

MID LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION 2026 160TH ANNUAL MEETING

BUILDING A FIRM FOUNDATION



BEREAN
BAPTIST

SHEPHERDS WAY
CHURCH

FENDER
CHAPEL

NOBLE HILL
BAPTIST

BRIGHTON
BAPTIST

FBC
FAIR PLAY

FBC
BOLIVAR

MT ETNA
BAPTIST

FBC
MORRISVILLE

MT OLIVE
BAPTIST

HISPANIC
MINISTRY

RONDO
BAPTIST

HERITAGE
BAPTIST

WELLSPRING
FELLOWSHIP

FBC
HUMANSVILLE

FBC
STOCKTON

SOUTHERN HILLS
BAPTIST

CAPLINGER MILLS
BAPTIST



MONDAY,
OCTOBER 12



MEAL
6 PM
SERVICE
7 PM



PLACE:
WELLSPRING
BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP
2110 S SPRING ST
BOLIVAR, MO 65613



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MLBA 160th Annual Meeting

“Building a Firm Foundation”

Monday, October 12, 2026

Wellspring Baptist Fellowship Church, Bolivar, MO

Meal begins at 6:00 PM, Meeting 7:00 PM

AGENDA

Welcome – Rev. David Stunkel, Moderator & Pastor FBC, Fair Play

Opening Prayer: Bro. Andy Yohn, Wellspring Baptist Fellowship

Call to Order: Rev. David Stunkel, Moderator

Time of welcoming each other.

Attendance Count – Jennifer Smith

Move the Seating of the Messengers

Adoption of the Agenda as a whole – Rev. David Stunkel

Motion to accept written reports - Rev. David Stunkel

Time of Worship: Wellspring Baptist Fellowship Church, Bolivar

Special vote to amend the Constitution and By-laws of the association, but first we need a motion and second to suspend the rules for this one item of business because our Constitution says we must vote on the second night of the annual meeting, but since we no longer have a second night, we can suspend the rules and vote on it tonight.

If motion to suspend the rules passes, then we are ready to vote on the changes to the Constitution and by-laws. Discussion was already held in the July board meeting and written copies distributed in advance in accordance with our Constitution and By-laws. This motion to change the Constitution and By-laws comes from the Constitution Committee and does not require a second. We are now ready to vote.

Presentation of Financial Report – Mrs. Dot Soldavini

Proposed budget vote – Mrs. Dot Soldavini (questions and vote)

Nominating Committee Presentation. The Moderator has nominated Mrs. Julie Holland from FBC, Morrisville to fill this position. This comes from a committee and does not require a second. Any questions? Time to vote.

Report from Regional MBC WMU representative Mrs. Pearline Breshears.

Old Business:

New Business: The trustees are about to remodel the association office kitchen. There is \$1,000 already designated to this project. We have discovered that a leaky drain from the HVAC system has caused damage to the floor and subfloor in the kitchen and furnace room. This may require more than the \$1,000 remodel money and their \$500 trustee's budget. Can they have permission to spend what is necessary to properly repair the damage if needed? The office also needs a new front window. The old storm window cover was damaged in the hailstorm and was never repaired. A new insulated window is around \$700 according to Redd's in Halfway. Replacing this window hopefully will help with the utility bills.

Any other new business.

Music: Wellspring Fellowship Baptist Church

Guest Speaker: Dr. Ron Mackey, Interim President of the MO Baptist Homes.

AMS Report: Rev. John Rhodes

Introduction of any new pastor or staff. (Bro. John Rhodes) Rev. Lindell Sheldon, Mt Etna; Dr. Jacob Conner, FBC, Bolivar;

Introduction of next year's officers: Rev. David Stunkel, Moderator; Rev. Dennis Mays, Vice-moderator; Rev. Walt Greenleaf, Treasurer; Mrs. Jennifer Smith, Clerk

Closing Prayer



MLBA 2026 – 2027

Calendar

2026

10/12/26 MLBA Annual Meeting
 10/20 Men's Fellowship
 10/24 One Great Day of Evangelism
 Saturday
 10/26-27 MBC Annual Meeting, St Charles,
 MO
 10/26 MLBA WMU Meeting
 10/28 AMS/DOM Fall Retreat
 11/1 Daylight Savings Time Ends
 11/3 Election Day
 11/3 Men's Fellowship
 11/11 Veteran's Day
 11/17 Men's Fellowship
 11/26 Thanksgiving Day
 11/30 MLBA WMU Meeting
 12 – Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
 12/1 Men's Fellowship
 12/15 Men's Fellowship
 12/25 Christmas Day
 12/31 MLBA Youth Christmas Eve Party

2027

1/1/27 New Year's Day
 1/5/27 Men's Fellowship
 1/19 Men's Fellowship

1/19/27 MLBA Executive Board Meeting
 1/17 Sanctity of Life Sunday+
 1/25 MLBA WMU Meeting
 2/2 Men's Fellowship
 2/14 Valentines Day
 2/15 President's Day
 2/16 Men's Fellowship
 2/22 MLBA WMU Meeting
 2/28 MLBA Evangelism Conference
**March - Annie Armstrong Easter
 Offering Time**
 3/2 Men's Fellowship
 3/7-14 Week of Prayer for NAMB
 3/16 Men's Fellowship
 3/16 DOM/AMS Spring Retreat
 3/21 Palm Sunday
 3/28 Easter Sunday
 3/29 MLBA WMU Meeting
 4/6 Men's Fellowship
 4/20 Men's Fellowship
 4/20 MLBA Executive Board Meeting
 4/24 Camp Yard Sale?
 4/25 MLBA Semi-Annual Meeting

4/26 MLBA WMU Meeting	9/21 Men's Fellowship
5/4 Men's Fellowship	9/22 See You at the Pole
5/6 National Day of Prayer	9/27 MLBA WMU Meeting
5/9 Mother's Day	October is Pastor Appreciation Month
5/18 Men's Fellowship	10/3 Cooperative Program Sunday
5/24 MLBA WMU Meeting	10/5 Men's Fellowship
5/30 Disaster Relief Sunday	10/11 Columbus Day
5/31 Memorial Day (Office Closed)	10/11 MLBA Annual Meeting
6/1 Men's Fellowship	10/17 Day of Prayer for Associational Missions
6/13 SBC Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN	10/19 Men's Fellowship
6/15 Men's Fellowship	10/25 MLBA WMU Meeting
6/20 Father's Day	10/25 – 26 MBC Annual Meeting, 2 nd Baptist, Springfield, MO
6/28 MLBA WMU Meeting	10/27 DOM/AMS Fall Retreat
7/4 Religious Liberty Sunday / Independence Day	11/2 Men's Fellowship
7/6 Men's Fellowship	11/2 Election Day
7/20 Men's Fellowship	11/7 Daylight Savings Time Ends
7/20 MLBA Executive Board Meeting	11/11/27 Veteran's Day
7/24 - 27 MLBA Children's Camp	11/16 Men's Fellowship
7/27 - 31 MLBA Youth Camp	11/25 Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)
7/26 MLBA WMU Meeting	11/29 MLBA WMU Meeting
8/3 Men's Fellowship	11/28 - 12/5 Week of Prayer for International Missions Board
8/10 MLBA Nominating Committee Meeting	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Time
8/17 Men's Fellowship	12/7 Men's Fellowship
8/17 MLBA Budget Committee Meeting	12/21 Men's Fellowship
8/30 MLBA WMU Meeting	12/24 Christmas Eve (Office Closed)
9/6 Labor Day (Office Closed)	12/25 Jesus Birthday (Office Closed)
9/7 Men's Fellowship	12/27-1/2/28 Office Closed for the Holiday
9/11 Bolivar Country Days	

Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

Quarterly Executive Board Meeting, January 20, 2026, Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar.

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. and opening prayer was led by Moderator Charles Jackson, Pastor, First Baptist Morrisville. A devotional from several passages in Ecclesiastes was given by Derrick Lewright, Pastor, Berean Baptist Church.

The roll was presented of churches (attached). Sixteen Executive Board Members from ten churches were present, along with four visitors. A quorum was present.

The consent agenda of approval of agenda for January 20, 2026 and approval of minutes for October 13-14, 2025 Annual Meeting was approved with a motion made by Walt Greenleaf, Southern Hills, seconded by Chase Wagner, Brighton. Quarterly financial statements were presented by Dot Soldavini, treasurer, First Baptist Church Fair Play. Motion to approve by Soldavini with a second by Walt Greenleaf, Southern Hills. Written reports for filing were presented. Leidra Stunkel, Fair Play, made the motion the reports be approved, and Chase Wagner, Brighton, seconded. These motions all carried on separate voice votes.

There was no old business.

