



MAY 2026

MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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

Missions and Ministry Together

Hello Mid Lakes Family.

As we go into May, we start the busy season on summer activities. I realize that we all are busy, and I pray much of that business is serving the Lord in your local church. We are all blessed to have church families which pray for us, walk beside us, and minister to and with us. However, beyond that we have the blessing of having sister churches with which we can join together for the honor and glory of God. With that thought in mind, I would like to plant a few seeds in your minds.



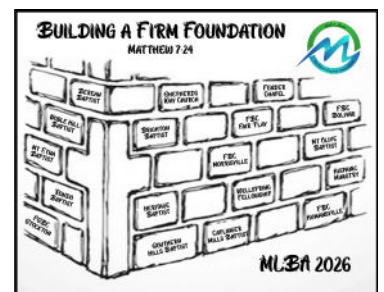
Recently, I was reading a Resound Network publication, *5 Questions Every Leader Should Ask*. Yes it is geared towards pastors, but it also raises questions for our churches to examine.

- 1- **Are we seeking the Lord?** Most would say automatically that we are, but truly are we? When was the last time, your church took a look at where you are and where God wants you to be?
- 2 - **Are we shepherding the flock?** Now we think, that is a question for the pastor, and it is, BUT, isn't the second great commandment to love our neighbor as ourself? Are we spiritually looking out for one another? Do we minister spiritually to one another. If we are not doing it in the church, how can we expect to be effective in our community.
- 3 - **Are WE reaching the Lost?** Not, is the preacher reaching the lost, but are WE, as a church, as individual believers, reaching the lost. Statistics show that 68% of Missourians (4.2 million) are lost. They are everywhere we look!
- 4 - **Are we making disciples?** Are we helping others to follow Jesus? Are we mentoring others to follow along in serving the Lord? Are we investing in our youth ourselves, or just leaving it up to the youth leader? Are we helping those who are struggling to draw closer to the Lord and His Word?
- 5 - **Are we developing leaders?** I have a list of 18 different men who can do supply preaching, and only two are under the age of forty. One is in his 30's and the other is 18 years old. Churches are struggling to find pastors and preachers. One reason why is because we are not raising up young people to consider what calling God has for their lives.

If you would like a copy of this publication, just let me know. I was challenged, and I pray that you are too. Please let us know if there is any way we can help you or your church. Keep lifting up Jesus!!!

We love you all,

Bro. John and Mrs. Gayle





NATIONAL
DAY OF PRAYER

★ May 7th ★

PRAYER EVENT

SOUTHERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

DOORS OPEN 5:00 PM

CORPORATE PRAYER 5:30 PM

EVERYONE IS INVITED



May 5th & 19th at 8:30 AM

**Men's Breakfast and Fellowship
1st and 3rd Tuesday each month
at 8:30 AM.**

**at Mid Lakes Baptist
Association Office.**

**MID LAKES ASSOCIATION
WMU GROUP MEETING
For May—Tuesday, May 26th**

Last Monday of each month at 2 PM.

All ladies are invited to join in.

Mrs. Leidra Stunkel is leading the group
at the Association Office.

722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO.



Children's Workers Invite!

FBC, Bolivar invites all Children's Workers from all our churches to join them in a Children's Ministry Leader's Group.

Thursday, April 14th at noon.

At FBC, Bolivar Rose Building.

Bring your own lunch or take out and join them.

Contact Julie DuVall for more information.

Children's Ministry Luncheon

JAN. 15 | NOON | ROSE BUILDING
114 N Springfield Ave
Bolivar, MO 65613

You're Invited to be a part of a Children's Ministry Leader Group! Connect, support & share vision for how to reach children in Polk County. Bring your own brown bag lunch or take out!



TO:

FROM:

ADDRESS:

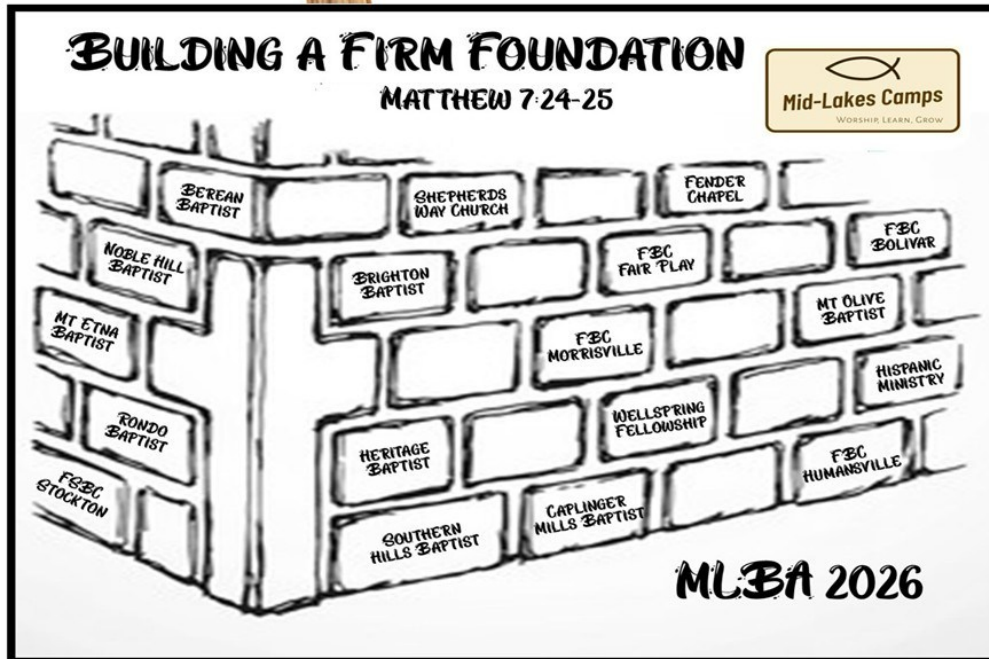
Julie DuVall

FBC BOLIVAR CHILDREN'S MINISTER

417-326-2431



KNOW GOD | SHOW LOVE | GO SERVE



Children's Camp: July 25th–28th

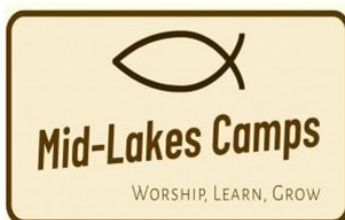
\$160 per camper

Youth Camp: July 28th–August 1st

\$170 per camper

Location: Camp Niangua outside Marshfield, MO

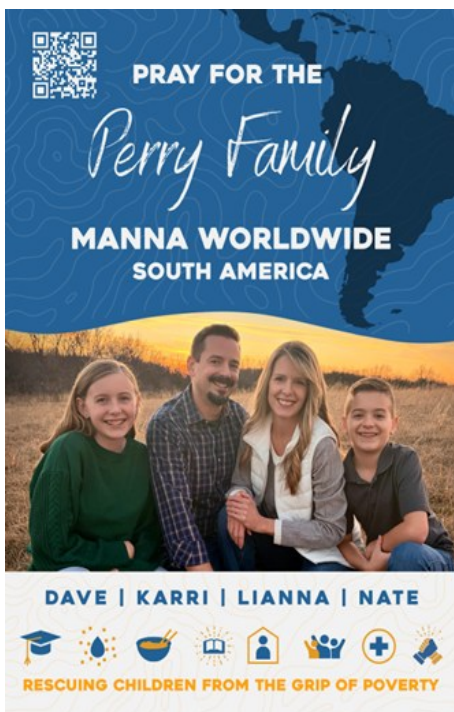
To register: www.midlakescamps.weebly.com



**For more information contact the
Association Office at 417-326-4667
or Breanna Piper 417-912-1152
Or Tim Cossins 417-327-5395**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE ASSOCIATION OFFICE.

My name is Dave Perry. I have been a member of a Mid-Lakes church, Berean Baptist Church in Bolivar, for many years, and I recently joined MANNA Worldwide. “What is MANNA Worldwide?” you might ask. I’m so glad you asked. MANNA is a mission organization designed to be a complement and support to local churches across the globe. It has partners in over 40 countries who launch and sustain programs that feed, educate, and care for children in need. This includes nutrition, education, clean water, orphan care, medical care, training programs, and summer camps. **Every program is connected to a local church or missionary so that every act of service proclaims the hope of the Gospel.** MANNA also mobilizes volunteers, churches, and donors across the United States to help fund, visit, and support these programs. It currently has 240+ projects with plans to start more.



My role will be to advance MANNA’s gospel-centered mission by strengthening local churches in South America and throughout the world. It will focus on development, oversight, and assessment of projects, cultivating partnerships with US churches, fundraising, and leading short-term mission trips. I will continue to live in the area but I will get many opportunities to travel throughout the United States to advocate for MANNA and to travel abroad to lead mission teams.

I have an undergraduate degree in Pastoral Studies and a Masters of Divinity. I served Berean Baptist Church for 16 years (2008-2024) leading their college ministry and I have also been serving as a hospice chaplain with Haven Hospice in Ozark, MO, for over eight years (2017-current). My family and I are excited to continue following Jesus on this new path of serving people in need throughout the world. I get to be a part of rescuing children from the grip of physical and spiritual poverty.

This position comes with the responsibility and privilege for me and my family to raise our personal and operational expenses. This is teaching me to trust the LORD who provides through the generosity of others.

I am seeking three things:

- Prayer partners: 300 of them. Yes, I want that many or more praying for my family!
- Monthly financial partners: God loves a cheerful giver.
- Advocates: People who want others to meet me. I would like to be introduced to pastors, business owners, and generous followers of Jesus.

If you would like to meet up for coffee to learn more about my story, or if your church would like me to come present my ministry, please contact me at d.perry@mannaworldwide.com.



July 6-10, 2026

Southwest Baptist University

1460 S Pike Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613, United States



For more information and to register:
**[https://centrikid.lifeway.com/camp/
southwest-baptist-university-3/](https://centrikid.lifeway.com/camp/southwest-baptist-university-3/)**

MLBA Church News

Caplinger Mills: Is in search for a pastor to lead them to reach their community for Christ.

