



# MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**BOLIVAR, MO (WITH CHURCHES FROM POLK, CEDAR, HICKORY, AND GREENE COUNTIES)**

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## **Missions and Ministry Together**

**By John Rhodes, AMS (Associational Missions Strategist)**

Hello Mid Lakes Family,

I pray God has been blessing you this summer. For most of us, August and September is a time when things slow down a little and get back to a normal routine with school being back in session. Even in the busyness of the summer, God has been doing some good things. I have heard testimonies where God has been working in many lives, and as I listen to people's hearts, I am hearing a passion for the Lord's work to be done. Just today, I spoke with someone from First Baptist in Bolivar, and they remarked that with their pastor leaving at the end of October, their prayer was that the ministry of the church keeps going strong. I truly believe with people having that heart for the Lord's work, that things will keep going strong. So often we want to count on our own strength and ability, but I want you to know that God, Who never fails, is still at work in people's hearts and lives. I just pray people will be receptive to His will for their lives.



I will put a plug in for next month's Associational Annual Meeting October 13th & 14th. On Monday evening the 13th, it will be at Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar. Meal is at 6 PM and the service will start around 6:45. On Tuesday evening the 14th, we will be at Shepherd's Way Church in Pleasant Hope (This is the old FBC, Pleasant Hope building) Meal is at 6 PM and the service will start around 6:45. That night will be special because we will be having CAMP night. This is a night we will be hearing testimonies from campers, and one camper, Salvador Gonzalez from First Southern Baptist in Stockton, will be bringing the evening message. I am sure we will be blessed. We will also be voting on bringing Wellspring Baptist Fellowship into our association family. So put these dates on you calendar and join us. Now many people think our Annual Meeting and Executive Board Meetings are only for board members, but that is not so. Everyone is invited. We do our best to make these meeting meaningful and worshipful. You see, I hate boring meetings too. Lol So, invite your church family to join us. Also come see how Shepherd's Way has remodeled their sanctuary.

We continue to pray for Heritage Baptist Church and Bethel Baptist Church in their search for a pastor. Heritage will be celebrating 15 years as a church on September 14th. We also will be praying for First Baptist Church in Bolivar as they begin their search for a pastor after Bro. Adam leaves. They are calling Dr. John Marshall to serve as interim beginning in November.

God bless and keep on serving!

Bro. John and Mrs. Gayle  
Phil 1:6

**REMEMBER OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH**

**159th Annual Meeting**  
**Mid-Lakes Southern**  
**Baptist Association**



**Monday, October 13th**

**Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar**

**Meal 6:00 PM, Meeting 6:45 PM**

**Tuesday, October 14th**

**Shepherd's Way Church, Pleasant Hope**

**Meal 6:00 PM, Meeting 6:45 PM**

**(Tuesday will be camp night)**

**Speaker: 18 year old Salvador Gonzalez**  
**from First Southern Baptist in Stockton**

**Psalm 133:1**

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**  
*Breakfast*

*Bring your own Breakfast and a Bible.*



**September 2nd & 16th 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.**

**We will provide the coffee! All men are invited to join us.**

**722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO**

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**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  
at the Association Office.

**722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO.**

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MLBA Personnel  
Committee Meeting  
Monday, September 15th  
at 5 PM  
at the MLBA Office

**GRANDPARENTS  
DAY IS SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 7TH!**



SEPT | 24.

# AWE

Lord, I am filled with awe!  
Habakkuk 3:2

SEE YOU AT THE POLE  
GLOBAL DAY OF STUDENT-LED PRAYER



# PRAY

for our

# SCHOOLS



# KIDS

## CREATE CRAFT SHOW

SEPT. 6TH 9 AM - NOON ESQUIRE LOT



# **Country Days Ministry**

**Saturday, September 6, 2025**

**9 AM - 4 PM**

**(Set up 8:00 AM)**

**Come help us meet the people, hand out information, and talk with parents as kids bounce in the bounce house!**

**Mid Lakes Association Churches are invited to join Mount Olive in inviting people to church (yes, your church too) We are all in this together.**