In new business, Jacob Miller, Shepherd's Way, made the motion that the annual meeting date be set for Monday, October 12, 2026. David Stunkel, Fair Play, seconded. The assembly was reminded that it was voted in the annual meeting to go to a one evening rather than two evening meetings for the annual meeting. Motion carried.

Chase Wagner, Brighton, made the motion the resignation of Charles Jackson as moderator be accepted, David Stunkel seconded the motion "under protest." Since Jackson is retiring as pastor of FBC Morrisville, he would no longer be a part of the association and able to serve as moderator. Motion carried.

The Nominating Committee recommended David Stunkel, Fair Play, current Vice Moderator, be elected as moderator to finish Jackson's term and that Dennis Mays, Noble Hill, be elected Vice Moderator. Coming from a committee, the motion does not require a second. Motion carried.

With the closing of Bethel Baptist Church in Pittsburg, the association received \$30K with the recommendations from the technology committee and the trustees the funds be used to acquire a new copier/printer for the associational office, a new computer for the office, and pour concrete in front of the office building to provide for more parking. Much discussion ensued. The consensus, since the recommendations come from two separate committee entities was to separate the recommendations into separate actions. The recommendation from the technology committee in regards to a copier/printer and a computer was approved by voice vote. The recommendation from the trustees garnered more discussion. It was unable to determine whether the motion passed or not on a voice vote and so a hand vote was requested by the moderator. By show of hands, the recommendation was approved. Both recommendations came from committee entities and so no seconds were needed.

In partnering opportunities, Nate Melton with the Missouri Baptist Children's Home presented information regarding CarePortal that will be coming to Polk County in 2026. It is already operational in several counties in Missouri including Greene, Dallas and Taney (and others). Churches are asked to

consider being a church partner in this. Professionals such as caseworkers in family services are the ones who post needs on the care portal. Church liaison/contact person will receive e-mail notification when a care request is posted in their area. They then have the opportunity to review the request and respond if their church is able to meet the need. At that time, the church will get family identification and address so the contact can be made to deliver the items needed. This allows churches to be the ones to meet needs in the lives of families in crises. Common needs include beds and bedding, groceries, school supplies, other furniture, baby care items, etc. Recently there have been requests for bicycles.

A question was raised about the nominating process. With holidays and winter weather, the nominating committee has not met in person. The transition of moderator to vice moderator was already in the by-laws.

John Rhodes, AMS, presented his quarterly report to the association (attached).

Announcements included Camp dates (Kid's camp – July 25-28 and Youth camp – July 28-Aug 1. Reservations for the Block Party trailer are on a first-come basis. It is automatically reserved for associational and camp events. Also the Kayak Trailer, Shuttle, and Mission trailer are available for churches to use. The next executive board meeting is Tuesday April 21 at 7 pm at Mount Olive Baptist Church. The next Disaster Relief Training will be March 6-7, possibly at First Baptist, Bolivar.

In prayer requests, pray for Caplinger Mills, First Baptist Bolivar, First Baptist Morrisville, Heritage and Mt. Etna as they search for a pastor. Also for new leadership for Baptist Homes and Health Care. Thank you to Berean Baptist for hosting the meeting. Charles Jackson passed the gavel to David Stunkel, First Baptist Fair Play, vice moderator, and Stunkel led in closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Jennifer Smith, Clerk

Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

Quarterly Executive Board Meeting, April 21, 2026, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Bolivar.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and opening prayer was led by Moderator David Stunkel, First Baptist, Fair Play. A devotion was given by Rev. Walt Greenleaf, Southern Hills, on denying ourselves and taking up our cross.

The roll was presented of churches (attached in office records). Nineteen people representing nine churches were in attendance. A quorum was established.

Walt Greenleaf, Southern Hills, moved the approval of the agenda for the April 21, 2026, meeting and the minutes from the January 20, 2026, meeting. Second by Dan Stanley, Heritage. The motion carried.

Cyntha Walker, Brighton, moved the approval of the quarterly financial statements, seconded by Walt Greenleaf, Southern Hills. The motion carried.

Kent Johnson, Caplinger Mills, moved the approval of the presentation of reports, seconded by Dot Soldavini, Fair Play. The motion carried.

In old business, John Rhodes, AMS, reported the computer and copier have been purchased and are in use. Roy Reed will begin concrete work sometime after the garage sale April 25, 2026.

In new business, the Nominating Committee presented nominees for two current vacancies: 1 – to elect Bryan Milburn as trustee to complete the term vacated by Ken Spurgeon and 2 – to elect Walt Greenleaf to the position of assistant treasurer in place of Chelsea White who asked to be replaced due to her work load increasing at her job. Coming from a committee, no second is necessary. The nominations were approved.

The Constitution Committee has met for the purpose of updating language and making some needed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. A draft was available to attendees and attached to the minutes. A final draft will be presented at the July board meeting to be voted upon at the annual meeting in October. John Rhodes reviewed the proposed changes for those in attendance.

In partnering opportunities, Omar Segovia, MBC West Regional Strategist, shared about his work with the MBC and a recent mission trip in which he traveled to Senegal in Africa. In relating some Missouri statistics, he indicated that Missouri has a population of a little over 6 million with 68% lostness or 4.2 million people. Each year, 45K Missourians die without Christ which represents 3772 each month or 124 each day or five persons each hour.

Opportunities to reach out with the gospel in Missouri and other places can be found at mobaptist.servicereef.com

John Rhodes, AMS, presented his quarterly report to the association (attached in office records).

Announcements included Camp Yard Sale Fundraiser, Saturday, April 25 beginning at 7 a.m.; Semi-Annual Fellowship meeting, Sunday, April 26 with meal at 5 p.m. and worship at 6 p.m. to be held at Noble Hill; Mid Lakes WMU meeting Monday, April 27, at 2 p.m. at MLBA office; National Day of Prayer Rally, May 7 at Southern Hills. The doors will open at 5. Pray personally anytime between 5 and 5:30 and corporate prayer will begin at 5:30 p.m.; SBC Annual meeting June 7-10 in Orlando, Florida; Next executive board meeting July 21, with the place to be arranged.

In prayer requests, pray for Dr. Justin Gates, MBCH president who was critically injured in a hunting accident. Also, for the one who accidentally shot him. (It was later learned that Dr. Gates passed away of his injuries Tuesday morning).

Closing prayer was led by David Stunkel, Fair Play, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Jennifer Smith - Clerk

Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

Quarterly Executive Board Meeting, July 21, 2026, First Baptist Church, Fair Play.

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Moderator David Stunkel, First Baptist, Fair Play. After singing hymns, "Blessed Assurance," "When the Roll is Called up Yonder," and "When We All Get to Heaven," a devotion was given by Pastor David Stunkel from Romans 1:20 – Seeing and appreciating God in the things around us. He then led in an opening prayer.

The roll was presented of churches (attached in office records). Nineteen people representing eight churches were in attendance. A quorum was established.

Walt Greenleaf, Southern Hills, moved the approval of the agenda for the July 21, 2026, meeting seconded by Dot Soldavini, First Baptist, Fair Play. The motion carried.

Walt Greenleaf moved the approval of the minutes of the April 21, 2026, meeting, seconded by Chase Wagner, Brighton. The motion carried.

Chase Wagner moved the approval of the quarterly financial statements, seconded by Leidra Stunkel, First Baptist, Fair Play. The motion carried.

Chase Wagner moved the approval of the presentation of reports, seconded by Derrick Lewright, Berean. The motion carried.

In old business, John Rhodes, AMS, reported the concrete work has been completed and striping of the parking lot is done. There are now 13 parking spaces, plus a space for the block party trailer and the missions trailer.

As per the constitution, a copy of the updated Constitution and By-laws were presented to those in attendance. These will be presented at the Annual Meeting in October for approval. The office picture and logo will be updated in the final document.

An update regarding the Hispanic Mission was requested. AMS John Rhodes reported attendance is a little down, averaging 15-20 each week. Part of that is due to several self-deporting.

In new business, Dot Soldavini, First Baptist Fair Play, made a motion the minutes of the quarterly and annual meetings, the annual reports and the constitution and bylaws be made available on the MLBA website. Chase Wagner, Brighton, seconded the motion. After some discussion the motion carried with a voice vote.

In partnering opportunities, Nathan Wright presented an update regarding his and his family's work in Tepic, Mexico. Nathan flies for UIM Aviation, providing medical and dental

care, along with transporting mission teams to remote villages among the Huichol and Cora people groups. He reported on a youth camp with approximately 200 youth in attendance that their little church of 80 sponsors, and training provided by I-Tech which prepares leaders to better provide for their families and provide a gospel platform in their communities.

John Rhodes, AMS, presented his quarterly report to the association (attached in office records).

