



2024 Annual Meeting  
Book of Reports  
**Mid Lakes Southern  
Baptist Association**

Monday, October 14, 2024 Southern Hills Baptist Church  
Tuesday, October 15, 2024 FBC, Humansville



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**MLBA 158<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

*“When Holiness Matters, Mission Work Happens”*

**Monday, October 14, 2024**  
**Southern Hills Baptist Church, Bolivar, MO**

Meal begins at 6:00 PM Meeting 6:45 PM

Welcome and Opening Prayer – Ted Bachman, Pastor, Southern Hills

Call to Order: Rev. Chase Wagner, Moderator, Brighton Baptist Church

Children’s Camp Video

Attendance Count and official Seating of the Messengers.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to accept written reports.

Time of Worship: Southern Hills Praise Band

Theme Introduction: Bro. John Rhodes

Missionary Time: Scott Hudgins, Manna Ministries

Time of Worship: Southern Hills Praise Band

Presentation of Financial Report – Proposed budget (To be voted on Tuesday evening)

Nominating Committee Presentation (to be voted on Tuesday evening.) The Moderator is appointing Tim Cossins, FBC, Bolivar to the Nominating Committee.

Old Business:

New Business:

Guest Speaker: Dr. Craig Dunning, Mission University Missions Department Director

Introduction of any new pastor or staff. Bro. John

Announce Tuesday evening agenda and place. – First Baptist Church, Humansville: Meal 6:00 PM;  
Meeting 6:45 PM

Thank Southern Hills for the meal and their hospitality,

Closing Prayer – Call upon someone.

- **Memorial Slides and announcements will be played before and after both sessions.**

## 158<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

*“When Holiness Matters, Mission Work Happens”*

**Tuesday, October 15, 2024 First Baptist Church, Humansville**

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

Welcome and Prayer – Chase Wagner, Moderator

Call to Order: Rev. Chase Wagner, Moderator

Youth Camp Video

Worship: Donna Glaser & Barbara Wegrzyn

Proposed Budget Vote

Nominating Committee Presentation Vote - Tim Cossins, FBC, Bolivar, being appointed by the moderator.

Bro. John – Brief Introduction

Missionary moment: Missionary Jeremy Dunn, Ethnos 360 Ministries

Worship: Donna Glaser & Barbara Wegrzyn

Annual Sermon: Dr. Duke Jones, Pastor Mt Etna

Worship Invitation: Donna Glader and Barbara Wegrzyn

Associational Missions Strategist Report: Bro. John Rhodes

Installing of New Officers (Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer)

Charles Jackson – Moderator

David Stunkel – Vice Moderator

Jennifer Smith – Clerk

Dot Soldavini – Treasurer.

Special Thanks to FBC, Humansville for hosting us tonight.

Closing Prayer – Call upon someone.

- Memorial Slides and announcements will be played before and after both sessions.



# MLBA 2024-2025 Calendar Dates

Beginning October 2024 – December 2025

## **2024**

### **October is Pastor Appreciation Month**

- 10/14/24 Annual Meeting – Southern Hills Baptist Church
- 10/15/24 Annual Meeting - First Baptist Church, Humansville
- 10/19/24 Pastor's Family Cookout at AMS house
- 10/28-29/24 MBC Annual Meeting, St Charles
- 10/28/24 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM
- 10/30/24 DOM Fall Retreat, St Charles
- 11/2/24 MLBA Youth Fall Retreat, Noble Hill Baptist Church 2-8 PM
- 11/2/24 Time Change (Fall Back)
- 11/5/24 Election Day
- 11/5/24 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM
- 11/11/24 Veteran's Day
- 11/12/24 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM
- 11/19/24 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM
- 11/25/24 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM
- 11/28/24 Thanksgiving Day
- 12/1-8/24 Week of Prayer for IMB
- 12/3/24 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM
- 12/17/24 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM
- 12/23-29/24 Office Closed for Holidays
- 12/24/24 Christmas Eve (Office Closed)
- 12/25/24 Christmas Day (Office Closed)
- 12/30/24 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM
- 12/31/23 Camp Youth New Year's Eve Party

## **2025**

1/1/25 New Year's Day (Office Closed)

1/7/24 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

1/12/25 Camp Committee Meeting

1/13/25 Personnel Committee Meeting

1/15/25 MLK Day

1/19/25 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

1/20/25 MLK Day

1/21/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

### **1/21/25 Executive Board Meeting**

1/27/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM

2/4/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

2/14/25 Valentines Day

2/16/25 Focus on WMU Sunday

2/17/25 President's Day

2/18/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

2/24/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM

### **March is Pastor's Wives Appreciation Month**

3/3-10/25 Week of Prayer for North American Missions (AAEO)

3/4/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

3/9/25 Time Change (Spring forward)

3/18/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

3/31/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM

4/1/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

4/15/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

### **4/15/25 Executive Board Meeting**

4/20/25 Easter Sunday

### **4/27/25 MLBA Semi-Annual Meeting – Noble Hill**

4/27/25 Baptism Sunday

5/1/25 National Day of Prayer

5/6/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

5/11/25 Mother's Day  
5/19/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM  
5/20/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
5/26/25 Memorial Day (Office Closed)  
6/1/25 Disaster Relief Sunday  
6/3/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
6/8-11/25 SBC Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana  
6/15/25 Father's Day  
6/17/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
6/30/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM  
7/1/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
7/4/25 Independence Day  
7/6/25 Religious Liberty Sunday  
7/15/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
**7/15/25 Executive Board Meeting**  
7/28/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM  
7/27/25-7/29/25 Mid Lakes Kids Camp  
7/30/25 – 8/3/25 Mid Lakes Youth Camp  
8/5/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
8/12/25 Nominating Committee Meeting  
8/18/25 Budget Committee Meeting  
8/19/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
8/25/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM  
9/1/25 Labor Day  
9/2/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
9/6/25 Bolivar Country Days  
9/7/25 Grandparents Day  
9/12/25 Jamie Root's Birthday  
9/16/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM  
9/24/25 See You at the Pole  
9/29/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM

**October is PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH**

10/7/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

**10/13/25 MLBA Annual Meeting**

**10/14/25 MLBA Annual Meeting**

10/18/25 Pastor's Family Event

10/21/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

10/27/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM

10/27-28/25 MBC Annual Meeting – Branson, MO

10/29/25 DOM Fall Conference

11/2/25 Time Change (Fall Back)

11/4/25 Election Day

11/4/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

11/11/25 Veteran's Day

11/18/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

11/24/25 MLBA WMU Meeting 2 PM

11/27/25 Thanksgiving Holiday

11/30/25 – 12/7/25 Week of Prayer for International Missions (IMB)

12/2/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

12/16/25 MLBA Men's Fellowship 8:30 AM

12/1-8/25 Week of Prayer for International Missions

12/24/25 – 1/4/26 Christmas Holiday (Office Closed)

12/31/25 MLBA CAMP Youth New Year's Eve Party

Some dates may be subject to change.

**Mid-Lakes Baptist Association**  
**Quarterly Executive Board Meeting, April 9, 2024,**  
**First Baptist Church, Morrisville, MO**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Moderator David Chapman, Grace Fellowship.

Due to the absence of our clerk and assistant clerk, Mrs. Georgia Hampton volunteered to take minutes. Everyone was in agreement.

Charles Jackson, FBC, Morrisville , gave a devotion from Acts 1:4 on “Go and Make Disciples”, and then led in prayer.

The roll was presented of churches (attached). A total of 28 people from 9 churches, including 4 guests were in attendance.

The consent agenda was presented. Approval of agenda for April 9, 2024 – motion to approve made by Trudy Webb, Bethel, seconded by Charles Jackson, FBC, Morrisville. The written reports were presented and filed.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Guest Speakers: Luke and Chrissi Lower from CRU (formerly Campus Crusaders for Christ) shared about their ministry in the Ivory Coast in West Africa. Around 70% of the student population is Muslim. The main language spoken there is French. They asked us to pray for people to have spiritual awareness and for them as they do their best to disciple people to follow Christ.

John Rhodes gave his AMS report.

- Mt Etna received a certificate from the MBC for contributing the highest per-capita giving to the MMO in 2023 from Mid-Lakes Association.
- Hispanic Bible Study doing well. Around 25 in attendance.
- Asked folks to pray for David Cloud’s wife Karol for her health to improve.
- Shared about the upcoming camp fund raiser yard sale.
- Encouraged our churches to attend the Semi-Annual Meeting at Noble Hill on April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Reminded everyone we need people to step up in missions, especially for mission trips and Disaster Relief.

- Shared he and three others attended a preacher's workshop in Springfield sponsored by the Greene County Association.
- Shared about the newly presented Missions Trailer available to our churches.
- Shared that Scott and Heather Pruitt are seeking to become NAMB church planters in the Lebanon area.
- Shared thoughts about a possible fall mission trip to Rogers, Arkansas.
- Announced the dates and times for the fall annual Meeting. Oct 14 – Southern Hills, October 15 - FBC, Humansville.
- Allowed Breanna Piper to share this year's camp theme: "Apologetics – Sharing the Gospel .

David Chapman covered announcements and thanked FBC, Morrisville for hosting the meeting.

Charles Jackson closed in prayer.

Refreshments were served in the fellowship hall following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Hampton.

## **Mid-Lakes Baptist Association**

### **Quarterly Executive Board Meeting, July 16, 2024, First Southern Baptist, Stockton.**

Meeting was called to order and opening prayer led by Moderator Chase Wagner, Brighton. He also led a short devotion on Ephesians 3:20-21.

The roll was presented of churches (attached). Eighteen persons, including visitors, from nine churches were in attendance. A quorum was present.

The consent agenda of 1) approval of agenda for July 16, 2024; 2) approval of minutes for April 9, 2024; 3) approval of quarterly financial statement and 4) presentation of written reports for filing was presented. Gail Allen, Mt. Olive, made the motion the consent agenda be approved. Charles Jackson, FBC Morrisville, seconded. The motion carried.

In old business, the Trustees reported work on the MLBA office continues.

In new business, information was presented about the partnership with the Missouri Baptist Convention, Iglesia Cristiana Casa de Oracion, and the North American Mission Board concerning advancement of the Hispanic mission in Bolivar. Dr. Gustavo Nix shared the current situation of the mission. Several are meeting on Monday nights at the Rose Building (part of FBC Bolivar) for Bible study. The desire is to begin meeting for worship and the Esquire Building at FBC Bolivar is a probably location. A young man was being mentored to become a potential pastor/church planter, but Dr. Nix shared that he has since moved away from the area.

Charles Jackson, FBC Morrisville, made a motion for the moderator to appoint an ad hoc committee to liaison between the Hispanic mission and the association. This ad hoc committee will report to the personnel committee. Ken Spurgeon, First Southern Stockton, seconded. Motion carried.

The ad hoc committee was appointed to oversee the logistics of the mission, primarily as a liaison between MLBA and the mission as most in the association do not speak Spanish, and most involved in the Hispanic mission have limited English skills. The committee will consist of Don Hodson (former IMB missionary and a Spanish-speaker), Dr. Gustavo Nix (native Spanish-speaker) and Tom Stanford (administration, FBC Bolivar). The committee will be assisted by John Rhodes, AMS for MLBA.

Churches are encouraged to contribute to this mission. Funds received will go into the benevolence account earmarked for the Hispanic mission. Income will flow through to Iglesia Cristiana Casa de Oracion (ICCO) and expenses are paid through ICCO. Eventually, as the mission becomes a church plant, the association will need to provide part of the support for the mission. That support will reduce each year as the church plant becomes self-sustaining.

There was no other new business.

Nathan White, UIMA (United Indian Missions Aviation), shared his experiences as a pilot in Tepic, Mexico. UIMA serves the local churches in flying in supplies, personnel, and other needs. They are sometimes called upon for medical evacuation. One significant ministry is bringing in the equipment and supplies to set up for medical and/or dental clinics and then bringing the personnel to operate the clinics. The local church is visible in the community as the hands and feet of Christ and the gospel is shared.

The AMS report is attached to the minutes.

Announcements:

- Camp begins in three weeks (8/3/24-8/11/24).
- August 24 is our re-introduction to Disaster Relief Training at Grace Fellowship
- ACP's are due soon
- September 7 is Country Days and Mt. Olive is setting up a tent and bounce house outside the fire station. Other churches are invited to join them in sharing about all our churches in the community.
- The annual meeting will be Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at Southern Hills and Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at FBC Humansville.

Appreciation was expressed to First Southern, Stockton, for hosting the meeting. Chadd Caldwell, Mt. Olive, made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Shane England, Fender Chapel seconded. The meeting was adjourned for refreshments in the fellowship hall.

Submitted, Jennifer Smith

MLBA Clerk

## **Mid Lakes Baptist Association**

**Annual Meeting, October 9-10, 2023 (6:00 p.m. for meal, meeting to begin at 6:45)**

**First Baptist Church, Bolivar, October 9, 2023**

After a short prelude by Dr. Jim Tarrant at the organ, the meeting was called to order by Moderator Chase Wagner, Brighton Baptist, at 6:50 p.m.

Welcome and opening prayer led by Adam Hughes, Pastor, First Baptist, Bolivar.

Attendees viewed a video reporting on children's camp. The attendance rosters were counted and the attendance was reported 51 persons representing 13 churches with four outside visitors. Thirty two persons indicated they were messengers.

Josh Lobdell, Bethel, moved the adoption of the agenda with one correction: Dr. John Marshall will be the first speaker on Tuesday night followed by Bro. Hazael Rodriguez as the second speaker. Seconded by Cynthia Walker, Brighton. Motion carried.

Richard Webb, Bethel, moved to accept the written reports. Seconded by Derrick Lewright, Berean. Motion carried.

A time of worship was led by Bret Stanford, First Baptist, Bolivar, accompanied by Dr. Jim Tarrant, organ, and Dr. Melinda Jones, piano, singing "God So Loved"; "Holy, Holy, Holy"; and "Only a Holy God".

John Rhodes, AMS, introduced the theme for the meeting: "Connecting the Called."

After his brother Charles Marshall read the Scripture passage and led in prayer, Dr. John Marshall, Pastor Emeritus, Second Baptist, Springfield, preached the first message of the evening from Ephesians 4:7-12, particularly verses 7-11a. The church is an organism with a living, breathing Spirit within. The organization is the skeleton. Every member has a gift to contribute. We must 1) enjoy close fellowship with God – holiness matters most; 2) witness to the lost; and 3) use our gifts to benefit the church. We have gifts to give but also need our needs met.