**Location: Next to the Bolivar fire station in the COM Parking Lot.**





**15th Anniversary  
Celebration**

**Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**9:30 AM**

**Lunch and Celebration at Noon.**

**4853 S 135th Road**

**Bolivar, MO 65613**

**Come Help Us Celebrate!**

*Anniversary*  
CELEBRATING

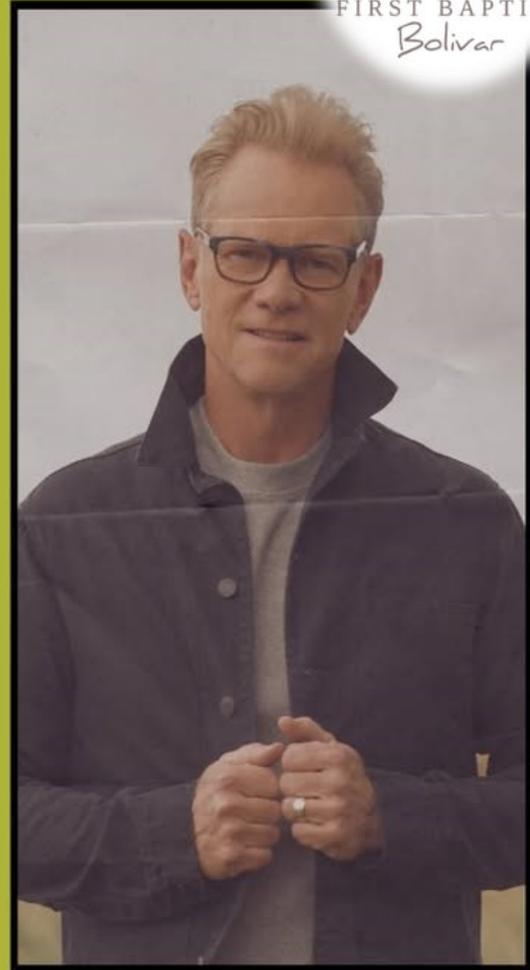
# First Baptist Church

## Bolivar, MO



FIRST BAPTIST  
Bolivar

# An Evening with Steven Curtis Chapman



## Thursday, October 2, 2025

7 PM

Tickets are on sale now at

[fbcbolivar.churchcenter.com/registrations/](https://fbcbolivar.churchcenter.com/registrations/)

# MLBA Church News

**Bethel:** Still searching for a new pastor.

**FBC Bolivar:** Dr. Adam Hughes has resigned as Senior Pastor. He will stay through the month of October. He is returning to the New Orleans Seminary as a professor of ministry students. Dr John Marshall will start as their interim pastor beginning in November.

**Heritage:** Will celebrate their 15th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, September 14th at 9:30 AM. Lunch and a celebration time will be at 12 noon.

**Hispanic Ministry:** Bible Study every Monday evening at 7 PM at the Rose Building. Average attendance around 25. Still searching for a pastor to lead in worship services.

**Mount Olive:** Called John Rhodes to be their new pastor. He also still serves as the MLBA AMS. The church has moved to an 8:45 AM worship service and Sunday School at 10 AM, and has their mid-week service on Thursday evenings at 6 pm. Revival services are set for November 9-12 with Bro. Bill Jetton being the evangelist.

**Noble Hill:** Pastor Dennis and his wife Emily welcomed Dennis Jay Mays into their family on August 6th. He weighted 7 pounds and was 20" long. Congratulations Mays Family!

**MLBA Men's Fellowship and Breakfast:** September 2nd & 16th

**MLBA WMU Meeting:** Monday, September 29 at 2 PM. September's location to be announced.

## Dates to Remember in 2025

September 15 MLBA Personnel Committee Meeting

September 24 - See You at the Pole

**October is Pastor Appreciation Month**

October - 13 & 14 MLBA Annual Meeting Heritage (Mon) / Shepherd's Way (Tue)

October 27-28 MBC Annual Meeting, Branson

# MINISTERIO HISPANO HISPANIC MINISTRY

## Update

The Hispanic Ministry is still going strong. Each Monday, Pastor Hazael Rodriguez, continues to teach the Bible study as they search for a permanent pastor for this group. They are averaging 25 in their Bible study.

Pastor Rodriguez is working with NAMB and the MBC in starting a year long intern program for 7 young men who feel called into the ministry. They will meet twice monthly for intensive training to prepare them to be pastors in Hispanic Churches. Our Executive Board approved giving \$600 to help support this minister training program.