Announcements included Children's Camp and Youth Camp (July 25-August 1), Stewards of Children Training (August 15), MLBA nominating committee meeting (August 11), MLBA budget committee meeting (August 18), See You at the Pole, (September 23), Possible date for MLBA Day event (October 3), MLBA Annual Meeting at Wellspring Fellowship Baptist Church with Dr. Rodney Harrison as guest speaker (October 12) and MBC Annual Meeting in St. Charles, MO (October 26-27).

In prayer requests, pray for Tim Cossins with a medical condition and an unspoken request voiced by David Stunkel.

Closing prayer was led by David Stunkel, Fair Play, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Jennifer Smith - Clerk

2026 Associational Missions Strategist Report (AMS)

John Rhodes, AMS

I praise God for the blessing and opportunity to serve the Mid Lakes Baptist Association. The end of 2025 was saddened by the closing of Bethel Baptist Church in Pittsburg. Sometimes we don't understand why things happen, but we trust God that good will come from it. I have worked with the state convention looking at several possibilities for the property (which the MBC now owns). I am happy to report that Dallas County Baptist Association will be taking possession of the property to use as their new association office, and they hope to start a church plant there soon. Even though the property is not in Dallas County, it is close enough to be of great service to them. They do have churches close by. Now they will have a building to operate out of.

This year I have been blessed to visit all our churches and preach in many, especially those without a pastor. At one point this year we had six churches without a pastor. I am happy to report that two have secured a pastor, and another one is voting on a pastor the day before this meeting. Please pray for Caplinger Mills, Heritage, and FBC Humansville as they continue their search. FBC Bolivar has called Jacob Conner as their Senior Pastor, and Mt Etna has called Lindell Shelden as their Pastor. FBC, Morrisville is the church voting on a candidate.

Our association WMU group is going strong, and our twice monthly men's fellowship has been very encouraging this year.

The Hispanic Bible Study continues meeting on Monday evenings, and are searching for God's leadership and will. Those who are attending are truly thankful it is there.

The Camp Yard Sale raised another \$2,000 which went into the camp fund and scholarship fund. Thanks to everyone who donated items to the sale. The camp committee works very hard to make sure camp is possible.

I worked with the Constitution Committee on preparing the updated constitutional recommendations for this meeting. I appreciate their wisdom and insight.

The concrete work at the office has been completed, and with the help of the trustees, we now have ample parking for the meetings we host. We now have two signs on the building (west end and in front) and lights that light up the signs and the parking area. The building now looks more professional. We cleaned out the garage and painted and sealed the floor. It now looks much cleaner. We still have the kitchen area and furnace room that must have repairs. After that, the building should be in pretty good shape.

This year I have attended a Resound Networking Conference in Jefferson City, MBC Bi-vocational Conference in Springfield, the MBC Evangelism Conference, the MBC Annual Meeting, and the spring and fall DOM Retreats, plus most of the regional monthly DOM Meetings.

AMS Report Cont.

The Block Party Trailer has been used by many this summer and continues to be a wonderful asset to the association churches.

Our Semi-Annual Meeting was a blessing. Buddy Funk and Wesley Vance brought some challenging and powerful messages. Thanks again to Noble Hill Church for hosting this event.

I was privileged to speak at Humansville High School Baccalaureate Service at FBC Humansville. This is the third year I have been asked to speak.

Our churches did a great job hosting VBS' this year. I could not make it to all of them, but I did make it to many of them.

This year the MBC Children's Home asked me to host a Hymn Sing for their Berry Festival in Springfield. We had a good time worshipping together.

Children's Camp and Youth Camp went well this year. I believe camp went smoother this year than any since I have been here. I love watching the kids and youth grow spiritually, ask questions, and have fun. Our camp committee and volunteers do a great job.

In August, our association hosted the Stewards of Children Conference and had 50 people in attendance. For our association, that is a great attendance. Our children's leaders received valuable information which will help them in their ministries.

I have been working for months with Caplinger Mills Baptist Church in strategically planning a mission need that they have. Their building needs updating on the outside, and we have now begun the process with them of restoring the beauty of the historic church building. We will pressure wash and paint the entire building and then tear out the old entrance and rebuild it with new doors, a nice deck, ramp, and steps which will include a sidewalk that extends to the street. When we finish, they will have a more inviting facility, and better parking. We are still looking for more volunteers to help us with this project.

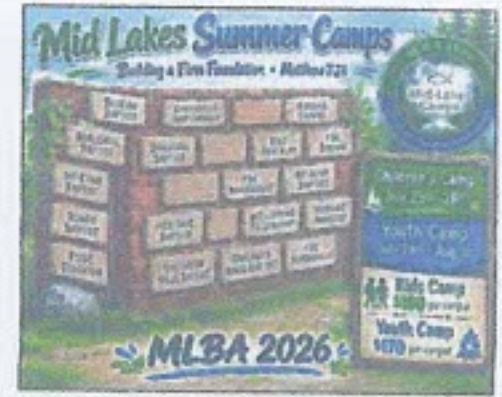
I would like to say THANK YOU to all our churches for your support and giving to the association. There is much that happens here that I cannot put into words. From the encouragement we give to each other, to the sharing of ideas, resources, and even physical blessings of coming alongside each other and being there. For me to come alongside a church or pastor and encourage and guide them is such a privilege. Thank you churches that have given me that opportunity, and I pray I have been a blessing to you somehow.

God bless,

Bro. John

Mid Lakes Camps Report 2026

Breanna Piper / Mid Lakes Camp Committee



Midlakes Camps 2026 went so unbelievably smooth. We had 30 awesome staff members who took care of everything from the little details to the big jobs. We are so grateful to have churches supporting us and praying for us, as well as an amazing group of leaders who come together every year to love on kids and do Kingdom work.

For kids camp we had 37 students who were full of energy and ready to worship. It was extremely hot during kids camp but nothing a little bit of pool time and popsicles couldn't fix.

This was the first year in a long time that we switched out the kids camp students and the Youth campers simultaneously on the same day. We think that it went really well! As always, the Camp committee is already making plans on how to improve camp for next year and we're looking forward to another round in 2027.

For Youth Camp, we had a total of 52 students. Recreation this year was competitive in which groups could earn the most points during different games. It was really fun to watch the kids bond with their groups as they went through their daily activities. All in all, we had a great time at camp! We ate some amazing food. We shared precious moments worshipping our Savior together. We played some awesome and challenging games. We spent quality time discipling students and sharing the gospel. And we had a lot of fun along the way!

- Bre Piper

MLBA Missions Committee Report

October 2026

The missions committee sent out a survey last fall inquiring the types of mission trips and distances people would like to travel to go on a mission trip. We received four responses and all had generic answers. Nothing specific.

The Block Party Trailer, which falls under the missions committee, has been used by many this year. We believe it to be a great asset to our association.

The portable ramps which we have stored at the association have been used by several individuals this year. They are for short term needs where a permanent ramp may not be needed later, or until a permanent ramp can be installed. The request for using the ramps come through our churches, mostly for their congregants.

We have been talking with Caplinger Mills Baptist Church about the possibility of helping them upgrade the outside appearance of their building. That local possibility has finally become a reality. In September we started the first steps to this mission endeavor. Pressure washing, repairing windows and making repairs to the trim of the building has begun. A roofing crew will replace the roof soon. Following the cleaning and repairs, we will proceed with painting the facility. Then we will remove the old entrance steps and ramp and replace them with a new deck, ramp, awning cover for the front door, and a sidewalk that extends out to the road. After that a new fresh gravel driveway will be put in and expanded to increase parking availability. Volunteers from Mid Lakes Churches are helping to complete the project. First Baptist Church, Bolivar, and Mt Olive Baptist Church also contributed financially. The MLBA missions committee committed the last two years MMO Offering returns to the project. That amount was 3,290.84.

We are always open to helping any church that we can.
Working together in ministry,

MLBA Mission Committee:

Phil Beasley, chairman

Taresa Ball, committee member

The third committee member left his church and moved to a different area.