Bret Stanford, Jim Tarrant, and Melinda Jones led another time of worship with "Victory in Jesus"; "Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me"

The financial report and the proposed budget were presented. Josh Lobdell, Bethel, made the motion to accept the financial reports; seconded by Leidra Stunkel, First Baptist, Fair Play. The proposed budget will be voted on Tuesday evening.

The Nominating Committee report was presented as pages 30-32 in the Book of Reports. The moderator appointed Dan Stanley, Heritage Baptist Church to the Nominating Committee. The full slate of nominees will be voted on Tuesday evening.

No old business or new business was brought to the floor.

After his brother Charles read the Scripture passage and prayed, Dr. John Marshall preached his second sermon of the evening on Ephesians 4:7-12, especially the latter half of verse 11 and verse 12. It is important that pastors teach. It is also important that everybody teaches. What went wrong from early church times? 1) The church became too much like Judaism in structure. 2) Pastors want to rule and 3) Congregations want to be comfortable. To be a member is to teach, to volunteer, to serve, to minister. This is what makes us beautiful.

Bro. John Rhodes, AMS, introduced new pastors/church staff from the last year: Jeff Robidou is the new pastor at Rondo.

Tim Cossins, First Baptist, Bolivar, announced the apple cider fundraiser for camp, especially camp scholarships. They will be participating in Light the Park December 8-9 and will hold another garage sale in May 2024.

First Baptist Church was thanked for their hospitality and the meal. The Tuesday evening meeting will be at Berean with the meal at 6 and the meeting to begin at 6:45.

The meeting was recessed (8:50 p.m.) until Tuesday evening. Jeff Robidou, Rondo, led the closing prayer.

## **Mid Lakes Baptist Association**

**Annual Meeting, October 9-10, 2023 (6:00 p.m. for meal, meeting began at 6:45)**

**Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar, October 10, 2023**

Meeting was called to order by moderator, Chase Wagner, Brighton. Welcome and opening prayer was led by Derrick Lewright, Pastor, Berean.

Attendees viewed a video reporting on Youth Camp and announcing the upcoming Youth Retreat, October 27-29.

The proposed budget was presented for a vote. Coming from the budget committee, no second was needed. The budget was approved.

The slate of proposed officers and committee members was presented from the nominating committee. The moderator appointed Dan Stanley, Heritage, to serve a three year term on the Nominating Committee. There is still an opening on the Budget Committee. Since the slate comes from a committee, no second was needed. The proposed slate of officers and committee members was approved.

The Worship Team of Berean Baptist led the congregation in worship, singing “Nothing But the Blood/At the Cross”; “No Condemnation”, and “Is He Worthy?”

After his brother Charles read the Scripture passage and prayed, Dr. John Marshall preached from Matthew 9:35-38. The harvest is great. The laborers are few. Laborers must be migrant workers (willing to go) because sheep are scattered. Pray that we be willing and then do as He commands.

Another time of worship was led by the Worship Team of Berean, singing “God So Loved”, and “Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”.

Bro. John Rhodes introduced Bro. Hazael Rodriguez, Pastor of Iglesia Cristiana Casa de Oracion (Christian Church House of Prayer) in Springfield. With Scott Hudgins, Missionary, Berean Baptist interpreting, Bro. Rodriguez preached on John 17:38, Galatians 4:4, John 17:3, 2 Corinthians 5:18-20, 21, and other verses. There are 65K Hispanics in southwest Missouri. In 2010, 16% of the U.S. population was Hispanic; in 2020 it was 18.7%. However there are only six churches that primarily minister to Hispanics in southwest Missouri. ICCO is the biggest of these. ICCO has set a goal to start five Hispanic churches in the next five years. After hearing from Bro. Rodriguez, the congregation sang “Jesus Loves Me” with both English and Spanish words on the screen.

Bro. John Rhodes presented the AMS report found on pages 21 and 22 in the Book of Reports.

A time of prayer at the altar allowed attendees to recommit themselves to being the church, the called out ones. Prayer requests were shared. Special requests were Shane England and family

(Fender Chapel), David Cloud and family (FBC, Humansville) and Ken Spurgeon (First Southern, Stockton).

The new officers of the association (Chase Wagner, Brighton, moderator, David Chapman, Grace Fellowship, assistant moderator, Jennifer Smith, Grace Fellowship, clerk, and Dot Soldavini, FBC, Fair Play, treasurer) were announced for the coming year.

Attendance for the Tuesday meeting was announced at 44 people representing 13 churches and including four visitors, plus 10 musicians from Berean.

The pastor/staff cookoff was announced for October 21.

Closing prayer was offered by Moderator Chase Wagner.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

# Deceased Members List 2023-2024

## **Bethel**

Marilyn Norris,

Jim Rowland

## **FBC Bolivar**

Terri Ballinger

Olena Boren

Charles Long

Patsy Hood

Rosalie Lollar

Darlene Seiner

Eva Voris

## **Grace Fellowship**

Cindy Fleming

Norma Roberts

James Staley

## **Fair Play**

Bernard Lower





# **Mid Lakes Baptist Association**

## **Associational Missions Strategist, John Rhodes**

### **Report for 2024**

This past year has been a good year for Mid Lakes Baptist Association.

God has allowed a Hispanic Bible Study Ministry to begin in Bolivar. The number of people in attendance is growing, and as soon as the person who will pastor that congregation is found, plans for worship services will begin. Be sure to keep your eyes and ears open as to how you can help.

This year's camp had just over 100 students total, which is wonderful. Our camp committee and youth and children directors have committed themselves to providing the best camp possible at an affordable cost. Expenses were a little more than expected, however, our income exceeded our expenses for which we are grateful.

The youth fall retreat will be held on Saturday, November 2, from 2-8 pm at Noble Hill Baptist Church. All association youth are invited to come out and join in the fun.

Mount Olive Baptist Church sustained major damage from a micro-burst, but they are looking ahead, and hopefully repairs will begin soon.

The Block Party Trailer has been very busy this summer. It is wonderful to see our churches not only minister with it on their property, but also using it to minister to public schools, Christian schools, home-school groups, Country Days, and other events. Ministry is why it was put together.

Dr. Duke Jones has accepted the call to be pastor of Mt Etna Baptist Church and is doing a wonderful job. Sadly, Bethel Baptist in Pittsburg is now looking for a new pastor, as Bro. Josh Lobdell felt God saying his time there was complete. Please pray for Bethel. Heritage Baptist Church will also be looking for a pastor beginning in October. Their pastor, Bro. Gary Walton is retiring, and we wish him and Mrs. Hazel well.

Our Disaster Relief members were called out to do some storm assessment recently. We held a DR event hoping to recruit more people in this ministry, but unfortunately, we had a poor turnout. Please pray and consider being part of this ministry.

## **AMS Report Continued:**

The association WMU group meets the last Tuesday of each month at the association office, and that ministry is growing to the point of needing more room.

Our Men's Group meets at the office on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month for fellowship and Bible Study. We cover a wide range of topics and have a great time encouraging one another. All men are invited to bring your breakfast and Bible and join the fellowship.

On Thursday evenings, a group meets at the office for the purpose of learning. The Spurgeon College (an outreach arm of Mid-Western Seminary) uses the office as a place of learning. Be sure to check out future opportunities to learn.

This past year, we introduced a new resource to our association - our missions and ministry trailer. It is an enclosed eight-foot long, five-foot high and five-foot wide utility trailer that is available to any of our churches to use for any type ministry need they have.

This past year, I have been blessed to preach in several of our churches. It is such a joy to share God's Word and to have fellowship with God's children. One highlight was preaching the Sunday morning sermon at youth camp. Besides preaching, I was asked to lead music several times in some of our churches. I enjoy that too.

We were looking at another mission trip the Baptist Home in Chillicothe, but unfortunately, they closed their facility, and the trip was not possible.

There is no way for me to share all the wonderful things God has done this past year. He has allowed me to minister to so many wonderful people, and for that opportunity I am grateful. I want our pastors to know I am here for them and pray for them daily.

It is hard to believe that March of 2025 will mark my four-year anniversary as AMS for Mid Lakes. I look forward to many more years.

In Christ service together,

Bro. John

## Mid Lakes Camps 2024 Annual Meeting Report

Thank you! Normally each year I end the camp report with a “thank you!” to the churches; however, this year I just want to reiterate again and again... THANK YOU! I was blown away by the love and support Midlakes Camps received this past year. Thank you to the WMU for collecting paper goods for meals! Thank you to the churches for sending in donations before camp specifically to contribute to paper products. Thank you to the individuals and congregations who gave specifically to help reduce our food bill! Thank you to the folks who donated to our scholarship fund and/or helped with our Spring Garage Sale. Thank you to those who contributed to ensuring our camp bank account had adequate funds to pay the bills in a timely manner, instead of waiting on student registration money to come through. Thank you to you all who gave to your own churches to help pay for your students and leaders to attend camp! We see your willing and generous hearts. We appreciate you all more than you know! I hope I have expressed my gratitude to each of you, it really does make all the difference.

Our theme verse for Midlakes Camps 2024 was Romans 12:2 which says “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” During Kids Camp we were privileged to have Dr. Duke Jones (Pastor at Mt. Etna Baptist Church) preach to our younger students. He did an excellent job and we are looking forward to continuing to do ministry with him! Our worship leader for Kids Camp was James Bohner from FBC Bolivar. The kids loved singing along and were very engaged with worship. At Youth Camp we had Michael Green (college minister at FBC Bolivar) bringing scripture to us during Chapel times. We also have Bible Studies during Youth Camp that are structured a little different than Chapel. The students are engaged in their groups to study and discuss daily lessons. Bible Studies this year were led (and split because of schedules) by Pastor Adam Hughes of FBC Bolivar, and Youth Pastor of Berean Baptist Church, Braden Jones. Stephanie Wheeler and her lovely family came from First Southern Baptist Church of Stockton to lead worship for youth camp. The campers really engaged well with all of these amazing staff. We were so blessed to have each of them as part of the Midlakes team this year. We also had 41 amazing leaders/staff that made camp run so smoothly. We appreciate each one of them and all they do!

At Kids Camp there were a total of 43 students. During kids camp we had 5 children who had accepted Christ as the personal savior prior to camp, but while at camp they decided they were ready to take the next step and talk to their church about following in Baptism. One of those students was baptized at FBC Bolivar on 9/15/2024. It is wonderful to see the Lord working in the lives of students both at camp and in their home churches.

Doing Kingdom work together as an Association really is an amazing thing to be a part of. Additionally at kid's camp, we had 9 students who received salvation/rededicated their lives to Christ. At Youth Camp we had 61 students. During youth camp we had 1 student receive salvation and SO MANY students remark on how much they learned through the lessons and teachings. It was very evident that the campers really appreciated the time we spent digging into scripture and apologetics, which is a rare and beautiful thing to see out of teenagers.

Overall, we are so thankful for the work the Lord does through Midlakes Camps. The Camp Committee and our Camp Leadership really are such a family of believers working together to glorify the Father. Every year we jump obstacles and learn from our mistakes, but I am so grateful for an amazing team that cares so deeply for Midlakes students. And thank YOU again, churches for supporting and praying for Camp every step of the way!

-Breanna Piper and the Midlakes Camp Committee



# *MLBA WMU Report*

*for the 2024 Annual Meeting*



*John 17:18-21 New King James Version*

*“18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. 20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.”*

The Mid-Lakes Associational WMU reorganized this year. We began meeting monthly at the associational office with six members, representing four churches. Our last meeting we had eleven ladies present, representing six churches. Each month we have a focus ministry and collect for the ministry. We have collected for Alpha House, Missouri Baptist Children’s Home, CMH Hospice, House of Hope, Baptist Homes and Healthcare Ministries, Mid-Lakes Camps, and local families.

We have studied about Annie Armstrong, Project Help:Mental Health and had wonderful guest speakers. Speakers include Mrs. Lori Robinson, RN with CMH Hospice, Joe Nogalski with Missouri Baptist Children’s Home, and Mrs. Susie Adams, local Christian author on the importance of writing your own story.

We had members attend the regional WMU Conference in Springfield, MO where we heard many different speakers present information on various ministry opportunities supported by the work of our southwest region WMU chapters.

We have projects planned, collecting for CMH Hospice Christmas gifts for local clients, Alpha House and ongoing collections for Missouri Baptist Home.

It has really been a blessing to serve with such a wonderful group of Godly women. I can’t wait to see what God has in store. Many of us are serving in ways we never thought we could, but He is faithful *“for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ”*, ***Ephesians 4:12 NKJV***

Leidra Stunkel, Director

Mid-Lakes WMU

## **Trustees Report October 2024**

The trustees praise the Lord that this past year has been uneventful as far as storms and hail are concerned. Work on the office is still ongoing as we are taking on remodeling projects one at a time as time permits.

Trustees

Josh Lobdell

Shane England

Ken Spurgeon

## **Kayak Ministry Report - October 2024**

The MLBA Kayak Ministry was blessed to minister to the MO Children's Deaf Camp held at Baptist Ridge Baptist Camp in Warsaw. For several years now we have taken groups of kids to Truman Lake and ministered to them with our Kayaks. However, we are looking for some new (younger) people to help in this ministry. We also want to remind the churches that the Kayak Trailer is available for our churches to use. Contact the association office for more information.

Mike Shire Director

## **Disaster Relief Ministry – October 2024**

Response for our Disaster Relief Unit has been limited due to a lack of volunteers. We did respond to the storm that affected Mount Olive Baptist Church, however most of the damage was limited to the church. We did help by providing a generator and extension cords so tear out could be done on the second floor. We hosted an event to reintroduce DR to our association and surrounding associations, however we had a very low turnout. Please pray for and consider becoming part of this great ministry.

Bro. John

## **Personnel/Church Relations Committee Report 2024**

We have had a blessed year as an association and as a committee. It is very easy to be on the Personnel/Church Relations Committee when we have so many great pastors and church members within our association. Our service is also made easier and more enjoyable with John Rhodes as our Associational Missions Strategist (AMS).

John is doing a wonderful, God-honoring job as our AMS. He is often visiting and ministering to our churches like the shepherd he was called and equipped to be. The Personnel/Church Relations Committee is *extremely satisfied* with John's performance as AMS of the Mid-Lakes Baptist Association (MLBA). In that regard, we have approved the recommendation by the Finance Committee to increase John's Salary/Housing by \$1,000 annually. Now, this may seem like a minor increase considering the cost of goods/living in today's world, however, this will be a great help to John and Gayle as they continue to minister to our association.

