 2025



Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalm 133:1

Church Spotlight



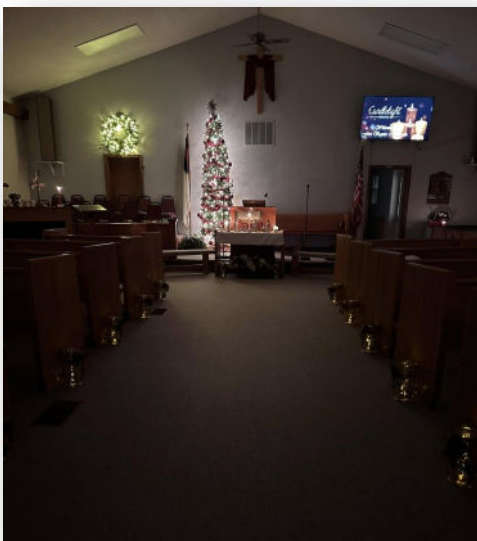
First Baptist Church Morrisville, MO 5/11/1890 - Present

First Baptist Church of Morrisville, MO was organized on May 11, 1890. Rev. J.F. Hampton led the first congregation of fifteen people. He led the congregation until J.A. Newport was called as their first pastor on March 8, 1891. He remained pastor until February 6, 1892.

The church held their first services in a building on the corner of the Main Street and Hwy 215 in Morrisville. A storm blew that building off the foundation in May of 1898. The building was moved in 1906 to the former Union site, about a mile south of town. About ten years later, construction of a concrete block building began at the present site, which is in use today. Morrisville First Baptist Church dedicated their new building on June 29, 1913. At that time they had 23 active members. A later addition was built, and dedicated in June of 1958, consisting of classrooms, a nursery, office space, bathrooms, kitchen, and a basement with a furnace room and storage.

In 2000, renovations were made to bring the kitchen upstairs, and redo the class rooms. In 2018 a fellowship hall / meeting room was added. The church has a rich history in the Morrisville community and is currently lead by Pastor Charles Jackson who came on May 1, 2016. Pastor Charles has faithfully lead the church and has seen some growth in the past few years. The church currently runs between 40-50 and is growing because of the continuous efforts to reach out into the community with the love of Jesus.

Morrisville First Baptist Church is affiliated with the Mid Lakes Baptist Association (formerly Polk County Baptist Association), the Missouri Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention.



*Pastor Charles Jackson
and his wife Jane*



January 7th & 21st at 8:30 AM

Men's Breakfast and Fellowship

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

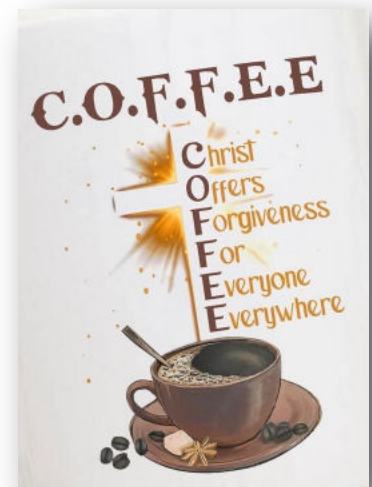
at Mid Lakes Baptist Association Office.

Bring your own Breakfast and a Bible.

We will provide the coffee!

All men are invited to join us.

722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO



**MID LAKES ASSOCIATION
WMU GROUP MEETING**

Last Monday of each month at 2 PM.

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.

*Mid Lakes Baptist Association
Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 21st*

Place: Berean Baptist Church

Time: 7:00 PM

Speaker: Bro. Derrick Lewright will be sharing about their churches recent trip to the country of Columbia.

If winter weather happens, be sure to watch our Facebook Page and email for any cancelation.

Moderator: Bro. Charles Jackson

Vice-Moderator: Bro. David Stunkel

Clerk: Jennifer Smith

Treasurer: Dot Soldivini



MLBA Church News

Berean: Hosting January's Executive Board Meeting

Bethel: In the process of collecting resumes for a new pastor.

FBC, Humansville: Beginning a search for a new pastor.

Fender Chapel: Still seeing the church growing.

Heritage: Taking resumes for a new pastor. Heritage is also hosting the middle school and high school grades of the Polk County Christian School.

Mt Olive: Was able to move back into their sanctuary for Christmas.

Hispanic Ministry: Bible Study every Monday evening at 7 PM at the Rose Building. They hope to begin worship services soon.

MLBA Men's Fellowship and Breakfast: January 7th & 21st

MLBA Camp Committee Meeting: Sunday, January 12

MLBA Personnel Committee Meeting: Monday, January 13

MLBA WMU Meeting: Monday, January 27 at 2 PM

Dates to Remember in 2025

January 21 - MLBA Executive Board Meeting

April 15 - MLBA Executive Board Meeting

April 27 - Semi-Annual Meeting, at Noble Hill Baptist Church

May 1 - National Day of Prayer

June 8-11 SBC Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX

July 15 - MLBA Executive Board Meeting

July 26 - 29 Children's Camp

July 29 - August 3 Youth Camp

August 12 - Nominating Committee Meeting

August 18 - Budget Committee Meeting

September 24 - See You at the Pole

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

October - 13 & 14 MLBA Annual Meeting

October 18 - Pastor's Family Event

October 27-28 MBC Annual Meeting, Branson

SENDING CHURCH LAB SPRINGFIELD



Send Network
MISSOURI

Sending Lab Objectives

- Identify your current level of church planting involvement
- Embrace the role and responsibilities of a Send Network Sending Church
- Articulate a vision for leading your church to plant churches
- Develop a pathway to discover, develop, and deploy a church planter
- Access the resources available through the Send Network
- Use the Sending Map to plan your next steps

■ January 22 | 9a-4p

■ Greene County Baptist Association

■ REGISTER at
<https://cvent.me/Ze4B9w>

Contact Us

Send Missouri

Email

jzellmer@namb.net

mhess@namb.net

astoddard@namb.net

**CHURCHES
PLANTING
CHURCHES
EVERYWHERE
FOR
EVERYONE**

We will identify your current level of church planting involvement; embrace the role & responsibilities of a Send Network Sending Church; articulate a vision for leading your church to plant churches; develop a pathway to discover, develop, and deploy a church planter; and access the resources available through the Send Network.

Register here: <https://web.cvent.com/.../e7541e3e-1762-469c-89b2.../summary>

World Vision

WINTER JAM '25

**\$15 DONATION
AT THE DOOR**

No Tickets Required!

MORE INFO @

JAMTOUR.COM



SKILLET



ANNE WILSON



KB



COLTON DIXON



NEWSONG



MICAH TYLER

**ZANE
BLACK
SPEAKER**



Great Southern Bank Arena
Springfield, MO
Saturday, March 22, 2025

Dates to remember:

1/7 Men's Fellowship at MLBA Office
1/12 Camp Committee Meeting
1/13 Personnel Committee Meeting
1/19 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
1/21 Men's Fellowship at MLBA Office
1/21 Executive Bard Meeting at Berean Baptist
1/27 WMU Monthly Meeting at MLBA Office

NOTE: Camp Dates for 2025

Kid's Camp: July 26 - 29

Youth Camp: July 30 - August 3



Dwelling in Unity 2025



Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* For brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalm 133:1

Ephesians 4:22-24

²² That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

²³ And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

²⁴ And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.



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; Wellspring Baptist Church (in the process of joining)



Office Hours

Monday—Wednesday

9 AM - 4 PM

Mid Lakes Baptist Association

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Facebook Page: *Mid Lakes Baptist Association*

John Rhodes, AMS