MLBA Nominating Committee Recommendations for 2026-2027

From MLBA Nominating Ministry (Jeff Robidou, Dan Stanley, Tim Cossins)

(Names in bold are new appointments)

MLBA Officers and Directors 2026-27

Associational Mission Strategist.....John Rhodes (P) Mt Olive

Yearly Appointments

Moderator.....David Stunkel (P) FBC, Fair Play

Vice-Moderator.....Dennis Mays (P) Noble Hill

Clerk.....Jennifer Smith, FBC, Bolivar

Assistant Clerk.....Cynthia Walker, Brighton

Treasurer.....**Walt Greenleaf, Southern Hills**

Assistant Treasurer.....**Taresa Ball, FBC, Bolivar**

Disaster Relief.....Billy Lower, FBC, Fair Play

Music Director.....**Bret Stanford, FBC, Bolivar**

WMU Director.....Leidra Stunkel, FBC, Fair Play

Evangelism Director.....**Alan Brock, FBC, Bolivar**

Youth Director.....Tim Cossins, FBC, Bolivar

Children's Director.....Breanna Piper, Berean

MLBA COMMITTEES

Budget Ministry

Derrick Lewright (27) Berean

Leta Gass (28) Mt Olive

Tom Stanford (29) FBC, Bolivar

Constitution Ministry

Dale Cox (26) FBC, Bolivar

James Garrison (28) Mt Olive

Lindell Shelden (29) Mt Etna

Camp Ministry

Duke Jones (27) Mt Etna

Keri Barnes (28) FSBC, Stockton

Dodge Hogan (29) Berean

Missions Ministry

Phil Beasley (27) FBC, Bolivar

Taresa Ball (28) FBC, Bolivar

Kyle Froclich (29) Wellspring Fellowship

Historical Ministry

Reed Steiner (27) Heritage

Stella Cunningham (28) Mt Olive

Ed Henry (29) Rondo**Technology Ministry**

Robert Cortner (27) FBC, Bolivar

Kyndle Katzer (28) Heritage

Braden Jones (29) Berean**Nominating Ministry**

Tim Cossins (27) FBC, Bolivar

Jeff Robidou (28) Rondo

Juli Holland (29) FBC, Morrisville

Appointed by the Moderator

Trustees Ministry

Mike Lenz (27) FBC, Bolivar

Bob Brown (28) FBC, Bolivar

Bryan Milburn (29) Wellspring Fellowship**Personnel/Church Relations Ministry
(Minimum of 2 pastors/ministers) (all from different churches)**

Cynthia Walker (27) Brighton

Leidra Stunkel (27) FBC, Fair Play

Walter Greenleaf (P) (28) Southern Hills

Larissa Katzer (28) Heritage

Jacob Miller (P) (29) Shepherd's Way**Kent Johnson (29) Caplinger Mills**

(27), (28), (29) = Year term expires

(P) = Pastor//Reverend//Minister

MLBA Personnel Committee Report for 2026 Annual Meeting

The Mid Lakes Association personnel committee meet last on Feb 24, 2026. John gave a report on the overall status of the association/ministry, as well as giving us a list of the committees that he has met with to support in their endeavors. The unanimous consensus of the committee was that John is doing a good job in his position and things are going well.

Thanks

Jacob Miller,

Personnel Committee Chairman

Technology Committee Report

For October 12, 2026 Annual Meeting

This year the technology committee researched and recommended the purchase of an Epson ET-16650 copier for the office, along with a new Dell laptop, a large screen monitor, keyboard and mouse, and some software that is needed for the AMS to do his job efficiently. These purchases were taken from monies that were designated for them from the Bethel Church closure.

We also assisted in setting up the computer and copier and installing the software.

Jamie Root, Noble Hill - Chairman

Robert Cortner, FBC Bolivar

Kyndle Katzer, Heritage

MLBA Trustees Report

September 2026

This past year the trustees completed several projects. The shuttle needed some repairs and we managed to do the engine repairs ourselves.

We cleaned out the garage and painted and sealed the floor and then painted and sealed the floor of the Kayak trailer. All the water from the kayaks was about to cause major damage. In addition to painting the garage floor and kayak trailer floor, we painted the front ramp and steps and the rear steps and sealed them. It made it look much cleaner and it also makes it easier to clean and sweep. We also repaired the attic ladder door, and pressured washed both sides of the wooden fence on the west side of the building. It looks almost new now.

The major project of the year was overseeing the concrete work for parking and then we stripped the parking spaces. Our parking situation was not ideal and most people disliked parking on the side of the building and getting blocked in. Six to seven cars were about all we could handle. We now have 13 parking places plus two designated spaces for the block party trailer and missions' trailer. Plus, you can now drive around the building to exit.

Our next project is redoing the kitchen and utility room. We have \$1,000 designated for the kitchen remodel, which will include painted cabinets, new countertops, and new flooring. However, we discovered that the drain line on the A/C unit had leaked at one time and has caused damage to the subfloor, especially in the utility room. We will need to take up the tile flooring and fix any damaged subfloor and flooring before we can do anything else.

We also would like to purchase a new window for the front of the building. The storm window was destroyed in the hailstorm, and we have not found a storm window that would fit it. The new window is expected to cost \$700 (est) according to Redd's in Halfway. You will find a request in new business concerning repairing the floor and window.

With the addition of the concrete, we are no longer using a mowing service. Bro. John is mowing the grass with a push mower since we could not justify paying \$40 for such a small area.

Respectfully submitted, your trustees:

Bryan Milburn, Mike Lentz, and Bob Brown



Mid Lakes Association

WMU Group Report

By Leidra Stunkel

Mid-Lakes Baptist Association WMU has had another wonderful year. We meet monthly, on the last Monday of the month at the associational office. We have members from six churches and two associations, we even had a five-year-old attend, and she keeps asking to go again. I am certain that the fudge bar Bro. John gave her has nothing to do with it!

This year we were able to support many organizations including Missouri Baptist Children's Home, CMH Hospice, MLBA camps, Hope's Safe Haven and Alpha House. Our current project will support area care facilities. This has been a year of blessings. Members helped with the WMU State meeting in April and our regional meeting, Equip, in August. We would like to thank Pearlene Breshears, regional director, for her hard work leading both meetings. She did an outstanding job and both meetings were a time of learning, worship and growth.

Please consider joining us, the last Monday of each month at 2:30. **Ephesians 2:10** *"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

Leidra Stunkel

Serving together, Leidra Stunkel,

Associational WMU Director.

Hispanic Ministry Update

IGLESIA CRISTIANA CASA DE ORACION

BOLIVAR UPDATE

What is Happening Now:

- Coordinators: Charly & Cecy Villarreal.
- Attendance: An average of 16 people per week.
- We hope to have baptisms in December.
- It is being registered as a mission with MBC.

Perspective:

- Hispanic population in the Association's vicinity: 2,197
- To start formal worship services next year and become a church.

We want to thank FBC, Bolivar for their continued support of this ministry by hosting us each week on Monday evenings.

Mid Lakes Association Church and Pastors

Berean Baptist – Pastor Derrick Lewright

Brighton Baptist – Pastor Chase Wagner

Caplinger Mills - _____

Fender Chapel – Pastor Shane England

FBC, Bolivar – Pastor Jacob Conner

FBC, Fair Play – Pastor David Stunkel

FBC, Humansville - _____

FBC, Morrisville - _____

First Southern Baptist, Stockton – Pastor Steve Ewing

Heritage Baptist – Interim Pastor Gary Urich

Mt Etna Baptist – Pastor Lindell Shelden

Mt Olive Baptist – Pastor John Rhodes

Noble Hill Baptist – Pastor Dennis Mays

Rondo Baptist – Pastor Jeff Robidou

Shepherd's Way – Pastor Jacob Miller

Southern Hills Baptist – Pastor Ted Bachmann

Wellspring Baptist Fellowship – Pastor (Church Elders)



Deceased Members List

Berean Baptist Church

John Kurz

First Baptist Church, Bolivar

Darlene Truitt

Lola Harryman

Suzan Kifer

Sondra Gentry-Wright

Darion Jones

Roy Daniel (Deacon)