Within our associational churches, we have had a few changes in leadership over the past year. Caplinger Mills has called Harry Moore to be their Senior Pastor. Mt. Etna has called Duke Jones to be their Senior Pastor. FBC Bolivar has called Michael Green to be their College Pastor. Noble Hill has called Noah Taylor to be their Student Pastor. Gary Walton has retired from his role as Senior Pastor of Heritage. Josh Lobdell has resigned from his position as Senior Pastor of Bethel Southern.

As a committee of the Mid-Lakes Baptist Association, we want to encourage and challenge you to pray for one another as sister churches on mission for Jesus Christ!

Rev. Dennis Mays (Noble Hill), Personnel/Church Relations Committee Chair

# MLBA Nominating Committee Recommendations for 2024-25

(Ted Bachman, Jeff Robidou, Dan Stanley)

*Those in bold Italics are the changes we are voting on.*

## **Budget Ministry**

Scott Burgess (25) Shepherd's Way

***Chase Wagner (26) Brighton (filling vacant position)***

***Derrick Lewright (27) Berean***

## **Camp Ministry**

Jana Cossins (25) FBC Bolivar

Braden Jones (26) Berean

***Duke Jones (27) Mt Etna***

## **Constitution Ministry**

Charles Jackson (P) (25) FBC Morrisville

***Darren Bradley (26) Southern Hills (completing Randy Hargis' term)***

***Milton Dickensheet (27) Rondo***

## **Missions Ministry**

Barbara Studt (25) FBC Bolivar

Alex Falig (26) Fender Chapel

***Phil Beasley (27) FBC Bolivar***

## **Historical Ministry**

Kent Johnson (25) Caplinger Mills

Donna Root (26) Noble Hill

***Reed Steiner (27) Heritage***

### **Nominating Ministry**

Jeff Robidou (P)(25) Rondo (Completing term for Gary Walton)

Dan Stanley (26) Heritage

***Tim Cossins (27) FBC, Bolivar (Appointed by the Moderator)***

### **Personnel/Church Relations Ministry (Minimum of 2 pastors)**

Leta Gass (25) Mt Olive

Brad Hall (P) (25) Heritage

David Chapman (P)(26) Grace Fellowship

Ed Henry (26) Rondo

***Cyntha Walker (27) Brighton***

***Leidra Stunkel (27) FBC, Fair Play***

### **Technology Ministry**

Derrick Lewright (P)(25) Berean

Jamie Root (26) Noble Hill

***Robert Cortner (27) FBC, Bolivar***

### **Trustees Ministry**

Shane England (P)(25) Fender Chapel

Ken Spurgeon (26) First, Stockton

***Mike Lenz (27) FBC, Bolivar***

(24), (25), (26) = Year term expires

(P) = Pastor//Reverend//Minister

**MLBA Officers 2024-25**

- Associational Mission Strategist.....John Rhodes (P)
- Moderator.....*Charles Jackson (P) FBC, Morrisville*
- Vice-Moderator.....*David Stunkel (P) FBC, Fair Play*
- Clerk.....Jennifer Smith , Grace Fellowship
- Assistant Clerk.....*Marilyn Bollinger , FBC, Morrisville*
- Treasurer.....Dot Soldavini, FBC, Fair Play
- Assistant Treasurer.....Breanna Piper, Berean
- Disaster Relief.....Billy Lower , FBC, Fair Play
- Music Director.....Bret Stanford , FBC, Bolivar
- WMU Director.....Leidra Stunkel, FBC, Fair Play
- Evangelism Director.....Josh Lobdell (P) , FBC, Bolivar
- Youth Director.....Tim Cossins, FBC, Bolivar
- Children’s Director.....Breanna Piper, Berean

**Mid Lakes Southern Baptist Association  
Church Giving**

October 1, 2023 - September 17, 2024

**Income**

Berean Baptist Church	\$625.00
Bethel Southern Baptist Church	\$900.00
Brighton Baptist Church	\$1,547.00
Caplinger Mills Baptist Church	\$240.00
Fender Chapel	\$730.00
First Baptist Bolivar	\$21,513.36
First Baptist Church Humansville	\$200.00
First Baptist Church of Fair Play	\$4,131.63
First Baptist Church of Morrisville	\$2,897.56
First Southern Baptist Church Stockton	\$7,615.45
Grace Fellowship Baptist Church	\$806.42
Heritage Baptist Church	\$1,299.00
Mt. Etna Baptist Church	\$2,807.22
Mt. Olive Baptist Church	\$1,682.70
Noble Hill Baptist Church	\$1,200.00
Rondo Baptist Church	\$2,003.86
Shepherd's Way	\$825.00
<b>TOTAL CHURCH GIVING</b>	<b>\$51,024.20</b>

The above total does not include benevolence  
giving

**Mid Lakes Southern Baptist Association**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
As of September 17, 2024

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

**Bank Accounts**

Bank of Missouri - Disaster Relief		4,189.66
Bank of Missouri - Camp Scholarship		2,230.20
Bank of Missouri - Kayak		1,602.91
Bank of Missouri - Camp Scholarship		15,453.41
MLBA Checking - Main Account		58,560.00

<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>82,036.18</b>
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Total Current Assets	<b>\$</b>	<b>82,036.18</b>
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TOTAL ASSETS	<b>\$</b>	<b>82,036.18</b>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES		<b>\$0.00</b>
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TOTAL EQUITY	<b>\$</b>	<b>82,036.18</b>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		<b>\$82,036.18</b>
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<b>Mid Lakes Baptist Association</b>			
<b>Proposed Budget Oct 1 2024 - Sep 30 2025</b>			
	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	
	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Notes</b>
	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>AMS Related</b>			
Salary/Housing	\$26,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$1,000 increase in salary/housing
Retirement	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	
Ministry Expense (Mileage, etc.)	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
<b>Total AMS Related</b>	<b>\$34,600.00</b>	<b>\$35,600.00</b>	
<b>Office &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>			
Annual/Quarterly Meeting Expenses	\$830.00	\$150.00	Includes only honorariums
Bank Charges	\$120.00	\$120.00	
Computer Software	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Insurance	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	
Legal & Professional Fees	\$1,400.00	\$1,000.00	
Office Repair, Maintenance & Upgrades	\$1,800.00	\$200.00	There is still \$1,308.39 in the Insurance Check carryover.
Office Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Office Utilities & Trash	\$4,200.00	\$5,200.00	
<b>Total Office &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,900.00</b>	<b>\$13,420.00</b>	

<b>Mid Lakes Baptist Association</b>			
<b>Proposed Budget Oct 1 2024 - Sep 30 2025</b>			
	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	
	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Ministry</b>			
Administrative Fund	\$100.00	\$0.00	Category is no longer used
Block Party Ministry	\$200.00	\$0.00	Category is no longer used
Camp Ministry	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	To be transferred to the Camp Account
Children	\$250.00	\$250.00	No longer a subcategory of camp. It's now a category of its own
Youth	\$100.00	\$100.00	No longer a subcategory of camp. It's now a category of its own
Convention Conference	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Disaster Relief	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	There is \$4,189.66 in the Disaster Relief checking account.
Evangelism/Outreach	\$250.00	\$250.00	
Kayak	\$100.00	\$0.00	There is \$1,602.91 in the Kayak checking account.
Missions	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Music	\$100.00	\$100.00	
WMU	\$250.00	\$250.00	
<b>Total Ministry</b>	<b>\$7,350.00</b>	<b>\$5,950.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$56,850.00</b>	<b>\$54,970.00</b>	

## **2024-2025 Churches Representatives to the Association Executive Board**

Berean: Derrick Lewright

Bethel: Richard Webb, Trudy Webb

Brighton: Chase Wagner, Cynthia Walker, Sharyn Campbell

Caplinger Mill: Harry Moore, Kent Johnson

Fender Chapel: Shane England, Kirsten England, Dawson England

FBC, Bolivar: Adam Hughes, Jana Cossins, Tim Cossins

FBC, Fair Play: David Stunkel, Leidra Stunkel, Dorothy Soldavini

FBC, Humansville: David Cloud, Bob Payne

FBC, Morrisville: Charles Jackson, Mike Bollinger, Maryland Bollinger

First Southern, Stockton: Steve Ewing, Ken Spurgeon, Stacie Spurgeon

Grace Fellowship: David Chapman, Jennifer Smith

Heritage: Gary Walton

Mt Etna: Scott Pruitt, Jane Hudson, Clara Cunningham

Mt Olive: Chadd Caldwell, Audra Flett, Gail Allen

Noble Hill: Dennis Mays, Jamie Root

Rondo: Jeff Robidou, Jan Vanish, Raymond Vanish

Shepherd's Way: Jacob Miller, Kelly Rehm, Evan Allen

Southern Hills: Ted Bachman, Lindel Shelton

## **MLBA Churches and Pastors**



Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar - Derrick Lewright

Bethel Southern Baptist Church, Pittsburg, MO - OPEN

Brighton Baptist Church, Brighton, MO – Steven (Chase) Wagner

Caplinger Mills Baptist Church, Stockton, MO – Harry Moore

Fender Chapel, Brighton, MO – Shane England

FBC, Bolivar, MO – Adam Hughes

FBC, Fair Play, MO – David Stunkel

FBC, Humansville, MO – David Cloud

FBC, Morrisville, MO – Charles Jackson

First Southern Baptist Church, Stockton, MO – Steve Ewing

Grace Fellowship, Bolivar, MO – David Chapman

Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar, MO – OPEN

Mt Etna Baptist Church, Bolivar, MO – Duke Jones

Mount Olive Baptist Church, Bolivar, MO – Chadd Caldwell

Noble Hill Baptist Church, Willard, MO – Dennis Mays

Rondo Baptist Church, Flemington, MO – Jeff Robidou

Shepherd’s Way Church, Pleasant Hope, MO – Jacob Miller

Southern Hills Baptist Church, Bolivar, MO – Ted Bachman

# Association Church List

## Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email / Website</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar</b>	Pastor Derrick Lewright	(417) 326-7758	berean@windstream.net <a href="http://www.bbcbolivar.com/">http://www.bbcbolivar.com/</a>	4450 Scenic Ave , Bolivar, MO 65613-3138
<b>First Baptist Church Bolivar</b>	Adam Hughes	417-326-2431	info@fbcbolivar.org <a href="https://fbcbolivar.org/">https://fbcbolivar.org/</a>	316 N Main Ave , Bolivar, MO 65613-1559
<b>Grace Fellowship Baptist Church</b>	David Chapman			4395 S 82nd Rd , Bolivar, MO 65613-8193
<b>Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar</b>	Rev Gary Walton	417-777-2509	theheritagebaptistchurch@yahoo.com <a href="https://www.theheritagebaptist.church/">https://www.theheritagebaptist.church/</a>	4853 S 135th Rd , Bolivar, MO 65613-8160
<b>Mt Etna Baptist Church</b>	Dr William Jones	(417) 399-2929		1390 Highway NN , Bolivar, MO 65613-8309
<b>Mt Olive Baptist Church, Bolivar</b>	Chadd Caldwell	417-326-2805	mobc.bolivar@gmail.com <a href="https://mobcbolivar.org/">https://mobcbolivar.org/</a>	4079 Highway D , Bolivar, MO 65613-8305
<b>Southern Hills Baptist Church</b>	Ted Bachman	417-326-7474	mhale@southernhillsbolivar.org	1220 S Springfield Ave , Bolivar, MO 65613-2514
<b>Brighton Baptist Church</b>	Mr Steven Wagner		brightonbaptistoutreach@gmail.com	5449 Highway K , Brighton, MO 65617-7258
<b>Fender Chapel Baptist Church, Brighton</b>	Rev Shane England	(417) 824-8355	mshadwick14@gmail.com	1563 E 565th Rd , Brighton, MO 65617-7173
<b>First Baptist Church Fair Play</b>	Mr David Stunkel	(417) 507-1707	davidstunkel@windstream.net	500 N Walnut St , Fair Play, MO 65649-5104
<b>First Baptist Church Humansville</b>	Pastor David Cloud	417-754-2317	humansvillefbc@gmail.com	307 S Ohio St , Humansville, MO 65674
<b>First Baptist Church Morrisville</b>	Charles Jackson			5334 S Main Ave , Morrisville, MO 65710-9120
<b>Bethel Southern Baptist Church</b>		417-852-4690	josh777leslie@gmail.com	23011 Highway J , Pittsburg, MO 65724
<b>Shepherd's Way Church</b>	Jacob Miller	(417) 830-9760	shepherdswaychurch.ph@gmail.com <a href="http://shepherdswaychurch.com/">http://shepherdswaychurch.com/</a>	705 N Main St , Pleasant Hope, MO 65725
<b>Rondo Baptist Church</b>	Rev Jeffery Robidou		Rondobaptist@gmail.com	E 340th Rd off Highway 83 , Rondo, MO 65650
<b>Caplinger Mills Baptist Church</b>		(417) 276-7009	ljclarkson1953@gmail.com	14560 E 676 Rd , Stockton, MO 65785-8125
<b>First Southern Baptist Church Stockton</b>	Mr Steve Ewing	417-276-3441	fsbcstockton@windstream.net <a href="http://fsbcstockton.org/">http://fsbcstockton.org/</a>	405 Englewood Rd , Stockton, MO 65785-9602
<b>Noble Hill Baptist Church</b>	Pastor Dennis Mays	(417) 742-5227	<a href="https://www.noblehill.org/">https://www.noblehill.org/</a>	3285 W Farm Rd 36 , Willard, MO 65781-8370