Please continue to pray that God will raise up a pastor for the Bolivar group that meets on Monday nights at 7 PM, so they can begin regular worship services. That is when we will all be able to participate with financing this ministry.

Special Thanks to FBC, Bolivar for hosting the Monday night Hispanic Bible Study. Also special thanks to Don Hodson and Gustavo Nix who are there each Monday as hosts. Both men speak Spanish and have a heart for this ministry.

Bro. John



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**Annual Church Profiles are due the END OF AUGUST.**

If your church has not turned in their ACP, Due the end of August, please do so ASAP. This information helps us plan trainings and gives us some important statistics and gives the MBC contact information to inform us of upcoming events and trainings.

If you have any questions, please give Bro. John a call.

# **BSAAM Conference**

## *Our Cups Runneth Over*

*“And God is able to make every grace overflow to you,  
so that in every way, always having everything you need,  
you may excel in every good work.”*

*2 Corinthians 9:8 CSB*

**September 15-16, 2025**

*The Baptist Building  
400 E. High St.  
Jefferson City, MO*

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Tara Fowler**

*with*

**Worship Music Led By:**  
**Brad and Janis Newbold**

*Breakout Topics: Microsoft 365 Advanced,  
“I’m New Here - What they didn’t tell you”,  
Spiritual Disciplines and More!*

**Register online at [www.bsaamisouri.org](http://www.bsaamisouri.org)**



BAPTIST HILL ASSEMBLY  
9519 HWY V, MT. VERNON, MO

# ADULT RETREAT

MONDAY 9:30-THURSDAY 11:00  
SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2025  
REGISTRATION FEE \$90.00

## TUESDAY EVENT

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 9:00-4:00  
(FREE FOR SENIORS)

BIBLE & MISSION STUDIES  
WORSHIP & PRAISE HOUR  
CHOIR & SPECIAL MUSIC  
MEALS & FELLOWSHIP

**Mid Lakes Association has a  
special invite to join  
in this event.**

## MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US

REGISTER ONLINE AT [baptisthillassembly.com](http://baptisthillassembly.com) or

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM TO PO BOX 491 MT. VERNON, MO

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL BAPTIST HILL  
AT (417) 466-3034



# Project Leader Workshop

It's time for the annual Project Leader Workshop hosted by the East Springfield Area Team.

**Date: September 13th**

**Time: 9am-12pm**

**Location: Crossway Baptist Church**

**2900 N Barnes Ave**

**Springfield, MO 65803**

**RSVP HERE**

This is a great opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of Operation Christmas Child. Volunteers will be equipped through key messages, project ideas and updates as well as strong, local relationships.

New modules, displays, and break-outs will help expand knowledge and develop new ideas and strategies for the upcoming shoebox packing season.

There will be light refreshments, fellowship, and resources. Each project team will receive a case of 50 pre-printed shoeboxes to pack (depending upon supply).

*Matthew  
7:24-25*

**GOOD NEWS  
GREAT JOY**



**THANK YOU** to everyone who supported and prayed for camp this year. We can't wait until next year!



**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CHURCHES WHO FAITHFULLY GIVE TO THE MINISTRY OF THE MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION. WITHOUT YOU, THIS MINISTRY WOULD NOT EXIST.**



**Hispanic Bible Study**

Every Monday Evening at 7 PM  
At FBC, Bolivar's Rose Building.  
Everyone is invited.

**Dwelling in Unity 2025**



Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* For brethren to dwell together in unity!  
Psalm 133:1

**MLBA Annual Meeting**

**Monday October 13 - Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar**



**Tuesday, October 14 - Shepherd's Way Baptist Church, Pleasant Hope**

Everyone is Invited to Attend.

**The office will be closed Monday, September 1st for Labor Day**

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; Heritage Baptist; Mt Etna Baptist; Mt Olive Baptist; Noble Hill Baptist; Rondo Baptist; Shepherd's Way Church; Southern Hills Baptist; Wellspring Baptist Fellowship (in the process of joining).



**Office Hours**

**Monday - Wednesday**

**9 AM - 4 PM**

**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*

John Rhodes, AMS