Noel Brown

Emma Mincks

Ray Becker

Cora Stevens

Roberta Rasor

Sharon Kitchen

First Baptist Church, Fair Play

Wilma Coker

First Baptist Church, Humansville

Charles Bays

First Southern Baptist Church, Stockton

John Sam Pate

Cecil Duane Graves

Heritage Baptist Church

Lucille Shay

Jack Sawyers

Louise Walton

Jesse Evans

Barbara Long

Mt Etna Baptist Church

Gineth Hudson

Jane Hudson

Amy Wilkinson

Southern Hills Baptist Church

Cloise Pacheco

Association Church List

Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

<u>Congregation</u>	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email / Website</u>	<u>Address</u>
Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar	Pastor Derrick Lewright	(417) 326-7758	pastor@bbcbolivar.com http://www.bbcbolivar.com/ brightonbaptist Outreach@gmail.com	4450 Scenic Ave., Bolivar, MO 65613-3138
Brighton Baptist Church	Mr. Steven Wagner			5449 Highway K, Brighton, MO 65617-7258
Caplinger Mills Baptist Church		(417) 278-7009	ljackson1953@gmail.com	14560 E 676 Rd., Stockton, MO 65785-8125
First Baptist Church Bolivar	Jacob Corner	417-326-2431	info@fbcbolivar.org https://fbcbolivar.org/ davidstunkel@windstream.net	316 N Main Ave., Bolivar, MO 65613-1559
First Baptist Church Fair Play	Mr. David Stunkel	(417) 507-1707		500 N Walnut St., Fair Play, MO 65649-5104
First Baptist Church Humansville	Pastor David Cloud		humansvillefbcc@gmail.com	307 S Ohio St., Humansville, MO 65674
First Baptist Church Morrisville				5334 S Main Ave., Morrisville, MO 65710-9120
First Southern Baptist Church Stockton	Mr. Steve Ewing	417-278-3441	lsbstockton@windstream.net http://lsbstockton.org/ mekadwick14@gmail.com	405 Englewood Rd., Stockton, MO 65785-9602
Fender Chapel Baptist Church, Brighton	Rev. Shane England	(417) 824-5355		1563 E 565th Rd., Brighton, MO 65617-7173
Heritage Baptist Church, Bolivar	Gary Ulrich	417-777-2509	sh heritagebaptistchurch@yahoo.com https://www.heritagebaptistchurch/	4853 S 135th Rd., Bolivar, MO 65613-8180
Mt. Etna Baptist Church	Pastor Lindell Sheldon			1350 Highway NW, Bolivar, MO 65613-8309
Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Bolivar	Pastor John Rhodes	417-326-2805	mobe.bolivar@gmail.com https://mobe.bolivar.org/	4079 Highway D., Bolivar, MO 65613-8305
Noble Hill Baptist Church	Pastor Dennis Mays	(417) 742-5227	https://www.noblehill.org/ Rondobaptist@gmail.com	3285 W Farm Rd 36, Willard, MO 65781-8370
Rondo Baptist Church	Rev. Jeffery Robidou			999 E 340th Rd., Flermington, MO 65850
Shepherd's Way Church	Mr. Jacob Miller	(417) 830-9760	shepherds.waychurch.ph@gmail.com http://shepherdswaychurch.com/ mhale@southernilliesbolivar.org	705 N Main St., Pleasant Hope, MO 65725
Southern Hills Baptist Church	Ted Bachman	417-326-7474	worship@wellspringbaptist.org http://wellspringbaptist.org/	1220 S Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO 65613-2514
Wellspring Baptist Fellowship, Bolivar				2110 S Spring St., Bolivar, MO 65613-3515

Association Summary

Parameters

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Year 2026

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ACP data summary of the Association ACP Answers and Statistics spreadsheet

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Mid-Lakes Summary Information

For ACP Year 2026

Congregation	Total Members	Total Baptisms	Other Additions	Worship Attendance	SS Avg. Attendance	Church VBS Enrollment	Mission Project Participation
Beruan, Bolivar	145	5	18	109	72	0	
Brighton BC	48	0	0	36	17	0	
Caplinger Mills, Stockton							
FBC Bolivar	1,444	20	53	755	734	410	
FBC Fair Play	236	0	2	35	20	23	
FBC Humansville	500	0	0	20	14	39	
FBC Morrisville							
FBC Stockton	202	5	2	145	72	55	
Fender Chapel, Brighton	177	9	5	43	20	32	
Heritage, Bolivar	118	2	1	66	44	50	
Mt Etna, Bolivar	121	0	0	25	20	0	
Mt Olive, Bolivar	156	0	6	48	22	26	
Noble Hill, Willard							
Rondo BC	177	1	1	30	25	36	
Shepherd's Way, Pleasant Hope							
Southern Hills, Bolivar	140	0	9	214	150	0	
Wellspring, Bolivar	300	3	0	200	150	140	

Berean Baptist Church, Bolivar

4450 Scenic Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3138

Email: pastor@bbcbolivar.com

(417) 326-7758

Fax: N/A

Pastor: Derrick Lewright, 4450 Scenic Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3138, pastor@bbcbolivar.com

(417) 326-7758 D

Brighton Baptist Church

5449 Highway K, Brighton, MO, 65617-7258

Email: brightonbaptistoutreach@gmail.com

Fax: N/A

Pastor: Steven Wagner, 5449 Highway K, Brighton, MO, 65617-7258, cajwagner@icloud.com

(417) 830-1033 C

Pastor's Spouse: April Wagner, 5449 Highway K, Brighton, MO, 65617-7258, 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

(417) 839-4763 D

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

417-376-2951 D

Church Deacon: Jimmy Cossins, 3618 W Farm Road 14, Brighton, MO, 65617-9477

(417) 844-2538 D

Caplinger Mills Baptist Church

14560 E 676 Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-8125

Email: ljclarkson1953@gmail.com

(417) 276-7009

Fax: N/A

Church Treasurer: Maria Huebner, 15901 E Highway N, Stockton, MO, 65785-8135

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

417-326-7620 D

Messenger to Association: Kent Johnson, 4479 S 132nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2584

417-326-7620 D

Fender Chapel Baptist Church, Brighton

1563 E 565th Rd, Brighton, MO, 65617-7173

Email: mshadwick14@gmail.com

(417) 824-8355

Fax: N/A

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

(417) 300-5306 C

Church Secretary: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, ritashadwick@gmail.com

(417) 824-8355 C

Church Treasurer: Anita Gott, 1352 E 559th Rd, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9142

(417) 597-8648 C

Church Clerk: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, ritashadwick@gmail.com

(417) 824-8355 C

ACP Contact Person: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, ritashadwick@gmail.com

(417) 824-8355 C

Chairman of Deacons: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com

(417) 459-8564 C

Minister of Music: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com

(417) 459-8564 C

Minister of Music: MaKenzy Dailey, 1302 Johnson Dr, Apt 102, Buffalo, MO, 65622, makenzy19long@gmail.com

(417) 733-2986 C

Church Instrumentalist: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, ritashadwick@gmail.com

(417) 824-8355 C

Church VBS Director: MaKenzy Dailey, 1302 Johnson Dr, Apt 102, Buffalo, MO, 65622, makenzy19long@gmail.com

(417) 733-2986 C

Church Deacon: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com

(417) 459-8564 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

Associational Newsletter Correspondent: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com

(417) 459-8564 C

Messenger to Association: Shane England, 11927 N Northern Hts Dr, Brighton, MO, 65617-8103

(417) 327-2616 C

Messenger to Association: Kirsten England, 11927 N Northern Heights Drive, Brighton, MO, 65617, skequine@yahoo.com

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Messenger to Association: Mark Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, mshadwick14@gmail.com

(417) 459-8564 C

Messenger to Association: Rita Shadwick, 9605 N Dove Ln, Willard, MO, 65781-8455, ritashadwick@gmail.com

(417) 824-8355 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

First Baptist Church Bolivar

316 N Main Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1559

Email: info@fcbolivar.org

417-326-2431

Fax: 417-326-4706

Pastor: Jacob Conner, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, jconner@fcbolivar.org

(903) 569-4888 C

Pastor's spouse: Melissa Conner, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644

Church Secretary: Chantelle Skidmore, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, cskidmore@fbcbolivar.org

Church Secretary: Nicole Emmons, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, nemmons@fbcbolivar.org

(913) 868-4925 U

(417) 326-2431 D

(417) 326-2431 D

First Baptist Church Bolivar

316 N Main Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1559

Email: info@fbcbolivar.org

417-326-2431

Fax: 417-326-4706

Church Secretary: Chelsea White, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, cwhite@fbcbolivar.org

4173262431 D

Financial Secretary: Elaine Adjoedani, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, eadjoedani@fbcbolivar.org

Church Clerk: Alexis Neal, alexisvneal@gmail.com

ACP Contact Person: Chantelle Skidmore, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, cskidmore@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

Chairman of Deacons: Bob Glasgow, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, soonerbglasgow@yahoo.com

Minister of Music: Bret Stanford, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613, bstanford@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

Minister of Children: Julie Duvall, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613-1123, jduvall@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

Minister of Youth: Jedediah Bond, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, jbond@fbcbolivar.org

4173262431 D

Minister to College Students: James Bohner, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, jbohner@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

Minister to Single Adults: James Bohner, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, jbohner@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

Instrumental Ensemble Director: Jeff Waters, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644

Church VBS Director: Julie Duvall, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613-1123, jduvall@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

Women on Mission Coordinator: Pearlene Breshears, 1491 S Georgia Dr, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3303, pearlonebreshears@gmail.com

(417) 920-6438 C

Church Library Team Leader: Joyce Hamann, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613, library@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

Other Minister: Ray Leininger, 119 N Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1644, raylein11@gmail.com

417-326-2431 D

Other Church Leader: Alvin Rohrs, 119 N. Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, arohrs@fbcbolivar.org

(417) 326-2431 D

First Baptist Church Fair Play

500 N Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5104

Email: davidstunkel@windstream.net

(417) 507-1707

Fax: N/A

Pastor: David Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, davidstunkel@windstream.net