**Mid-Lakes Baptist Association Financial Report  
For 2024**

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Undesignated Receipts</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>Cooperative Program</b>	<b>Association Offering</b>	<b>MMO</b>	<b>Annie Armstrong</b>	<b>Lottie Moon</b>	<b>Total Missions Expenditures</b>
Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar			\$100					
Bethel Southern Baptist Church	\$51,654	\$99,482	\$240	\$900		\$274	\$279	\$3,576
Brighton Baptist Church	\$40,526	\$40,526	\$4,094	\$1,284		\$830	\$800	\$5,215
Caplinger Mills Baptist Church			\$80					
Fender Chapel Baptist Church, Brighton	\$27,750	\$29,750	\$175	\$600		\$400	\$350	\$4,145
First Baptist Church Bolivar	\$1,763,050	\$2,547,395	\$118,967	\$25,520	\$5,762	\$20,311	\$50,223	\$599,536
First Baptist Church Fair Play	\$61,396	\$75,931	\$3,064	\$3,131		\$593	\$693	\$6,700
First Baptist Church Humansville			\$150					
First Baptist Church Morrisville	\$39,903	\$43,887	\$535	\$3,426			\$60	\$4,282
First Southern Baptist Church Stockton	\$215,346	\$234,346	\$8,631	\$12,921		\$768	\$1,570	\$30,390
Grace Fellowship Baptist Church	\$45,694	\$47,624		\$914			\$767	\$1,999
Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar	\$134,101	\$149,971	\$1,299	\$1,091			\$500	\$7,680
Mt Etna Baptist Church	\$21,776	\$26,428	\$2,728	\$1,939		\$941	\$1,587	\$3,963
Mt Olive Baptist Church, Bolivar	\$86,781	\$105,257	\$200	\$1,904		\$372	\$304	\$7,061
Noble Hill Baptist Church								
Rondo Baptist Church	\$39,982	\$41,199	\$3,293	\$1,787		\$2,700	\$2,190	\$16,579
Shepherd's Way Church			\$100				\$300	
Southern Hills Baptist Church			\$17,321			\$210	\$190	
<b>Mid-Lakes Baptist Association</b>	<b>\$2,527,959</b>	<b>\$3,441,796</b>	<b>\$160,979</b>	<b>\$55,417</b>	<b>\$5,762</b>	<b>\$27,399</b>	<b>\$59,813</b>	<b>\$691,126</b>

## Mid-Lakes Summary Information For ACP Year 2024

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Total Members</b>	<b>Total Baptisms</b>	<b>Other Additions</b>	<b>Worship Attendance</b>	<b>SS Avg. Attendance</b>	<b>Church VBS Enrollment</b>	<b>Mission Project Participation</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>
Bolivar, Berean								
Bolivar, First	1,653	17	62	790	598	432	0	\$2,547,395
Bolivar, Grace Fellowship	27	0	0	23	12	11	0	\$47,624
Bolivar, Heritage	122	6	2	62	47	60	0	\$149,971
Bolivar, Mt Etna	135	1	0	21	21	16	0	\$26,428
Bolivar, Mt Olive	142	1	2	38	20	32	0	\$105,257
Bolivar, Southern Hills								
Brighton, Brighton	52	0	0	38	13	0	0	\$40,526
Brighton, Fender Chapel	158	1	5	45	37	45	0	\$29,750
Fair Play, First	225	0	4	35	22	27	0	\$75,931
Humansville, First								
Morrisville, First	67	3	0	40	30	28	0	\$43,887
Pittsburg, Bethel Southern	33	0	2	25	9	0	0	\$99,482
Pleasant Hope, Shepherd's								
Rondo, Rondo	180	2	6	35	20	20	0	\$41,199
Stockton, Caplinger Mills								
Stockton, First	191	4	6	131	59	41	0	\$234,346
Willard, Noble Hill								
<b>Mid-Lakes</b>	<b>2,985</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$3,441,796</b>

## Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

<b>Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar</b> 4450 Scenic Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3138 Email: <a href="mailto:berean@windstream.net">berean@windstream.net</a>	<b>(417) 326-7758</b> Fax: N/A
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Pastor: Derrick Lewright, 4450 Scenic Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3138, [berean@windstream.net](mailto:berean@windstream.net) (417) 326-7758 D

<b>Bethel Southern Baptist Church</b> 23011 Highway J, Pittsburg, MO, 65724 Email: <a href="mailto:josh777leslie@gmail.com">josh777leslie@gmail.com</a>	<b>417-852-4690</b> Fax: N/A
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Church Treasurer: Judith Shiverdecker, 24005 Graybridge E, Pittsburg, MO, 65724-7831, [judith.shiverdecker@yahoo.com](mailto:judith.shiverdecker@yahoo.com) (573) 999-2496 C

Discipleship Director: Christy Dablemont, 1597 E 390th Road, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8354, [missdable@yahoo.com](mailto:missdable@yahoo.com) 417-777-0670 C

Discipleship Director: Becky Dampier, 124 Cahoochie Rd, Urbana, MO, 65767-9261, [jesusmatters@yahoo.com](mailto:jesusmatters@yahoo.com) 417-298-4991 C

Prayer Ministry Coordinator: Trudy Webb, 25796 Highway RA, Pittsburg, MO, 65724-7674, [trudy@houseofwebb.com](mailto:trudy@houseofwebb.com) (417) 852-1260 D

Brotherhood Director: Richard Webb, 25796 Highway RA, Pittsburg, MO, 65724-7674, [richard@houseofwebb.com](mailto:richard@houseofwebb.com) (417) 852-1260 D

Children in Action Leader(s): Becky Dampier, 124 Cahoochie Rd, Urbana, MO, 65767-9261, [jesusmatters@yahoo.com](mailto:jesusmatters@yahoo.com) 417-298-4991 C

Other Church Leader: Christy Dablemont, 1597 E 390th Road, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8354, [missdable@yahoo.com](mailto:missdable@yahoo.com) 417-777-0670 C

<b>Brighton Baptist Church</b> 5449 Highway K, Brighton, MO, 65617-7258 Email: <a href="mailto:brightonbaptistoutreach@gmail.com">brightonbaptistoutreach@gmail.com</a>	Fax: N/A
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Pastor: Steven Wagner, 5449 Highway K, Brighton, MO, 65617-7258, [cajwagner@icloud.com](mailto:cajwagner@icloud.com) (417) 830-1033 C

Pastor's Spouse: April Wagner, 5449 Highway K, Brighton, MO, 65617-7258, [cajwagner@icloud.com](mailto:cajwagner@icloud.com) (417) 224-9075 D

Church Treasurer: Jimmy Cossins, 3618 W Farm Road 14, Brighton, MO, 65617-9477 (417) 844-2538 D

Chairman of Deacons: Jimmy Cossins, 3618 W Farm Road 14, Brighton, MO, 65617-9477 (417) 844-2538 D

Sunday School Director: Wes Campbell, PO Box 55, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725-0055, [cwesc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cwesc@sbcglobal.net) (417) 839-4763 D

WMU Church Director: Cynthia Walker, 5490 S 154th Rd, Brighton, MO, 65617-7186 417-376-2951 D

<b>Caplinger Mills Baptist Church</b> 14560 E 676 Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-8125 Email: <a href="mailto:ljclarkson1953@gmail.com">ljclarkson1953@gmail.com</a>	<b>(417) 276-7009</b> Fax: N/A
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Church Treasurer: Maria Huebner, 15901 E Highway N, Stockton, MO, 65785-8135

Messengers to Association: Kent Johnson, 4479 S 132nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2584 417-326-7620 D

Representatives on Assn Board: Kent Johnson, 4479 S 132nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2584 417-326-7620 D

<b>Fender Chapel Baptist Church, Brighton</b> 1563 E 565th Rd, Brighton, MO, 65617-7173 Email: <a href="mailto:mshadwick14@gmail.com">mshadwick14@gmail.com</a>	<b>(417) 824-8355</b> Fax: N/A
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Pastor: Shane England, 11927 N Northern Hts Dr, Brighton, MO, 65617-8103 (417) 327-2616 C

Pastor's Spouse: Kirsten England, 11927 N Northern Heights Drive, Brighton, MO, 65617, [skequine@yahoo.com](mailto:skequine@yahoo.com) (417) 300-5306 C

Minister of Music: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, [mshadwick14@gmail.com](mailto:mshadwick14@gmail.com) (417) 459-8564 C

Minister of Music: Alejandro Falig, 1749 E 567th Rd, Brighton, MO, 65617-7178 (417) 522-4459 C

Church Secretary: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, [ritashadwick@gmail.com](mailto:ritashadwick@gmail.com) (417) 824-8355 C

Church Treasurer: Anita Gott, 1352 E 559th Road, Morrisville, MO, 65710 (417) 597-6648 C

Church Clerk: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, [ritashadwick@gmail.com](mailto:ritashadwick@gmail.com) (417) 824-8355 C

ACP Contact Person: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, [ritashadwick@gmail.com](mailto:ritashadwick@gmail.com) (417) 824-8355 C

Chairman of Deacons: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, [mshadwick14@gmail.com](mailto:mshadwick14@gmail.com) (417) 459-8564 C

Church VBS Director: Cheryl Stokes, 2907 W Hidden Valley Ln, Brighton, MO, 65617-9406 (417) 844-6446 C

Church Instrumentalist(s): Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, [ritashadwick@gmail.com](mailto:ritashadwick@gmail.com) (417) 824-8355 C

Church Library Team Leader: Jean Rosenow, 5681 S 172nd Road, Brighton, MO, 65617, [jeanrosenow@att.net](mailto:jeanrosenow@att.net) (417) 840-4396 C

Church Deacon(s): Alejandro Falig, 1749 E 567th Rd, Brighton, MO, 65617-7178 (417) 522-4459 C

Church Deacon(s): Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, [mshadwick14@gmail.com](mailto:mshadwick14@gmail.com) (417) 459-8564 C

**Fender Chapel Baptist Church, Brighton****(417) 824-8355****1563 E 565th Rd, Brighton, MO, 65617-7173****Fax: N/A****Email: mshadwick14@gmail.com**

Messengers to Association: Shane England, 11927 N Northern Hts Dr, Brighton, MO, 65617-8103	(417) 327-2616 C
Messengers to Association: Kirsten England, 11927 N Northern Heights Drive, Brighton, MO, 65617, skequine@yahoo.com	(417) 300-5306 C
Messengers to Association: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com	(417) 459-8564 C
Messengers to Association: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, ritashadwick@gmail.com	(417) 824-8355 C
Representatives on Assn Board: Shane England, 11927 N Northern Hts Dr, Brighton, MO, 65617-8103	(417) 327-2616 C
Representatives on Assn Board: Kirsten England, 11927 N Northern Heights Drive, Brighton, MO, 65617, skequine@yahoo.com	(417) 300-5306 C
Representatives on Assn Board Alternate: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com	(417) 459-8564 C
Representatives on Assn Board Alternate: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, ritashadwick@gmail.com	(417) 824-8355 C
Associational Newsletter Correspondent: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com	(417) 459-8564 C

**First Baptist Church Bolivar****417-326-2431****316 N Main Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1559****Fax: 417-326-4706****Email: info@fbcbolivar.org**

Pastor: Adam Hughes, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, ahughes@fbcbolivar.org	4173262431 D
Associate Pastor: Mike Knight, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613, mknight@fbcbolivar.org	(417) 326-2431 D
Church Administrator: Tom Stanford, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613, tstanford@fbcbolivar.org	417-326-2431 D
Minister of Music: Bret Stanford, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613, bstanford@fbcbolivar.org	(417) 326-2431 D
Minister of Children: Julie Duvall, 212 E Summit St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1123, julierduvall@gmail.com	(417) 599-5138 C
Minister of Youth: Jedediah Bond, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644	4173262431 D
Minister to College Students: Michael Green, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644	(417) 326-2431 D
Church Secretary: Kay Cook, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644	
Church Secretary: Pamela Webb, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, pwebb@fbcbolivar.org	417-326-2431 D
Church Secretary: Sara Benson, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644	(417) 326-2431 D
Financial Secretary: Pamela Webb, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, pwebb@fbcbolivar.org	417-326-2431 D
ACP Contact Person: Pamela Webb, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, pwebb@fbcbolivar.org	417-326-2431 D
Church VBS Director: Julie Duvall, 212 E Summit St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1123, julierduvall@gmail.com	(417) 599-5138 C
Instrumental Ensemble Director: Jeff Waters, PO Box 358, Bolivar, MO, 656130358	
Church Library Team Leader: Joyce Hamann, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613	
Women on Mission Coordinator: Elizabeth Pace, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, jhpace@windstream.net	(417) 326-4729 D
Other Minister: Ray Leininger, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, raylein11@gmail.com	417-326-2431 D

**First Baptist Church Fair Play****(417) 507-1707****500 N Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5104****Fax: N/A****Email: davidstunkel@windstream.net**

Pastor: David Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, davidstunkel@windstream.net	(417) 326-9895 D
Pastor's Spouse: Leidra Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, davidstunkel@windstream.net	417-654-3509 D
Minister of Music: Leidra Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, davidstunkel@windstream.net	417-654-3509 D
Minister of Music: Greg Whaley, 4221 S 28th Rd, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5109	417-654-2624 D
Minister of Youth: Greg Whaley, 4221 S 28th Rd, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5109	417-654-2624 D
Church Treasurer: Anita Curry, 510 W 3rd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9230	417-654-2453 D
Church Clerk: Patricia Morgan, 4375 S.50th Rd, Fair Play, MO, 65649	
ACP Contact Person: David Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, davidstunkel@windstream.net	(417) 326-9895 D
Chairman of Deacons: Greg Whaley, 4221 S 28th Rd, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5109	417-654-2624 D
Church VBS Director: Janetta Lower, 500 N Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5104	
Sunday School Director: Paula Crook, 22515 E Highway H, Fair Play, MO, 65649-8257	417-276-6217 D
Discipleship Director: David Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, davidstunkel@windstream.net	(417) 326-9895 D
Church Instrumentalist(s): Tammy Wright, 500 N. Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5104	417-694-2771 D

**First Baptist Church Fair Play****(417) 507-1707****500 N Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5104****Fax: N/A****Email: davidstunkel@windstream.net**

Church Library Team Leader: Diana Lower, 4145 S 28th Rd, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5110	417-654-2546 D
Prayer Ministry Coordinator: Geraldine Underwood, 500 N. Walnut, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5136	
WMU Church Director: Anita Curry, 510 W 3rd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9230	417-654-2453 D
Brotherhood Director: Byron Bock, 500 N Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649--510	
Brotherhood Director: Max Davolt, 405 W Sunrise St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9238	
Brotherhood Director: Charles Curry, 510 West 3rd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9230	417-654-2453 D
Messengers to Association: Paula Crook, 22515 E Highway H, Fair Play, MO, 65649-8257	417-276-6217 D
Representatives on Assn Board: Paula Crook, 22515 E Highway H, Fair Play, MO, 65649-8257	417-276-6217 D

**First Baptist Church Humansville****417-754-2317****307 S Ohio St, Humansville, MO, 65674****Fax: N/A****Email: humansvillefbc@gmail.com**