FBC, Bolivar: Dr John Marshall is serving as interim pastor.

FBC, Fair Play: Pastor Stunkel is now our new Associational Moderator.

FBC, Humansville: Is beginning their pastor search.

FBC, Morrisville: . They are receiving resumes' for pastor.

First Stockton: Are now livestreaming their sermons on YouTube: FSBC Stockton

Heritage: Still searching for a Senior Pastor. Gary Urich is their Interim.

Hispanic Ministry: Bible Study every Monday evening at 7 PM at the Rose Building.

Average attendance around 25. Still searching for a pastor to lead in worship services. Will host a Thank You for Your Support meal and service at the at the Casa de Oracion Hispanic Church in Springfield February 21st.

Mt Etna: Please pray for Mt Etna as they search for a new pastor.

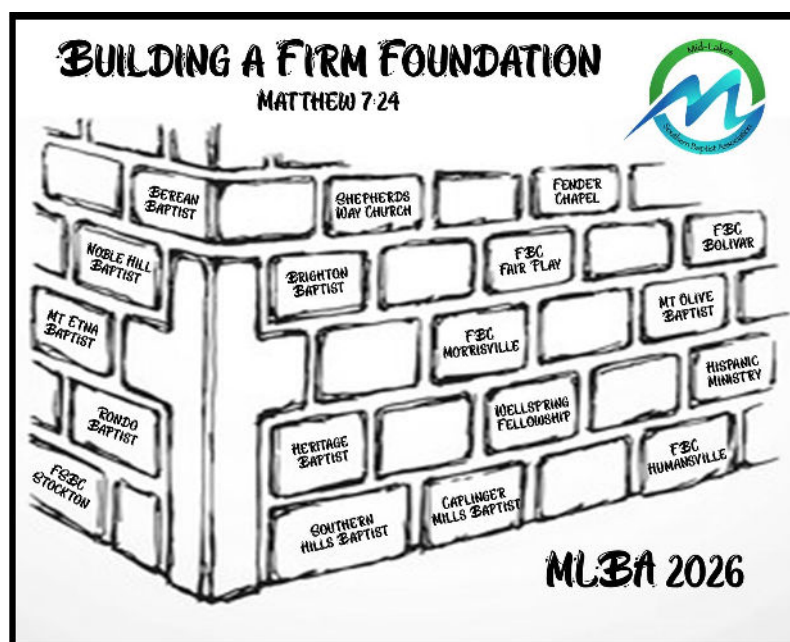
Rondo: Rondo Baptist has begun a church history class on Wednesday evenings.

Jeff Robidou is Pastor.

Southern Hills: Our Sunday sermons will now be uploaded as podcasts to Spotify in addition to the website! Hosting National Day of Prayer Rally, May 7th. Doors open at 5 PM, Pray service at 5:30 PM.

MLBA Men's Fellowship and Breakfast: May 5th and 19th at the Association Office

MLBA WMU Meeting: 2 PM TUESDAY, May 26th at the Association Office.



THE Pathway

Get the
Pathway for
FREE!

The Mo Baptist Convention's newspaper, "The Pathway" is available for everyone in your church to receive. There are two ways you can receive it. You can simply click on the link below and read the current E-edition online. For those of you who love to sit down, sip your morning coffee, and read a real paper version, that is available too. This is made possible by your Cooperative Program dollars. Check it out and see what God is doing in MO, and beyond! (Stories do hit the e-edition quicker than the paper version.)

To sign up for bi-monthly paper copies mailed directly to you, visit:
<https://mbcpathway.com/contact-us/subscription-services/>

To read the current E-edition click: <https://mbcpathway.com/e-edition/>



Hispanic Bible Study

Every Monday Evening at 7 PM

At FBC, Bolivar's Rose Building.

Everyone is invited.

Reminder: Churches are already beginning the process of reserving the Block Party Trailer for this year. As we do each year, for those using the trailer, we need a Certificate of Insurance from the church's insurance company listing Mid Lakes as a secondary insured. Your insurance agent can provide this document for you. He can also email it directly to the MLBA Office. midlakessba@gmail.com

Berean Baptist; Brighton Baptist; Caplinger Mills Baptist; Fender Chapel Baptist; First Baptist, Bolivar; First Baptist, Fair Play; First Baptist, Humansville; First Baptist, Morrisville; First Southern Baptist, Stockton; Heritage Baptist; Mt Etna Baptist; Mt Olive Baptist; Noble Hill Baptist; Rondo Baptist; Shepherd's Way Church; Southern Hills Baptist; Wellspring Baptist Fellowship. Plus our Hispanic Ministry meets on Monday evenings at 7 PM at the FBC, Bolivar Rose Building.



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9 AM - 4 PM

Mid Lakes Baptist Association

722 E. South Street, Bolivar, MO 65613

Associational Missions Strategist: John Rhodes

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

Website: www.midlakessba.com

Email: midlakessba@gmail.com

Facebook Page: *Mid Lakes Baptist Association*

John Rhodes, AMS