(417) 326-9895 C

Pastor's Spouse: Leidra Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, lstunkel@windstream.net

(417) 326-9897 C

Church Treasurer: Dorothy Soldavini, dot.soldavini@sbcglobal.net

(314) 578-7992 C

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 C

Chairman of Deacons: Greg Whaley, 4221 S 28th Rd, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5109

417-654-2624 D

Minister of Music: Leidra Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, lstunkel@windstream.net

(417) 326-9897 C

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 Instrumentalist: Tammy Wright, 500 N, Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5104

417-694-2771 D

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 C

Church VBS Director: Leidra Stunkel, 209 W 2nd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9215, lstunkel@windstream.net

(417) 326-9897 C

Church VBS Director: Dorothy Soldavini, dot.soldavini@sbcglobal.net

(314) 578-7992 C

Brotherhood Director: Byron Bock, 500 N Walnut St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5104

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

WMU Church Director: Anita Curry, 510 W 3rd St, Fair Play, MO, 65649-9230

417-654-2453 D

Representatives on Assn Board: Paula Crook, 22515 E Highway H, Fair Play, MO, 65649-8257

417-276-6217 D

Prayer Ministry Coordinator: Geraldine Underwood, 500 N, Walnut, Fair Play, MO, 65649-5136

Messenger to Association: Paula Crook, 22515 E Highway H, Fair Play, MO, 65649-8257

417-276-6217 D

First Baptist Church Humansville

307 S Ohio St, Humansville, MO, 65674

Email: humansvillefbc@gmail.com

Fax: N/A

Pastor: David Cloud, PO Box 163, Humansville, MO, 65674-0163

(417) 408-9810 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

Church Instrumentalist: Margarette Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0161

Church Organist: Carolyn Mershon, 1005 Lancaster, Stockton, MO, 65785

Sunday School Director: Margarette Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0161

(417) 422-3318 C

(417) 327-4875 C

(417) 276-2593 D

(417) 327-4875 C

First Baptist Church Humansville

307 S Ohio St, Humansville, MO, 65674

Fax: N/A

Email: humansvillefbc@gmail.com

Church VBS Director: Margarette Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0161

(417) 327-4875 C

Mission Friends Leader: Jennifer Payne, 22010 E. 500 Road, Humansville, MO, 65674

(417) 298-4403 D

Church Deacon: Robert Payne, PO Box 134, Humansville, MO, 65674-0134

(417) 327-3299 C

First Baptist Church Morrisville

5334 S Main Ave, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9120

Fax: N/A

Email: N/A

Church Treasurer: Beth Webster, 496 S Main Ave, Morrisville, MO, 65710-3208, bwebster1966@yahoo.com

(417) 770-2417 C

Church Clerk: Becky Campbell, 786 N Magnolia Ave, Morrisville, MO, 65710-3117

417-376-2981 D

ACP Contact Person: Becky Campbell, 786 N Magnolia Ave, Morrisville, MO, 65710-3117

417-376-2981 D

Minister of Music: Juli Holland, 5296 S 120th Rd, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9203, julih0824@gmail.com

(417) 818-6034 D

Church Instrumentalist: 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

First Southern Baptist Church Stockton

405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602

417-276-3441

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, 1014 Lancaster Dr, Stockton, MO, 65785-8360, ewing5@windstream.net

(417) 276-1240 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

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: Doug Johnson, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602

(417) 298-2179 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

Minister of Youth: JC Fidler, 1103 Prescott Cir, Stockton, MO, 65785-7599

(417) 276-5914 C

Minister of Youth: Josie Fidler, 1103 Prescott Cir, Stockton, MO, 65785-7599, jlfidler21@gmail.com

(417) 276-9913 C

Church Instrumentalist: Kelly Bolte,

(417) 616-1105 C

Church Instrumentalist: Edward Camp, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, campclan@hotmail.com

(417) 839-8242 C

Church Instrumentalist: Chad Burton, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602

(417) 276-7818 C

Church Instrumentalist: Andy Pirtle, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602

(417) 955-2556 C

Church Instrumentalist: 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

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

Women's Ministry Coordinator: Judy Ford, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, video95@windstream.net

(417) 276-9887 C

Church VBS Director: Shelbi Dumar, 14060 S 1305 Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-8631

(417) 955-2481 C

WMU Church Director: Melissa Wallen, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fsbcstockton@windstream.net

(417) 276-9124 C

Church Deacon: Edward Camp, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, campclan@hotmail.com

(417) 839-8242 C

Church Deacon: Brad Belcher, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, bbelcher@windstream.net

(417) 276-9535 C

Church Deacon: Darin Henderson, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, dhenderson@stockton.k12.mo.us

(417) 619-3352 C

Church Deacon: Jeff Wheeler, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602

(417) 276-6104 C

Church Deacon: Larry Wheeler, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602

(417) 276-7951 C

Church Deacon: Doug Johnson, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602	(417) 298-2179 C
Church Deacon: Chad Burton, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602	(417) 276-7818 C
Church Deacon: Joey Graves, PO Box 141, Stockton, MO, 65785-0141	(417) 327-3770 C
Church Deacon: Patrick Holdeman, , patsplumbing01@gmail.com	(417) 955-3868 C
Church Library Team Leader: Ruth Noblett, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785	(417) 276-1250 C
Church Library Team Leader: Melissa Wallen, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fbscstockton@windstream.net	(417) 276-9124 C
Representatives on Assn Board: Dave Steinmiller, 15742 S 1851 Road, Stockton, MO, 65785-7359, dave65785@earthlink.net	417-459-3810 C
Representatives on Assn Board: Steve Ewing, 405 Englewood Rd, Stockton, MO, 65785-9602, fbscstocktonpastor@windstream.net	(417) 276-9599 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 Ulrich, 4853 S. 135th Road, P.O. Box 195, Bolivar, MO, 65613, gcurch1@windstream.net	(417) 770-5332 C
Church Treasurer: Mary O'Neal, PO Box 195, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0195	(417) 818-8863 C
Church Clerk: Dana Box, 1623 E 422nd Rd, Half Way, MO, 65663-9177, boxd4321@gmail.com	(417) 545-1086 D
ACP Contact Person: Reed Steiner, 920 E. South, Bolivar, MO, 65613	
Chairman of Deacons: Terry Phillips, 732 Highway 32, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8214	(417) 777-7075 D
Minister to Families: Larissa Katzer, 4853 S 135th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8160	(417) 777-2509 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
Minister to Senior Adults: Dan Stanley, 2073 E. 455th Rd, Halfway, MO, 65663	417-445-3038 D
Church Organist: Nadine Dyer, 1176 S Sha Roe Ln, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8296	417-777-7075 D
Sunday School Director: Larissa Katzer, 4853 S 135th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8160	(417) 777-2509 D
Church VBS Director: Larissa Katzer, 4853 S 135th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8160	(417) 777-2509 D
Church Deacon: Greg Stewart, , run2god19878@hotmail.com	(660) 525-4288 C
Messenger to Association: Brad Hall, PO Box 960, Stockton, MO, 65785-0960	417-809-8928 D

Mt Etna Baptist Church

1390 Highway NN, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8309

Fax: N/A

Email: N/A

Pastor: Lindell Sheldon, 650 E Summit St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1298, pastor.lindell@gmail.com	(573) 774-8605 C
Pastor's Spouse: Branda Sheldon, 650 E Summit St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1298	
Church Treasurer: Charlotte Booth, 1016 W Maupin St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1832	(417) 298-6517 D
Church Clerk: Rebecca McGarran, 424 W South St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2346, jkk1961@gmail.com	(417) 399-0568 D
ACP Contact Person: Rebecca McGarran, 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 VBS Director: Becky McGarran, 424 W South St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2346, jkk1961@gmail.com	(417) 399-0568 D
Representatives on Assn Board: 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
Messenger to Association: Clara Cunningham, 403 E Summit St Apt 24, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1160	417-399-2335 D
Messenger to Association: Betty Payne, 1482 E 390th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8307	417-326-5581 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: John Rhodes, 4523 S 60th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8131, john3462@gmail.com	(573) 579-5993 C
Church Treasurer: Vicki McMillen, 22330 Lake Dr, Pittsburg, MO, 65724-7693, vicki@themcmillenfamily.com	(417) 838-9920 C
Church Clerk: Leta Gass, 4071 S 122nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8290	417-326-8497 D
ACP Contact Person: Vicki McMillen, 22330 Lake Dr, Pittsburg, MO, 65724-7693, vicki@themcmillenfamily.com	(417) 838-9920 C
Chairman of Deacons: James Garrison, 5312 S Elm St, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9115	(417) 756-2892 C
Church Deacon: James Garrison, 5312 S Elm St, Morrisville, MO, 65710-9115	(417) 758-2892 C
Church Library Team Leader: Stella Cunningham,	
Representatives on Assn Board: Audra Flett,	
Messenger to Association: Audra Flett,	