Pastor: David Cloud, PO Box 163, Humansville, MO, 65674-0163	(417) 406-9810 C
Church Secretary: Caitlyn Payne, 22010 E. 500 Rd., Humansville, MO, 65674, caitlynpayne13@gmail.com	(417) 422-3318 C
Church Treasurer: Robert Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0134	(417) 327-3299 C
Church Clerk: Kristen Payne, 22010 E. 500 Rd., Humansville, MO, 65674	
ACP Contact Person: Caitlyn Payne, 22010 E. 500 Rd., Humansville, MO, 65674, caitlynpayne13@gmail.com	(417) 422-3318 C
Church VBS Director: Margarette Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0161	(417) 327-4875 C
Sunday School Director: Margarette Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0161	(417) 327-4875 C
Church Instrumentalist(s): Margarette Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0161	(417) 327-4875 C
Church Organist: Carolyn Mershon, 1005 Lancaster, Stockton, MO, 65785	(417) 276-2593 D
Church Deacon(s): Robert Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0134	(417) 327-3299 C
Mission Friends Leader(s): Jennifer Payne, 22010 E. 500 Road, Humansville, MO, 65674	(417) 298-4403 D

**First Baptist Church Morrisville****5334 S Main Ave, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9120****Fax: N/A****Email: N/A**

Pastor: Charles Jackson, 1225 Holly St, Ozark, MO, 65721-7885, pastorchas@sbcglobal.net	(660) 626-3801 C
Pastor's Spouse: Jane Jackson, 1225 Holly St, Ozark, MO, 65721-7885, cejjli@sbcglobal.net	660-665-4633 D
Minister of Music: Juli Holland, 5296 S 120th Rd, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9203, julih0824@gmail.com	(417) 818-6034 D
Church Treasurer: Beth Webster, 5332 S Main Ave, Morrisville, MO, 65710, bwebster1966@yahoo.com	(417) 770-2417 C
Church Clerk: Becky Campbell, 5302 S Elm St, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9115	417-376-2981 D
ACP Contact Person: Becky Campbell, 5302 S Elm St, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9115	417-376-2981 D
Sunday School Director: Gloria Mattson, 154 S Dade 235, Everton, MO, 65646-7229	(417) 788-2728 D
Church Instrumentalist(s): Patty Burr, 5497 S 77th Rd, Walnut Grove, MO, 65770-8351	417-376-2374 D
Church Elders: Ray Burr, 5497 S 77th Rd, Walnut Grove, MO, 65770-8351	417-376-2324 D
Church Elders: Carl Hampton, 5030 Grant Rd, Morrisville, MO, 65710	(417) 376-2000 D
Messengers to Association: Marilyn Bollinger,	(417) 839-6562 C
Messengers to Association: Mike Bollinger, 11950 N Farm Road 101, Willard, MO, 65781-9166	(417) 851-7231 C

**First Southern Baptist Church Stockton****417-276-3441****405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602****Fax: 417-276-6716****Email: fsbcstockton@windstream.net**

Pastor: Steve Ewing, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstocktonpastor@windstream.net	(417) 276-9599 C
Pastor's Spouse: Donis Ewing, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, ewing5@windstream.net	(417) 276-1240 C
Minister of Music: Stephanie Wheeler, 11724 S Highway J, Stockton, MO, 65785-9664, dwheels47@yahoo.com	(417) 399-1839 C
Minister of Youth: Darin Henderson, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, dhenderson@stockton.k12.mo.us	(417) 619-3352 C
Church Secretary: Melissa Wallen, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstockton@windstream.net	(417) 276-9124 C
Church Treasurer: Sandra Camp, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, campclan@hotmail.com	(417) 276-8541 C

**First Southern Baptist Church Stockton****417-276-3441****405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602****Fax: 417-276-6716****Email: fsbcstockton@windstream.net**

Church Clerk: Stacie Spurgeon, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, sspurgeon@outlook.com	(417) 276-9866 C
ACP Contact Person: Melissa Wallen, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstockton@windstream.net	(417) 276-9124 C
Chairman of Deacons: Darin Henderson, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, dhenderson@stockton.k12.mo.us	(417) 619-3352 C
Church VBS Director: Michelle Wheeler, PO Box 212, Stockton, MO, 65785-0212	(417) 955-0647 C
Women's Ministry Coordinator: Judy Ford, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, video95@windstream.net	(417) 276-9887 C
Men's Ministry Coordinator/Contact: Ken Spurgeon, 14225 E 1560 Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, kwspurgeon@outlook.com	(417) 770-4667 C
Sunday School Director: Linda Holdeman, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, sbubaseball@yahoo.com	(417) 955-1826 C
Sunday School Director: Joey Graves, PO Box 141, Stockton, MO, 65785-0141	(417) 327-3770 C
Church Instrumentalist(s): Edward Camp, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, campclan@hotmail.com	(417) 839-8242 C
Church Instrumentalist(s): Chad Burton, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602	(417) 276-7818 C
Church Instrumentalist(s): Michael Miller, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstockton@windstream.net	4172763441 D
Church Instrumentalist(s): Andy Pirtle, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602	(417) 955-2556 C
Church Instrumentalist(s): Kelly Bolte,	(417) 616-1105 C
Church Instrumentalist(s): Stephanie Wheeler, 11724 S Highway J, Stockton, MO, 65785-9664, dwheels47@yahoo.com	(417) 399-1839 C
Church Organist: Phil Holdeman, PO Box 534, Stockton, MO, 65785-0534	417-276-4329 D
Handbell Choir Director: Kelly Creek, 19340 E 1200 Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785	417-276-7850 D
Church Library Team Leader: Melissa Wallen, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstockton@windstream.net	(417) 276-9124 C
Church Deacon(s): Ken Spurgeon, 14225 E 1560 Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, kwspurgeon@outlook.com	(417) 770-4667 C
Church Deacon(s): Edward Camp, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, campclan@hotmail.com	(417) 839-8242 C
Church Deacon(s): Brad Belcher, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, bbelcher@windstream.net	(417) 276-9535 C
Church Deacon(s): Darin Henderson, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, dhenderson@stockton.k12.mo.us	(417) 619-3352 C
Church Deacon(s): Jeff Wheeler, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602	(417) 276-6104 C
Church Deacon(s): Larry Wheeler, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602	(417) 276-7951 C
Church Deacon(s): Doug Johnson, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602	(417) 298-2179 C
WMU Church Director: Melissa Wallen, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstockton@windstream.net	(417) 276-9124 C
Adults on Mission Leader(s): Judy Ford, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, video95@windstream.net	(417) 276-9887 C
Representatives on Assn Board: Steve Ewing, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstocktonpastor@windstream.net	(417) 276-9599 C

**Grace Fellowship Baptist Church****4395 S 82nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8193****Fax: N/A****Email: N/A**

Pastor: David Chapman, 3352 W Farm Road 178, Springfield, MO, 65810-1165, davidchapman937@gmail.com	(417) 227-0294 C
Minister of Music: Peggy Gilmore, 3253 Lakeview Ln, Flemington, MO, 65650, gilmorep@hotmail.com	(417) 253-2148 D
Minister of Youth: David Chapman, 3352 W Farm Road 178, Springfield, MO, 65810-1165, davidchapman937@gmail.com	(417) 227-0294 C
Minister to Adults: David Chapman, 3352 W Farm Road 178, Springfield, MO, 65810-1165, davidchapman937@gmail.com	(417) 227-0294 C
Church Treasurer: Denise Van Black, 633 E 420th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8228, dvanblack@ymail.com	(417) 770-6764 D
Church Clerk: Dawn Cook, 1413 E 370th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8331	(417) 599-8380 C
ACP Contact Person: Peggy Gilmore, 3253 Lakeview Ln, Flemington, MO, 65650, gilmorep@hotmail.com	(417) 253-2148 D
Church Instrumentalist(s): Jennifer Smith, 1125 S Birum Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3312	(417) 777-9196 E
WMU Church Director: Jennifer Smith, 1125 S Birum Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3312	(417) 777-9196 E
Messengers to Association: Jennifer Smith, 1125 S Birum Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3312	(417) 777-9196 E
Messengers to Association Alternate: David Chapman, 3352 W Farm Road 178, Springfield, MO, 65810-1165, davidchapman937@gmail.com	(417) 227-0294 C

**Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar****417-777-2509****4853 S 135th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8160****Fax: N/A****Email: theheritagebaptistchurch@yahoo.com**

Pastor: Gary Walton, PO Box 195, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0195, theheritagebaptistchurch@yahoo.com	(816) 726-6266 C
Pastor's Spouse: Hazel Walton, PO Box 195, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0195, theheritagebaptistchurch@yahoo.com	(816) 726-6447 D
Minister of Music: Brad Hall, PO Box 960, Stockton, MO, 65785-0960	417-809-8928 D
Minister of Children: Larissa Katzer, 4853 S 135th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8160	(417) 777-2509 D
Church Treasurer: Mary O'Neal, PO Box 195, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0195	(417) 818-8863 C
Church Clerk: Hazel Walton, PO Box 195, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0195, theheritagebaptistchurch@yahoo.com	(816) 726-6447 D
Chairman of Deacons: Terry Phillips, 732 Highway 32, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8214	(417) 777-7075 D
Church VBS Director: Larissa Katzer, 4853 S 135th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8160	(417) 777-2509 D
Church Organist: Nadine Dyer, 1176 S Sha Ree Ln, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8296	417-777-7075 D

**Mt Etna Baptist Church****(417) 399-2929****1390 Highway NN, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8309****Fax: N/A****Email: N/A**

Pastor: William Jones, 1107 S Missouri Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2530, djones@sbuniv.edu	(417) 399-2929 C
Pastor's Spouse: Melinda Jones, 1107 S Missouri Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2530, djones@sbuniv.edu	(417) 327-2369 D
Church Treasurer: Charlotte Booth, 1016 W Maupin St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1832	(417) 298-6517 D
Church VBS Director: Becky McGarrah, 424 W South St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2346, jkk1961@gmail.com	(417) 399-0568 D
Sunday School Director: Clara Cunningham, 403 E Summit St Apt 24, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1160	417-399-2335 D
Church Instrumentalist(s): Jane Hudson, 1524 S Clark Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2356	(417) 327-4757 C
WMU Church Director: Jane Hudson, 1524 S Clark Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2356	(417) 327-4757 C
Messengers to Association: William Jones, 1107 S Missouri Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2530, djones@sbuniv.edu	(417) 399-2929 C
Messengers to Association: Clara Cunningham, 403 E Summit St Apt 24, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1160	417-399-2335 D
Messengers to Association: Betty Payne, 1482 E 390th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8307	417-326-5581 D
Representatives on Assn Board: Clara Cunningham, 403 E Summit St Apt 24, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1160	417-399-2335 D
Representatives on Assn Board: William Jones, 1107 S Missouri Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2530, djones@sbuniv.edu	(417) 399-2929 C
Representatives on Assn Board: Betty Payne, 1482 E 390th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8307	417-326-5581 D
Other Church Leader: Helen Payne, 1483 E 390th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8307	417-326-2162 D

**Mt Olive Baptist Church, Bolivar****417-326-2805****4079 Highway D, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8305****Fax: N/A****Email: mobc.bolivar@gmail.com**

Pastor: Chadd Caldwell, PO Box 266, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0266	(417) 770-1290 C
Pastor's Spouse: Cheryl Caldwell, PO Box 266, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0266	(417) 770-3581 C
Church Treasurer: Vicki McMillen, 22330 Lake Dr, Pittsburg, MO, 65724-7693	(417) 838-9920 C
Church Clerk: Leta Gass, 4071 S 122nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8290	417-326-6497 D
ACP Contact Person: Vicki McMillen, 22330 Lake Dr, Pittsburg, MO, 65724-7693	(417) 838-9920 C
Chairman of Deacons: James Garrison, 5312 S Elm St, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9115	(417) 756-2892 C
Church VBS Director: Cheryl Caldwell, PO Box 266, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0266	(417) 770-3581 C
Church Deacon(s): James Garrison, 5312 S Elm St, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9115	(417) 756-2892 C

**Noble Hill Baptist Church****(417) 742-5227****3285 W Farm Rd 36, Willard, MO, 65781-8370****Fax: N/A****Email: N/A**

Pastor: Dennis Mays, 3285 W Farm Road 36, Willard, MO, 65781-8370, pastordennis@noblehill.org	(417) 258-0887 C
Pastor's Spouse: Emily Mays, 3285 W Farm Road 36, Willard, MO, 65781-8370, pastordennis@noblehill.org	
Minister of Music: Ron George, 3285 W. Farm Road 36, willard, MO, 65781	
Minister of Youth: Jordan Zeik, 3285 W Farm Road 36, Willard, MO, 65781-8370	4177425227 D

## Rondo Baptist Church

E 340th Rd off Highway 83, Rondo, MO, 65650

Fax: N/A

Email: Rondobaptist@gmail.com

Pastor: Jeffery Robidou, 4349 S 82nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8193, robidou22@gmail.com	(817) 454-9982 D
Pastor's Spouse: Kristin Robidou, 4349 S 82nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8193	(817) 454-9982 D
Minister of Music: John Wilkenson, 3862 S 117th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8269	(417) 777-4966 D
Church Secretary: Dixie Smith, 504 E Bertha St, Humansville, MO, 65674-8578	(417) 298-4058 D
Church Treasurer: C Kay Pitts, 3134 S 95th Rd, Flemington, MO, 65650-9512	(417) 327-2245 D
Church Clerk: Nancy Bewley, 910 Highway V, Flemington, MO, 65650-9511	(417) 298-8804 D
ACP Contact Person: Nancy Bewley, 910 Highway V, Flemington, MO, 65650-9511	(417) 298-8804 D
Church VBS Director: Debbie Dickensheet, 4268 S 137th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8507	(417) 327-6589 D
Sunday School Director: Ed Henry, 1147 E 318th Rd, Flemington, MO, 65650-9544	(417) 253-2244 D
WMU Church Director: Nancy Bewley, 910 Highway V, Flemington, MO, 65650-9511	(417) 298-8804 D
Messengers to Association: Jan Vanish, 3595 Hwy O, Humansville, MO, 65674	417-754-1152 D
Messengers to Association: Ray Varnish, 3595 Hwy O, Humansville, MO, 65674	417-754-1152 D
Representatives on Assn Board: Bob Pitts, 3134 S 95th Rd, Flemington, MO, 65650-9512	(417) 327-2245 D
Representatives on Assn Board: C Kay Pitts, 3134 S 95th Rd, Flemington, MO, 65650-9512	(417) 327-2245 D
Camp Advisor Board Member: Sarah Wilkenson, 3862 S 117th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613	417-777-4966 D

## Shepherd's Way Church

705 N Main St, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725

(417) 830-9760

Fax: N/A

Email: shepherdswaychurch.ph@gmail.com

Pastor: Jacob Miller, 5454 S 182nd Rd, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725-9226, jmillerezk.2230@gmail.com	(417) 830-9760 C
Associate Pastor: Kelly Rehm, 705 N Main St, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725, kdrehm@gmail.com	(417) 298-9330 C
Associate Pastor: Evan Allen, 705 N Main St, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725, eallen2669@gmail.com	(417) 536-7057 C
Church Secretary: Brandon Jones, 1169 W Farm Road 6, Brighton, MO, 65617-7260, bjones@calvaryproperties.com	(417) 599-3629 C
Church Treasurer: Kevin Mau, 312 N Main St, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725-8108, kevinmau83@gmail.com	(417) 830-5287 C
Church Clerk: Paula Byrd, 5454 S 182nd Rd, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725-9226, pjbyrd@gmail.com	(417) 599-1815 C

## Southern Hills Baptist Church

1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514

417-326-7474

Fax: 417-326-7474

Email: mhale@southernhillsbolivar.org

Pastor: Ted Bachman, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514, ted@southernhillsbolivar.org	(417) 298-9230 C
Pastor's Spouse: Shanna Bachman, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514, ted@southernhillsbolivar.org	
Minister of Children: Rachel Flynn, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514, rachel.miles.flynn@gmail.com	
Minister of Youth: Andrew Miller, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514, drew25miller@gmail.com	(918) 214-2526 C
Church Secretary: Martha Hale, 1361 S Meadow Ln, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3308	417-777-4468 D
Church Treasurer: Walt Greenleaf, 1414 S Clark Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2363	(417) 650-7037 C
Church Clerk: Krystal Quinn, 615 E Boston Ct, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2122, krystalquinn3@gmail.com	(417) 410-6113 C
Women's Ministry Coordinator: Cheryl Green, 4347 S 31st Rd, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9263	(913) 526-5637 C
Sunday School Director: Adam Shelden, 700 E. Destin St., Bolivar, MO, 65613, adamshelden91@gmail.com	(573) 337-9737 C
Church Deacon(s): Adam Shelden, 700 E. Destin St., Bolivar, MO, 65613, adamshelden91@gmail.com	(573) 337-9737 C
Church Elders: Matt Rice, 2291 W Heritage St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3126	(757) 646-6007 C
Church Elders: Kyle Lee, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514, kleeusmc@yahoo.com	(417) 770-7551 D
Representatives on Assn Board: Lindell Shelden, 650 E Summit St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1298, pastor.lindell@gmail.com	(573) 774-8605 C

# **CONSTITUTION**

**AND**

# **BY-LAWS**

**OF THE**

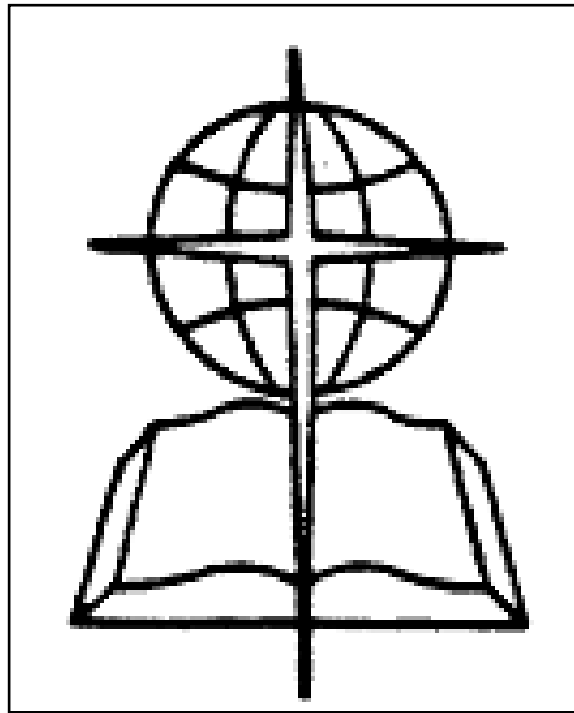
**MID-LAKES SOUTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**IN**

**BOLIVAR, MISSOURI**

**AS ADOPTED OCTOBER 7, 2014  
LATEST REVISION OCTOBER 4, 2016**

“Churches working together...  
Serving Jesus...  
Throughout the World.”



**Mid-Lakes Southern Baptist Association**  
722 East South Street  
Bolivar, Missouri 65613



Contact us:

Phone (417) 326-4667

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[midlakes@windstream.net](mailto:midlakes@windstream.net)

[www.midlakesba.com](http://www.midlakesba.com)

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
MID-LAKES SOUTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**AS ADOPTED OCTOBER 7, 2014  
LATEST REVISION OCTOBER 4, 2016**

**ARTICLE I -- NAME**

The name of this body shall be “The Mid-Lakes Southern Baptist Association.”

**ARTICLE II -- PURPOSE**

**Section 1.** The purpose of the Association shall be to furnish the constituent churches a medium of fellowship and cooperation for the propagation of the gospel and the strengthening of the churches by all methods in accord with the Word of God.

**Section 2.** This Association shall cooperate with the Missouri Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention in achieving its purpose.

**ARTICLE III -- MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** This Association shall be composed of messengers from the Southern Baptist churches which are in friendly cooperation with this Association, together with a pastor of these churches, the officers and trustees of the Association, the Executive Board members for the year, the Director of Missions, and those additional leaders listed in the By-Laws, Article II, “Duties of Officers, Trustees and Other Leaders”.

**Section 2.** This Association is an autonomous body.

**Section 3.** Any church desiring to affiliate with this Association shall make application by letter to the chairperson of the Personnel/Church Relations Committee requesting such affiliation. This letter shall indicate the church’s friendly and loyal cooperation with this body and the date of the church’s action approving such application. The letter should include a copy of the church’s articles of faith. All such applications shall be thoroughly studied and considered by the Personnel/Church Relations Committee. This committee shall then present the applications with recommendations for consideration by the Association at a regular Annual Meeting. The application must be received by the Personnel/Church Relations Committee at least ninety days prior to the first day of the annual Meeting at which it is to be considered.

**Section 4.** The Association shall fully recognize the autonomy of the local churches. Any church may withdraw from affiliation at its pleasure and the Association may, for any reason deemed sufficient, withdraw from affiliation with any church.

**Section 5.** Each church of fifty resident members or less shall be entitled to three messengers; and for each additional fifty resident members or fraction thereof, one additional messenger, with no church being entitled to more than ten messengers including those qualifying in Section 1 of this article.

**ARTICLE IV -- ARTICLES OF FAITH**

The doctrinal guidelines for the Association and its work shall be the Baptist Faith and Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention, understanding that any Southern Baptist church affiliated with the Association has the right to affirm any Southern Baptist confession of faith.

**ARTICLE V -- OFFICERS**

The officers of this Association shall be Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer.

**ARTICLE VI -- TRUSTEES**

The Association shall elect three Trustees who shall have duties as set forth in the By-Laws.

**ARTICLE VII -- EXECUTIVE BOARD**

This Association shall have an Executive Board whose membership, duties, meetings, and quorum shall be set forth in the By-Laws.

**ARTICLE VIII -- COMMITTEES**

Provision shall be made in the By-Laws for elected and appointed committees. Special committees may be appointed by the Moderator.

**ARTICLE IX -- AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended at any Annual Meeting of the Association by a two-third majority of the members present and voting, provided written notice of the proposed change(s) shall have been given at the regular meeting of the Executive Board immediately prior to the annual meeting. The proposed amendment(s), further, shall be presented on the first day of the Annual Meeting and action taken on the second day.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I -- MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The Association shall meet annually within the month of October at such times and places as may be set by the Association.

**Section 2.** Messengers shall register with the Clerk immediately upon their arrival at the meetings, indicating the church or associational office represented. Messengers representing fifty per cent of the churches shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Section 3.** All meetings of the Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

**Section 4.** The first order of business shall be the report of the Program Committee, which, upon adoption by the body, shall become the order of business and program for the meetings.

**Section 5.** All reports shall be for the year ending immediately proceeding.

**Section 6.** In all questions not provided for in the Constitution and these By-Laws, *the Association shall be guided by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.*

### **ARTICLE II -- DUTIES OF OFFICERS, TRUSTEES AND OTHER LEADERS**

**Section 1.** The Moderator shall be the presiding officer at all meetings of the Association and the Executive Board. He shall appoint special committees as needed unless provision has been made for their election. He shall serve as an ex-officio member (with vote) of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

**Section 2.** The Vice-Moderator shall assist the Moderator in the discharge of his duties and act in his stead during the Moderator's absence or incapacity. In case the office of Moderator becomes vacant, the Vice-Moderator shall become Moderator and serve until the regular election of officers at the next Annual Meeting of the Association.

**Section 3.** The Clerk shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the Association and of the Executive Board, register messengers at the Annual Meeting and call the roll of churches at the Annual Meeting and Executive Board Meetings. The Clerk shall carefully preserve a file of the minutes from year to year and deliver the same with all books and papers pertaining to the Clerk's office to the new Clerk.

**Section 4.** The Assistant Clerk shall assist the Clerk in the discharge of the clerk's duties and act during the Clerk's absence, incapacity, resignation or death.

**Section 5.** The Treasurer shall receive, hold, deposit in a bank approved by the Association, and disburse on approval of the Association all funds of the Association; the Treasurer shall render statements of the Association's funds at the meetings of the Executive Board and the Association. The Treasurer's accounts shall be audited annually by the Budget Committee and at such other times as the Executive Board may direct. The Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Budget Committee.

**Section 6.** The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in the discharge of the Treasurer's duties and act during the Treasurer's absence, incapacity, resignation or death.

**Section 7.** The Trustees shall fulfill all legal requirements of the Association at the direction of the Association or the Executive Board. The Trustees shall have responsibility for maintaining, repairing, remodeling and redecorating all Association properties. They will prepare and recommend to the Association a policy for the occupancy and use of all Associational property.

**Section 8.** The directors of: Women's Missionary Union, Youth, Children, and Music shall affect adequate organizations through which they shall promote the best interests of their respective programs. They shall provide practical assistance to the churches in their respective programs.

**Section 9.** The standing and appointed Committees shall develop plans to encourage the churches and assist them in their individual and cooperative work in their respective areas of ministry.

**Section 10.** Each leader listed in Sections 5, 7, 8 and 9 of Article II of these By-Laws shall submit a written report at the Annual Meeting and may report as needed at Executive Board Meetings.

**Section 11.** All persons authorized to handle funds of the Association shall be covered by a bond, the premium for which shall be paid by the Association.

### **ARTICLE III -- ELECTIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE**

**Section 1.** Officers, Trustees and other committee members shall be elected by majority vote at the Annual Meeting.

**Section 2.** The Moderator shall not be eligible to serve more than two terms in succession. He shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee or from the floor of the Association and elected by a simple majority of the messengers present and voting. No one shall be nominated who has not consented to serve if elected.

**Section 3.** The Vice-Moderator shall be nominated by the Nominating committee or from the floor of the Association and elected by a simple majority of the messengers present and voting. No one shall be nominated who has not consented to serve if elected.

**Section 4.** No officer, trustee or leader shall continue in office if they cease to be a member of an affiliated church.

**Section 5.** Terms of office for all elected leaders named in Article II except for Trustees and committee members shall be for one year, commencing with the close of the Annual Meeting, or until their successors are elected. One Trustee, two members of the Church/Personnel Committee, and one member of each committee (Except for Moderator) shall be elected at each Annual Meeting to serve for three years. Any vacancy in any office may be filled for the duration of the unexpired term at the Association Annual Meeting or by the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE IV -- EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Section 1.** The Executive Board shall consist of those elected leaders listed in Article II, Sections 1 through 9, of these By-Laws, the Director of Missions, a pastor of each affiliated church, and two board members elected by each of the affiliated churches.

**Section 2.** The Executive Board shall conduct needed business between Annual Meetings of the Association. It shall oversee the budget, implement the purpose of the Association, and promote its program. The Executive Board shall make an annual summary report to the Association.

**Section 3.** The Executive Board shall meet during January, April, July and October of each year, on a day determined by the Board. The annual meeting of the Association shall be considered to be the October meeting. The Moderator may call special meetings of this Board at such times and places as he may see fit. Notice of all meetings shall be sent to all affiliated churches at least one week prior to each meeting. The purpose of any call special meeting must be specified in the notice and the business conducted at that meeting must be limited to the stated purpose.

**Section 4.** Members of the Executive Board representing forty per cent, rounded up to the nearest whole number, of the affiliated churches shall constitute a quorum.

#### **ARTICLE V -- ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL**

The Associational Council shall consist of those officers and leaders named in Article II, Sections 1, 8 and 9, together with the Director of Missions, who shall serve as chairman. This Council shall coordinate the program and plan the calendar of the Association.

#### **ARTICLE VI -- PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

The Program Committee shall plan the program of the Annual Meeting and recommend its order of business. The committee shall consist of the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Director of Missions, Director of Music, pastor of the host church and the preacher of the annual sermon. The Moderator will serve as chairman.

#### **ARTICLE VII -- COMMITTEES**

**Section 1.** Membership and terms of office: The Members of the Nominating Committee including the chairperson shall be appointed by the Moderator at the Annual Meeting. The members of all committees shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee. Each committee shall consist of three elected members (in addition to ex-officio members) unless otherwise specified below. Each member of a committee shall serve for three years with one-third of the members being elected each year. Each committee will elect its own chair. No member shall be eligible for re-election, after having served more than eighteen months, until the lapse of one year. No member of a committee shall continue in office if they have ceased to be a member of an affiliated church.

**Section 2.** A quorum for the transaction of business by any committee shall be two-thirds of the elected members. Each committee shall present a written report at the annual Meeting of the Association.

**Section 3.** The Budget Committee shall prepare and recommend a budget for the work of the Association during the succeeding calendar year. The proposed annual budget shall be mailed to the churches at least one week prior to the Annual Meeting. This Committee will monitor the finances of the Association and recommend changes, as they may be needed through the year. This Committee shall make an annual audit of the Treasurer's accounts and such other audits as the Executive Board may direct.