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

999 E 340th Rd, Flemington, 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

Rondo Baptist Church

999 E 340th Rd, Flemington, MO, 65650

Fax: N/A

Email: Rondobaptist@gmail.com

Pastor's Spouse: Kristin Robidou, 4349 S 82nd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8193

(817) 454-9982 D

Church Treasurer: Milton Dickensheet, 4268 S 137th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8507, dickensheet@windstream.net

(417) 838-6899 C

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

Minister of Music: John Wilkenson, 3862 S 117th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8289

(417) 777-4966 D

Sunday School Director: Ed Henry, 1147 E 318th Rd, Flemington, MO, 65650-9544

(417) 253-2244 D

Church VBS Director: Debbie Dickensheet, 4268 S 137th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8507

(417) 327-6589 D

WMU Church Director: Nancy Bewley, 910 Highway V, Flemington, MO, 65650-9511

(417) 298-8804 D

Representatives on Assn Board: C Kay Pitts, 3134 S 95th Rd, Flemington, MO, 65650-9512

(417) 327-2245 D

Representatives on Assn Board: Bob 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

Messenger to Association: Jan Vanish, 3595 Hwy O, Humansville, MO, 65674

417-754-1152 D

Messenger to Association: Ray Vanish, 3595 Hwy O, Humansville, MO, 65674

417-754-1152 D

Shepherd's Way Church

(417) 830-9760

705 N Main St, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725

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

Pastor's Spouse: Laura Miller, 5454 S 182nd Rd, Pleasant Hope, MO, 65725-9226, burgess232@gmail.com

(417) 496-5558 C

Associate Pastor: Evan Allen, 2439 E 569th Rd, Fair Grove, MO, 65648-9123, eallen2669@gmail.com

(417) 536-7057 C

Associate Pastor: Evan Allen, 2439 E 569th Rd, Fair Grove, MO, 65648-9123, eallen2669@gmail.com

(417) 536-7057 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, , pbyrd@gmail.com

(417) 599-1815 C

Southern Hills Baptist Church

417-326-7474

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

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

Church Administrator: Elizabeth Shelden, 1220 S Springfield Ave., Bolivar, MO, 65613, elizabeth@southernhillsbolivar.org

(573) 337-9737 C

Church Secretary: Martha Hale, 1361 S Meadow Ln, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3308

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

Minister of Music: Elizabeth Shelden, , elizabethshelden@gmail.com

(573) 337-9737 C

Minister of Children: Rachel Flynn, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514, rachel.miles.flynn@gmail.com

Minister of Youth: Kyle Leo, 1220 S Springfield Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514, kleeusmc@yahoo.com

(417) 770-7551 D

Sunday School Director: Adam Shelden, 4413 S 70th Rd., Bolivar, MO, 65613, adamshelden91@gmail.com

(573) 855-6500 C

Church Deacon: Adam Shelden, 4413 S 70th Rd., Bolivar, MO, 65613, adamshelden91@gmail.com

(573) 855-6500 C

Church Deacon: John Albert, 5108 S 163rd Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8555

(417) 844-6229 C

Church Deacon: Bruce Martin, 4760 S 129th Rd, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8526

(573) 337-1404 D

Church Elders: Kyle Lee, 1220 S Springfield Ave. Bolivar, MO, 65613-2514 leeusmc@yahoo.com

(417) 770-7551 D

Church Elders: Matt Rice, 2291 W Heritage St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3126

(757) 646-8007 C

Representatives on Assn Board: Lindell Sheldon, 850 E Summit St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-1298, pastor.lindell@gmail.com

(573) 774-8605 C

Wellspring Baptist Fellowship, Bolivar

2110 S Spring St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3515

Fax: N/A

Email: worship@wellspringbaptist.org

Church Secretary: Kayla Steward,

Church Treasurer: Rebekah Wright, 1919 S Colony Ave, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3110

Church Clerk: Kayla Steward,

ACP Contact Person: Kayla Steward,

Minister of Music: Andy Yohn, 3853 Holly Ridge Ln, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8397

417-326-5042 D

Minister of Children: Monica Bethards, PO Box 474, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0474, monica.c.bethards@duckcreek.com

Church VBS Director: Kayla Steward,

Wellspring Baptist Fellowship, Bolivar

2110 S Spring St, Bolivar, MO, 65613-3515

Fax: N/A

Email: worship@wellspringbaptist.org

Church Elders: Andy Yohn, 3853 Holly Ridge Ln, Bolivar, MO, 65613-8397

417-326-5042 D

Church Elders: Chuck Lentz, PO Box 474, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0474

Church Elders: Dwain Banner, PO Box 474, Bolivar, MO, 65613-0474

Church Library Team Leader: Tracy Yohn,

Missouri Baptist Convention: Reports to the Associations

July 2026

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I. Executive Board Staff Reports

Church Planting / Send Missouri

Jason Zellmer, Director

Send Missouri has a vision to see a healthy, multiplying church in every community in Missouri. Because we believe churches plant churches, we come alongside church leaders to help them achieve their goals in multiplication.

Over the last year, we hosted four Learning Community events with 20 different churches represented. These events help churches develop systems and structures needed to move towards multiplication. Additionally, we hosted our first “Planter Bootcamp,” which prepares new planters for the rigors of starting a new church. To provide ongoing care for planters, we also hosted a family retreat aimed at deepening connections while creating space for rest and refreshment.

To assure the highest quality of health in new church plants, we hosted two planter-assessment events in Kansas City. These included a team of volunteers from Missouri Baptist churches that helped provide assessment in family health, missional outreach, leadership aptitude, preaching, and preparedness. Pastors of sending churches also attended these assessment retreats.

Over the next decade, our prayer is to see one percent of the lost reached in our state. That’s 42,168 people coming to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. To experience this type of kingdom impact, we believe 34 new churches must be planted each year. We are on pace to see 30+ new churches planted or affiliated again in 2026.

Is your church interested in supporting or sending out a church plant? Do you want to learn how to develop future pastors and leaders within your church? Contact one of our team members and let us know how we can partner with you today.

Church Renewal

Buddy Funk, Team Leader

The vision of Church Renewal is to help churches, help churches help churches, and help associations help churches. The work advances through four initiatives: the Resound Network, MB Leader Care, MB Women, and the DOM Liaison. The Church Renewal team added three regional strategists in the last year — Bob Ingle in the East Region, Wes Mayfield in the Central Region, and Alan Brock in the West Region. In addition, Lindsay Cullum joined our staff to lead MB Women in Missouri.

Resound Network walks alongside churches, individually and through associational workshops. One highlight of the past year was the Resound Summit — *Steadfast Renewal*, which drew more than 200 attendees.

MB Leader Care continues to provide ministry coaching and counseling for pastors and their wives. In addition, Leader Care assisted associations in providing pastor-and-wife retreats.

MB Women hosted several webinars on topics relevant to women in Missouri Baptist life and held a pastors' wives retreat, encouraging women in their calling as ministers' spouses.

DOM Liaison keeps the MBC connected with associational leaders, assisting with both spring and fall conferences.

The Church Renewal Group assists churches and leaders throughout Missouri to see a movement of churches that are renewed and always renewing for the glory of God.

Executive Office

Dr. Wes Fowler, Executive Director-Treasurer

Disaster Relief

Gaylon Moss, Director

Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief (MODR) helps churches transform lives and communities with the gospel by bringing help, hope, and healing. We help churches by providing opportunities to serve after disasters take place. And we help churches serve their communities by providing people and equipment to assist with cleanup and hot meals like in the recent Belmont and Slater tornados.

An MBC church requested the MODR Chaplain Team to provide spiritual and emotional care at its community vigil. More than 350 volunteers worked in North Carolina, repairing homes affected by Hurricane Helene and building a new home for a Burnsville family.

Repair efforts continued in Independence, Mo., by helping a widow recover from a local flood. Flooding in Wisconsin generated a request for MODR flood recovery teams to assist in the Milwaukee area.

Two MODR teams went to Jamaica to install temporary roofing for Baptist churches affected by Hurricane Melissa. Missouri Baptists collected and sent funds to help those affected by the deadly July 4, 2025, Guadalupe River flood. Chainsaw and shower/laundry units went to two locations in Louisiana to help them recover from a region-wide ice storm. Home repair began in north St. Louis as MODR teams assisted homeowners affected by a 2025 tornado.

Here are a few statistics from July 2025 – June 2026:

Volunteer days: 1,032

Volunteer hours: 6,993

Clean-up jobs: 243

Meals: 1,316

Showers: 225

Laundry: 312

The Pathway

Benjamin Hawkins, Editor

As the official newspaper of the Missouri Baptist Convention, *The Pathway* remains committed to providing Christian worldview journalism that shares stories of truth and redemption.