**Section 4.** The Constitution Committee shall recommend to the Association any changes in the Constitution or the By-Laws which it feels may be necessary or useful. The Committee shall prepare from suggestions made by the members of the Association, or upon its own initiative, a resolution for consideration by the Association as it may deem appropriate.

**Section 5.** The Missions Committee shall lead the Association in planning and implementing mission work, both within associational boundaries and beyond. Such mission work may include new churches, preaching stations, home Bible study fellowships, Sunday Schools, ministries in jails, hospitals, nursing homes, other institutions, and other activities deemed worthwhile. Where feasible, the local churches shall be encouraged to adopt and carry on the work of missions.

**Section 6.** The Historical Committee shall gather and preserve historical information both past and present about the churches and the Association. It shall establish and maintain relationship with the Missouri Baptist Historical Society. This Committee shall also encourage the churches to compile and preserve their histories and records. The

Committee shall assemble and present to the Association during the Annual Meeting a list of the brothers and sisters whose deaths have been reported for the Associational year just closed.

**Section 7.** The Nominating Committee shall nominate for election by the Association or the Executive Board all officers, trustees, other leaders, and members of committees except the members of the Nominating Committee and staff personnel. A proposed slate of nominees shall be presented to the churches at the Annual Meeting. Nominations to fill vacancies occurring between Annual Meetings will be made to the Executive Board. This Committee shall recommend to the Association a proposed time and place of the next Annual Meeting, together with the preacher of the annual sermon and an alternate.

**Section 8.** The Personnel/Church Relations Committee shall consist of six members, four of whom shall be laypersons and two pastors or church staff members. No more than one member from any church shall serve on this committee. Any member who is absent more than one-third of the meetings in a year may be replaced by the Association or the Executive Board, upon the initiative of the other members of this committee. The Personnel/Church Relations Committee shall meet as needed or as requested by the Executive Board and shall submit a written report as deemed necessary to the Executive Board and at the Annual Meetings of the Association. The Personnel/Church Relations committee shall supervise the work of the Director of Missions. In the event the position of Director of Missions is vacant, this committee shall recommend a replacement for election by the Association in regular session or by the Executive Board. This committee is to assist the Association in administering policies for staff personnel (paid or volunteer) by carrying out the following:

1. Periodically survey the need for staff positions.
2. Prepare, periodically review and update position descriptions for all staff personnel.
3. Develop and recommend to the Executive Board a policy manual or staff personnel.
4. Recruit, interview and recommend to the Association or Executive Board, the Director of Missions.
5. Consider the recommendation of the Director of Missions in the selection and termination of other staff personnel.
6. Serve as a committee to counsel and to hear grievances and appeals from staff personnel.

The Personnel/Church Relations Committee shall receive and review all applications by churches desiring to affiliate with this Association, and make recommendations to the Association at its Annual Meeting. It will serve in cases regarding dismissal of churches from the Association. This committee, through its chairman, may offer its services to any church or pastor where church-pastor relationships need assistance.

1. Serve as a committee to counsel and to hear grievances and appeals from duly authorized representatives of churches in the Association.

**Section 9.** The camp committee shall consist of 3 members as described in section 1. They shall oversee the planning and operation of the association children and youth camps.

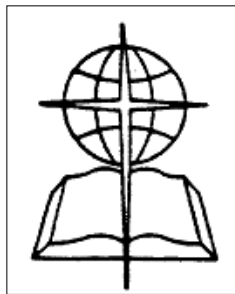
**Section 10.** Electronic communication is acceptable to conduct committee meetings and for making recommendations requiring a committee vote. Electronic modes of communication offer effective and efficient ways to share information, saving time and financial resource. Any committee meetings held using electronic communication will have minutes taken, including the names of members participating, and minutes will be distributed to members of the committee prior to presenting proposals to other association bodies. *This applies only to transactions between parties each of which has agreed to conduct transactions by electronic means. Whether the parties agree to conduct a transaction by electronic means is determined from the context and surrounding circumstances, including the parties' conduct.*

## **ARTICLE VIII -- STAFF**

A Director of Missions and other staff personnel may be employed by the Association or the Executive Board in accordance with adopted position descriptions and staff personnel policies.

## **ARTICLE IX -- AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws may be amended at any Annual Meeting of the Association by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, provided written notice of the proposed change(s) have been given at the regular meeting of the Executive Board immediately prior to the Annual Meeting. The proposed amendments, further, shall be presented on the first day of the Annual Meeting and action taken on the second day.



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# Missouri Baptist Convention: Reports to the Associations

July 2024

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Developing Leaders  
Executive Office  
Making Disciples  
Ministry Support & Apologetics  
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# I. Executive Board Staff Reports

## *Collegiate Ministries*

Jason Yarnell, Interim Director

College students across Missouri have been catching a vision of their role in the Great Commission. They've have been sharing their faith with friends; initiating sidewalk evangelism and prayer walking efforts on their campus; witnessing to their professors, classmates, and families; and leading Bible studies among their peers in dorms, on sports teams, and in fine arts.

In the spring semester alone, campus missionaries reported 3,013 spiritual conversations, 1,787 gospel shares, 31 salvations, and 15 baptisms. Sixty-eight collegians have gone on mission trips with their BSU ministries to serve local churches and share their faith in locations ranging from Arkansas to Central Asia.

The Summer Missions program, which mobilizes college students to serve and grow local churches and ministries, sent out 77 student missionaries to serve under 37 mentors through 29 ministries and churches across the state. In the first half of the 2024 program, which includes staffing the two weeks of Super Summer youth camp, summer missionaries have had 1,459 spiritual conversations, seen 64 salvations, and served 31 churches and ministries.

MBCollegiate students are rising to the challenge to lead, disciple, serve, and evangelize on their campuses, through their local churches, on the mission field, and beyond.

## *Developing Leaders*

Jim Misloski, Director

The Developing Leaders Group is composed of the Resound Network for church revitalization, Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief, and the MBC Leader Care Network. You can read more about Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief and the Resound Network in their respective reports.

The MBC Leader Care Network exists to help leaders get well, lead well, and finish well. Network members cooperate with Missouri Baptist associational leaders to create a network of support for Missouri Baptist church leaders and their families. In the 2023-2024 season, notable assistance in the form of coaching and counseling was provided to multiple pastors and families who experienced significant loss. In total, the network provided support to 733 MBC leaders. Requests to the network continue to increase in each successive season. The greatest challenge is the limited capacity of the network.

This year, the Ministry Wives Network, led by Becca Moore and Dana Young, developed a robust strategy to multiply the network with a strong core of leaders from across the state. One of these core leaders, Adrianna Anderson, is replacing Becca Moore as the Ministry Wives Network director as Becca moves to Tennessee to start a church with her husband, former Resound Network Director Brandon Moore.

## John Vernon, Resound Network

During a transition in leadership, the Resound Network continues to serve Missouri Baptist churches seeking renewal. The network focuses on three priorities: equipping leaders, engaging churches, and encouraging multiplication.

The annual Resound Network Summit hosted more than 100 pastors, associational leaders, and women in leadership for a time of personal renewal, worship renewal, training for associational renewal, and training in developing prayer strategies for church, discipleship, and leadership renewal.

In addition, the Resound Network hosted its fourth annual event at the 2023 MBC Annual Meeting last October, during which approximately 200 pastors and lay leaders were introduced to the new Resounding Leaders branch of the network. They also were given Quick Start Guides to help them begin discovering, discerning, developing, and deploying the called among their churches. Nineteen churches have engaged in the Resound process and, of those, four have engaged in intentional revitalization, two have repurposed, and two have replanted.

Lastly, the network has partnered with the Making Disciples Group in the development of a new network branch called Resounding Disciples. Together, we've conducted three workshops with approximately 40 practitioners from around Missouri participating in the development of tools and the curation of resources to assist churches in recovering a culture of disciple making.

## Gaylon Moss, Disaster Relief

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world ... let your light shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:14-16). Missouri Baptists responded as light in the darkness to a disaster every 1.5 weeks on average over the last 12 months. At least four people came to faith in Christ.

We assisted disaster survivors in state, out of state, and internationally. Some unique opportunities included home repair in Guam, personal property fire recovery in Hawaii, hay hauling to Texas, water hauling in Louisiana, and hot-food and chaplain services to residents of an apartment complex in St. Louis affected by severely cold weather. We collected funds to assist those affected by war in three locations around the world.

Thanks to a grant, 50 homeowners in the Missouri bootheel received underground storm shelters. We are in our second year of a partnership with Central Asia to provide disaster relief training and support. We are also assisting Iowa Baptists in revitalizing their disaster relief ministry.

Disasters provide us an opportunity to be light and point people to the Father!

Here are a few statistics from July 2023 – June 2024:

Volunteer Days – 4,073  
Volunteer Hours – 32,451  
Meals – 9,947

Showers – 950  
Laundry loads – 234  
Clean-up jobs – 467

## *Executive Office*

Dr. Wes Fowler, Executive Director-Treasurer

### *The Pathway*

Benjamin Hawkins, Editor

With nearly 30,000 subscribers across the state and around the world, *The Pathway* remains committed to providing Missouri Baptists with Christian worldview journalism that shares stories of truth and redemption.

*The Pathway* continues to be a nationally recognized Christian publication, and *The Pathway* print edition received an Award of Merit this year from the Evangelical Press Association.

Estimated total readership of *The Pathway* has topped 100,000, with 60,000 due to the print edition. After having a record-setting year in 2023, the online edition of *The Pathway* also remains strong, and *Pathway* staff members are laboring to improve its online edition and social media reach to better serve Missouri Baptists.

*The Pathway* is also training a new generation of Christian journalists through its annual journalism retreat. Dozens of students from communications programs at the Missouri Baptist Convention's three universities take part in the retreat, learning from highly experienced Christian practitioners in the field. *The Pathway* has also helped train journalism students from Spurgeon College (at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) by working with interns from the college.

*The Pathway* is made possible at no cost to subscribers due to the support of Missouri Baptists through the Cooperative Program.

## Business Services & Properties Management

Samantha Spencer, Chief Financial Officer

The Business Services Group is the Cooperative Program's entry portal for the MBC. The group accounts for all church receipts and allocates the monies to the appropriate ministries and missions. The receipts processed by Business Services for the year ending Dec. 31, 2023, are as follows:

Cooperative Program	\$14,823,030
Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering	\$ 926,010
Lottie Moon Offering	\$ 3,984,919
Annie Armstrong Offering	\$ 2,231,490

The MBC is honored to bless Missouri Baptist associations with a 10 percent gift from the Missouri Missions Offering made up of funds contributed by each association's

affiliated churches. In 2023, \$80,838 was distributed to 58 associations for ministry by the Business Services Group.

As directed in the Bylaws, the financial statements have been audited by a certified public accountant for the year ending December 31, 2023.

### Paula Earls, Chief Operations Officer

Chief Operations Officer Paula Earls administered the MBC retirement plan, property and casualty insurance policy, personnel policies, and benefits. She serves as the main point person for the activities and leases at the Baptist Building. She assists Missouri Baptists with church finance, personnel, and pastor search committees with retirement plan set up and church compensation and financial issues.

Over the past year, Earls completed insurance applications, assisted with claim requests, responded to insurance-coverage questions, and much more. Other work includes planning the MBC Annual Meeting and other statewide meetings throughout the year. Earls additionally assists with various special projects as assigned.

### Brooks Crawford, Properties Management Specialist

The Properties Management staff maintains the Jefferson City convention building, High Point Road Conference Center, Disaster Relief warehouse, seven BSU buildings, and the MBC fleet of vehicles and trailers.

The staff serves by cleaning, setting up for meetings, conducting light construction, and doing repairs and regular maintenance at these locations.

Over the last several years, staff members have completed renovation of most of the Baptist Building and installed new internal and external signage.

## Communications; Media, Technology & Events

### Rob Phillips, Associate Executive Director

The Communications and Media, Technology & Event (MT&E) groups provide the state missionary staff with creative services, media and technology support, and assistance with the staging and production of MBC events.

Under the leadership of Tony Boes, Communications promotes the Cooperative Program through ads, videos, articles, and social media, partnering with MBC entities to show the value of our cooperative ministries. The group also promotes the Missouri Missions Offering, producing print and electronic resources that show the impact of more than two dozen mission projects across the state.

Communications staff members work closely with all MBC ministry groups to enhance their communications needs. They also assist High Street Press, the MBC's publishing imprint, releasing three books in 2024, including *Love, Romance & Marriage* by Pastor Eddie Bumpers of Crossway Baptist Church.

Under Chris Brizendine, MT&E continues to improve the speed and reliability of information networks, enhance the convention's database, increase participation in the Annual Church Profile, and lower the cost of IT services.

MT&E also provides superior audio-visual and set design support for all major MBC events.

## Missouri Woman's Missionary Union

Cheryl Stahlman, Missouri WMU Executive Director

Missouri Woman's Missionary Union (MWMU) has been busy! We have held training events, mission experiences for youth and kids, Missions Celebration, and we partnered with Montana Southern Baptist Women. We're excited about a new partnership with MBCH Women's Ministry and the Ministry Wives Network to host The Gathering women's conference in May 2024.

During the 2024 Missions Celebration/Annual Meeting, we were excited to hear from Oklahoma WMU President Julie Busler, International Mission Board (IMB) and North American Mission Board (NAMB) missionaries, and several other leaders, including MBC Executive Director Wes Fowler. With a focus on our hope in Christ, we tackled several topics in our breakout sessions while highlighting mental health.

*Missouri PrayerWays* continues to impact Missouri missionaries to know that Missouri Baptists are praying for them on their birthdays. Many plan events and services, and some even reserve making major decisions about their health, ministry, etc., with that in mind.

Three offerings met or exceeded their goals in 2023-24, with MMO raising more than \$176,000 above its goal; Lottie Moon came in at \$3,984,919; and Annie Armstrong giving totaled \$2,231,490.

National WMU has released *50 Steps with Jesus*, a new one-on-one, seven-week discipleship program designed for a mature believer to walk alongside a new believer. Learn more at [wmustore.com/50-steps-with-jesus](http://wmustore.com/50-steps-with-jesus).

### Abigail Moore, Children's Missions Consultant

Girls Experiencing Missions (GEM) 2023 was held October 20-21 at Laclede Bible Camp. We had 137 total in attendance. The girls raised \$114 for the MK ReEntry Retreat. Amy Doolittle and Joy Martin were the guest speakers. GEM 2024 is slated for October 18-19 at Pulaski Baptist Camp, Waynesville. A new download is available to help churches begin a children's missions discipleship program. Learn more at [wmu.com/getstarted](http://wmu.com/getstarted).

### Sarah Schmitt, Student Mission and MyMissions Consultant

This year, members elected three young women to represent the Missouri Acteen Council (Celia and Cefronia Shortell, Hannah Stahlman) to learn alongside MWMU leaders to work on conferences, meetings, and leadership skills.

We doubled the number of students attending the Student Missions Conference April 5, with speakers Joy Martin, Julie B from Next Gen IMB and Fusion. It was a night of learning about missions and how we at home can still be missions minded, and ways we can be missional in our everyday life.

The student leadership team is looking forward to two conferences in 2025. One is for all high school and college students, and one is specifically for girls in junior high and high school.

Missouri WMU hosted the MK ReEntry Retreat in August at Encounter Cove. About 60 students came from all over the world. Missouri WMU hosted a Missouri Night and asked Disaster Relief to come and serve sides. In addition, churches in Camdenton made dinner and DAMAC performed a Christian rap concert.

### Travis Webb, RA/Challenger Consultant

Webb met the new RA Consultant, Keith Gates, while training in Birmingham, Ala. Gates restarted the national RA Derby at the Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis. Missouri had two eligible racers: Mason Shellengoski from FBC Willard for Lad division, and Keyton Lehenbauer of FBC Paris for Crusader division.

Tony Boes of the MBC came to take promotional videos and pictures for next year and graciously agreed to stand in, at the last minute, for our missionaries who were unable to come.

RA Congress was held April 26-27 at the Missouri State Fairgrounds. Final counts totaled 118 boys, 56 adult and teen leaders, and 35 checked-in volunteers – all representing at least 18 churches. A total of \$116 was collected for the MK ReEntry Retreat during our Missions Run. An additional offering from our closing Worship Rally brought the total up to \$477.78. Illusionist DJ Edwards closed the opening rally with a fun routine and gospel message. More than half the boys responded to the altar call.

Next year's Congress is planned to be at the state fairgrounds April 25-26.

Prayer requests: more RA/men-related opportunities at the next Missions Celebration; possibly rebooting a statewide RA Camp; and the year-long planning and promotion for RA Congress.

## *Making Disciples*

Brad Bennett, Director

The Making Disciples Group's mission is to assist Missouri Baptists in biblical strategies and processes for making disciples who make disciples. We aim to assist Missouri Baptist churches in cultivating a gospel-centered culture and community of disciple-making in obedience to the Great Commission. In light of our mission, we have developed the LIFE initiative, a holistic approach to evangelism and discipleship.

In the past year, the Making Disciples Group has held numerous age-graded disciple-making equipping events. Below is a sampling.

## **LIFE Outreach**

A LIFE Outreach is a community-wide equipping and outreach event. Over the past year, there were five LIFE Outreaches held with more than 5,900 in attendance and 455 documented decisions for Christ.

## **Super Summer Camp**

In June, the Making Disciples Group held two weeks of Super Summer on the campuses of Hannibal-LaGrange University and Southwest Baptist University. Super Summer hosted 1,110 students and leaders over the two weeks, an increase of 481 over last year's total attendance. More than 80 students surrendered their lives to Christ and more than 20 surrendered to ministry.

## **Student Evangelism Conference**

The 2024 Student Evangelism Conference will be held at Concord Baptist Church in Jefferson City on November 8-9. The mission of the SEC is to inspire, instruct, and encourage students to share their faith.

## **Vacation Bible School**

The Making Disciples Group held 10 different VBS associational trainings across the state with 32 associations involved and 314 participants.

## *Multiplying Churches*

Martin Winslow, Director

The Multiplying Churches Group focuses on discovering the nations living within the borders of Missouri and then helping Missouri Baptist churches reach them.

Among the top 50 people groups in our state, 17 are listed by the International Mission Board as unreached people, and 11 of these groups remain unengaged. Our staff members are committed to helping Missouri Baptists strategically engage these people groups with the gospel of Jesus. Then, our state missionaries work to help international church plants within Missouri affiliate with an association, the MBC, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Multiplying Churches also connects new church plants with the North American Mission Board for assessment and funding. In addition, the group works with churches within our state to provide strategic partnerships for church planting efforts domestically and abroad.

Is your church looking to mobilize people in meaningful mission work in Montana or Minnesota/Wisconsin? Pastors, do you have a desire to help train international pastors in the Word of God in Nepal, India, or strategic locations on the continent of Africa? We would love to visit with you and your church about partnering to take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

## II. Strategic Partners Reports

### *Missouri Baptist Children's Home*

Juston Gates, President and Treasurer

The Missouri Baptist Children's Home is committed to serving God by responding to the needs of children, youth, and families to make a lasting difference in their lives. Our goal is to provide hope, healing, and restoration to those experiencing difficult life circumstances.

Notable highlights from the past year include:

- Dr. Juston Gates assumed the presidency mid-year 2024 upon the retirement of Russell Martin.
- A youth drop-in center for students classified as homeless opened on the Lowe-Frillman Campus in Bridgeton.
- The MBCH experienced significant growth in our community-based services, particularly in family foster care, pregnancy services, and treatment family care.
- We served 1,902 children, youth, and families in 2023.
- We helped 160 children find permanent homes (approximately 50 percent returned home with their biological families, 25 percent were placed through legal guardianships, and 25 percent were adopted).
- We served 551 through family foster care, 158 through the treatment family care program, and 33 clients and families through our intellectually and developmentally disabled services for adults.
- We ministered to and nurtured 315 mothers and babies.
- And we assisted 10 young women through our anti-trafficking services.

We value and share a cooperative spirit with the Missouri Baptist Convention, 60 associations, and more than 1,700 MBC-affiliated churches. Together, we're impacting the lives of children, youth, and families across the state.

### *Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries*

Rodney A. Harrison, President and CEO

In the five years since Baptist Homes was restored to the Missouri Baptist Convention, our board and leadership have sought to address significant threats to the sustainability this 111-year-old ministry. Two decades of declining census, a promise to provide free care when one's funds ran out, and a capital-raising plan in the early 2000s providing rent-free living plus a return of capital were a perfect storm in the making — and then came the pandemic.

Without the prayers and support of Missouri Baptists, it is unlikely this report would have been written. While the challenges are many, the heavy lifting is done. Baptist Homes is worthy of the efforts that have transformed out-of-date living spaces into homes Baby Boomers will accept and can afford.

Our mission to provide Christlike care, education, and advocacy for the aging is unwavering. To fulfill this mission, the leadership and board of trustees are focused on increasing census, bringing facilities to current code, and securing Medicare and Medicaid certification. We are reversing the decades of declining census, updating facilities that had shared- or dorm-style bathrooms, and securing Medicare and Medicaid certification. We heartily invite individuals and churches to come experience the Baptist Homes transformation.

## *Christian Life Commission*

William Isaacson, Chairman

The Christian Life Commission (CLC) advocates public policy, bears witness to a faithful God who commanded us to be salt and light, and works to educate and inform Missouri Baptists about issues affecting families, communities, and nations.

The CLC hosted a dinner encouraging pastors to lead their people to be more involved in the public square with the gospel message and biblical ethics. John Ashcroft was the guest speaker.

The CLC and Concord Baptist Church co-sponsored the Legislative Prayer Breakfast. Legislators were challenged to stand for what is right, just, and good. Prayers for wisdom, discernment, and boldness were offered for all Missouri's elected officials and public servants.

The CLC offered voter registration materials to all MBC-affiliated churches. Resources and commissioners are available to all churches to assist in voter registration, voter participation, and understanding a biblical worldview. The CLC sponsored and participated in a worldview conference in Hamilton, Mo.

All Missouri Baptists are encouraged to continue to stand for life. There likely will be a constitutional amendment on the ballot in Missouri this fall to allow the abortion of an unborn child's life up to the moment of delivery. The battle is not over! Be informed and act!

## *Missouri Baptist Foundation*

Neil Franks, President and CEO

The Missouri Baptist Foundation (MBF) embarked on its 78th year of ministry by giving over \$136,000 in grants to 56 Missouri Baptist churches in 50 different towns and cities for mission and ministry projects. From food pantries to renovated children's spaces and community outreach events, these projects are already bearing fruit (literally).

Additionally, MBF's number of accounts and assets under management increased for the fourth consecutive year to over 1,000 accounts and more than \$200 million in assets, demonstrating Missouri Baptist's desire for kingdom impact through financial resources.

MBF also remains committed to providing exemplary service and investment options to Missouri Baptist churches, associations, and ministries through its Kingdom, Harvest,

and Storehouse funds, which align with our redemptive investing strategy. This strategy focuses on filtering out harmful investments while actively selecting investments that promote positive God-honoring outcomes and enable human flourishing through capital development, affordable medicines, and farmland cultivation.

Additionally, MBF continues to assist generous individuals in creating a legacy of giving through planned estate gifts that benefit kingdom causes. To learn more about MBF funds or how you can leave a legacy, call (573) 761-0717 or go online at [www.mbf.org](http://www.mbf.org).

## *Historical Commission*

Gaylord L. Mustin, Chairman

The Historical Commission awarded the Missouri Baptist Heritage Scholarship to four students, one each from Hannibal-LaGrange University, Missouri Baptist University, Southwest Baptist University, and Spurgeon College. Applicants submitted an academic paper on some aspect of Missouri Baptist history. Each winning student was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship for the next academic year. Half of the funding comes from the Cooperative Program, and the other half from the students' academic institutions.

This year's winners were Elizabeth E. Tucker, HLGU (from Lake St. Louis); James Logan White, MBU (from DeSoto); Emily Black, SBU (from Rich Hill); and Eli Norman, Spurgeon College (from Harrisonville). Silas Richardson (from Independence) of Spurgeon College received honorable mention.

Tucker wrote about "John B. Meachum and John M. Peck: How Two Missouri Baptists Established a Heritage of Racial Unity in Antebellum Missouri." White's paper covered "Frontier Faith: John Clark and the Conquest of Religious Intolerance in Early Missouri." Black authored "The Beginnings of Missouri Baptists." Norman wrote about "Civil War Era Tensions for Baptists in St. Louis." And Richardson penned "The Dispositions, Arguments, and Consequences of Missouri Baptist Views of Slavery in the Nineteenth Century."

First Baptist Church, Jackson, the last remaining of nine daughter churches of Old Bethel, celebrated its 200th anniversary the week of April 21-28. MBC Executive Director Wes Fowler was a featured speaker, and numerous activities were held.

# III. Higher Education Institution Reports

## *Hannibal-LaGrange University*

Dr. Robert J. Matz, President

The Lord's kind hand rests on Hannibal-LaGrange University. Over the last year, we've seen students saved, called to ministry, and equipped with knowledge for service. Our financial health has increased significantly with our accreditors' recent site visit stating that "the institution's efforts have resulted in a successful turnaround."

There's never been a better time to become an HLGU Trojan. Students are challenged to grow in their faith through chapel, spiritual emphasis week, Bible studies, and mission opportunities. Complementing our 40 current degree programs, HLGU is launching new academic programs including Master of Arts degrees in Christian Counseling (leading to state licensure) and Art Education. Enrollment is up significantly for on-campus and online programs.

Our Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies program at Jefferson City Correctional Center (JCCC) continues to produce great fruit. The men in this program are being equipped to plant churches throughout the state's prisons. Our first cohort of men will graduate May 2025. So far, they have planted three churches at JCCC and baptized dozens of men. Thank you for your support of this program through the Missouri Missions Offering.

Our campus has become a hub for promoting Christian values in northeast Missouri. In recent months we hosted Riley Gaines and Andrew Bailey. Gaines advocated for a biblical understanding of gender. State Attorney General Andrew Bailey advocated for pro-life causes. On November 9, we're excited to welcome Christian recording artist and author Andrew Peterson for our annual Booster Night. Please join us. Tickets are available at [hlg.edu/news-events/boostergala/](http://hlg.edu/news-events/boostergala/).

Thank you, Missouri Baptists, for partnering with us to transform lives and communities through relevant education anchored in a biblical worldview.

## *Missouri Baptist University*

Dr. Keith Ross, President

Reflecting on the past 12 months at Missouri Baptist University, I am glad to share some significant milestones that will shape MBU's future and enhance educational experiences for our students.

One development is the substantial funding received for a new academic building and welcome center. A significant seven-figure gift from the Robert W. Plaster Foundation and a \$1.6 million challenge grant from the Mabee Foundation are leading the way in support of a new facility that will provide state-of-the-art learning spaces and a welcoming environment for prospective students and their families.

We have also established the John Mason Peck Institute at MBU. A hub for Christian scholarship and ministry training, the institute honors the legacy of John Mason Peck, a

pioneer Baptist missionary in the early nineteenth century. The institute will foster academic excellence and practical ministry experience for students.

Finally, our innovative tuition-subscription model with Chick-fil-A restaurants has expanded to 13 locations. This partnership allows eligible Chick-fil-A employees to pursue a tuition-free bachelor's degree, reflecting MBU's commitment to accessible, affordable higher education.

These examples demonstrate MBU's dedication to growth, innovation and student success. We look forward to a bright future with God's continued guidance of Missouri Baptist University.

## *Southwest Baptist University*

Dr. Rick Melson, President

SBU celebrated several important achievements during the 2023–24 academic year.

In November, the university received word from the Higher Learning Commission that its accreditation had been reaffirmed with no concerns. SBU's healthcare programs saw significant expansion through a growing partnership with the Mercy Health system.

The university also successfully petitioned the Missouri Board of Nursing for additional seats in its nursing programs in Salem, Springfield, and Bolivar to meet increasing program demand. SBU launched innovative programs in healthcare administration and cybersecurity, as well as several dual-enrollment online courses through SBUPrep.com.

For a third year, SBU athletics won the Great Lakes Valley Conference Sportsmanship Award. Seven athletes qualified for the NCAA Division II Track & Field Championships. SBU boasted GLVC's Special Teams Player of the Year. The university also announced its intention to launch NCAA men's volleyball and men's and women's swimming for Fall 2025.

Spiritual formation continued to be a central focus across campus through our short-term missions and study-abroad programs, increased student participation in discipleship training, and vibrant chapel services featuring key faculty and staff as well as special guests: SBC President Bart Barber, renowned apologist Sam Alberry, author Dean Inserra, and MBC President Chris Williams.