The Pathway has received national recognition from peers in Christian journalism, and this year *The Pathway's* print edition earned the Evangelical Press Association's Award of Excellence. The print edition remains strong, with just under 30,000 print subscribers across the state and around the globe.

The online edition of *The Pathway* (mbcpathway.com) also remains strong and is expanding, having earned the Evangelical Press Association's Award of Merit. This year, the website received an updated design, improve its usefulness for Missouri Baptists. It continues to share both written content and featured videos, as well as an e-edition format of the print edition, available at mbcpathway.com/e-edition/. *The Pathway* is also available through social media sites like Facebook and X, and efforts are being made to increase the social media reach of *The Pathway*.

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

Business Services and 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, 2025, are as follows:

Cooperative Program	\$15,471,399
Rheubin L. South Missouri Missions Offering	\$ 952,530
Lottie Moon Offering	\$ 4,017,084
Annie Armstrong Offering	\$ 2,282,910

The MBC is honored to bless the associations with a 10% gift from the Missouri Missions Offering made up of the funds given by their churches. From the 2025 offering, \$83,650 was distributed to 56 associations for ministry by the Business Services Group.

As directed in MBC's Bylaws, the financial statements have been audited by a certified public accountant for the year ending December 31, 2025.

Paula Earls, Chief Operations Officer

Chief Operations Officer Paula Earls oversees MBC retirement plans, property and casualty insurance, personnel policies, and employee benefits. She serves as the main point person for the activities and leases at the Baptist Building. She is the primary contact for activities and leases at the Baptist Building.

Earls also assists Missouri Baptist churches with finance and personnel matters and supports pastor search committees with retirement-plan set up, church compensation, and other financial issues.

Over the past year, she completed insurance applications, helped with claims, and answered insurance-coverage questions. Her work also includes planning the MBC Annual Meeting and other statewide meetings throughout the year, as well as assisting with 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.

Media & Communications

Rob Phillips, Associate Executive Director

Media & Communications consists of two creative groups: Communications; and Media, Technology & Events (MTE). Together, they provide the MBC staff with communications 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.

Under Chris Brizendine, MT&E advances the speed and reliability of information networks, enhances the convention's database, increases participation in the Annual Church Profile, and lowers the cost of IT services.

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

Associate Executive Director Rob Phillips assists the Executive Office with communications and administrative support; directs the promotion of the Cooperative Program and Missouri Missions Offering; and leads the convention's statewide apologetics ministry.

Missions Mobilization

Martin Winslow, Team Leader

The Missions Mobilization Group works with Missouri Baptist churches to provide missional opportunities across the state and around the world.

Group leaders helped Missouri Baptists connect to MBC partnerships in Montana and Minnesota/Wisconsin over the last year. In Montana alone, 209 Missouri Baptists from 26 MBC churches mobilized to share the gospel in some of the hardest-to-reach places in North America.

The team also helped churches in the Blue River-Kansas City and Clay-Platte Baptist associations minister to fans from around the world who traveled to World Cup games in Kansas City. Hundreds of volunteers from across the state shared the gospel with the nations in June and July, engaging in thousands of gospel conversations and distributing more than 10,000 unique “yellow flag” ministry tracts.

In addition, seven international mission teams representing 48 Missouri Baptist churches traveled on mission to Africa. As a result, more than 300 pastors were trained, and nearly 1,000 children were taught the scriptures through Vacation Bible School.

Is your church looking to mobilize people in meaningful mission work to Montana, or Minnesota/Wisconsin? How about teaching children in Africa through VBS or training international pastors? We would love to speak to you and your church about partnering to take the gospel to the end of the earth.

Missouri Woman's Missionary Union

Sarah Schmitt, Missouri WMU Executive Director

Since last October, Missouri WMU has been blessed with many opportunities to encourage missions involvement across the state and beyond. In November, the board of directors gathered for their annual meeting, where they collected much-needed supplies for children to be delivered to Africa through MBC's Missions Mobilization.

Last fall/winter, WMU strengthened its ministry partnership with Montana by leading a weekend missions camp for preschoolers, children, and teenagers, helping the next generation grow in its understanding of God's heart for the nations. Executive Director Sarah Schmitt attended the January board meeting in Alabama and then served on a mission trip to West Africa, encouraging believers, building relationships, and supporting ministry efforts in local communities.

Mission Celebration was another highlight of the year as WMU welcomed two International Mission Board missionaries, a North American Mission Board church planter, two leaders from National WMU, and keynote speaker Lauren Sullens from Georgia. Their testimonies and teaching challenged and encouraged attendees to faithfully live on mission wherever God has placed them.

In June, WMU members attended the national Missions Celebration in Orlando, just before the SBC Annual Meeting. Finally, Schmitt and other leaders launched a partnership with the MBC Missions Mobilization Group to assist with practical needs for

future mission trips.

Travis Webb, RA's and Challengers Consultant

RA Congress was held April 17–18 at the Missouri State Fairgrounds, where 48 adult and teen leaders brought 100 boys to participate. Father-and-son magician duo John and Gage Barnett of St. Louis presented a magic show and shared the gospel. RA Racers champions who will represent Missouri at the national race are Jude Potter (Lad Division) and Richard Turner (Crusader Division), both from First Baptist Church, Paris.

Overall trophy winners:

1st place: Oliver Humphrey, First Baptist Church, Willard

2nd place: Mason Ogden, Round Grove Baptist Church, Miller

3rd place (four-way tie): Lincoln Gardner (Round Grove Baptist Church), Karsyn Mitchell (First Baptist Church, Paris), Michael Parks (First Baptist Church, Higginsville), and Gabe Haney (Berean Baptist Church, Waynesville).

Berean Baptist Church, Waynesville, earned the overall team championship and took home the traveling trophy. More than \$390 was raised for Deaf Youth Camp. Remaining snacks from the RA Store were also donated to the camp.

Nick Davis from Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries served as the featured missionary, teaching boys how they can minister to older adults through nursing home and residential care ministries.

Consultant Travis Webb also met with leaders from Heartland Baptist Association and Concord Baptist Association to discuss ways to strengthen and promote the RA ministry in their associations.

The next RA Congress is scheduled for April 16–17, 2027.

Abigail Moore, Children's Consultant

Girls Encountering Missions (GEM) was held Oct. 17–18, 2025, at Laclede Baptist Camp. Seventy-four girls, 33 leaders, and nine staff members participated.

Girls collected winter items for Oasis International in St. Louis to serve refugee families, including 14 scarves, 31 stocking caps, four hat-and-glove sets, and 60 pairs of gloves and mittens.

This year's rotations focused on hands-on mission projects, giving girls the opportunity to actively serve others. Participants assembled 85 "Soup in a Jar" kits for Oasis International to distribute to refugee families. Each jar included a recipe and a presentation of the gospel.

Girls also prepared 85 Halloween treat packets containing glow sticks, candy, and the gospel for missionaries Michael and Mell Wilbanks to distribute during their outreach in St. Louis. In addition, participants assembled 80 Dress a Girl dress kits and 80 sewing kits to support the ministry of Dress a Girl Around the World.

GEM continues to provide girls with meaningful opportunities to learn about missions while actively serving others through practical ministry projects.

Kimbre Thrower, myMISSION Consultant

In January, consultant Kimbre Thrower attended the National WMU Board Meeting in Birmingham, Ala., where she received training on the myMISSION curriculum, explored creative ways to use the curriculum with students, and learned effective strategies for discipling and engaging this age group in missions.

In February, she represented Missouri WMU at the MBCollegiate Conference by hosting an informational table highlighting WMU ministries for college students, resources for starting campus groups, and opportunities for missions involvement. She also led a breakout session entitled *What's myMISSION?*, where approximately 30 students explored both the myMISSION curriculum and practical ways to discover how God is calling them to live on mission.

In April, Thrower assisted in planning and leading the Missouri WMU Missions Celebration. Working alongside Amy Doolittle, she helped organize a student event centered on the persecuted church with a focus on Nigeria. Representatives from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's Fusion program also shared opportunities for missions involvement with students. This event provided valuable insight as myMISSION continues developing student ministry opportunities.

Thrower attended the National WMU Missions Celebration, the SBC Pastors' Conference, and the SBC Annual Meeting in Orlando, Fla., gathering ideas, resources, and encouragement to strengthen Missouri WMU's ministry to students. She also connected with students during the MBC's Super Summer event on the campus of Southwest Baptist University.

Prayer & Evangelism

Rob Pohek, Team Leader

The Prayer & Evangelism Group exists to help churches transform lives and communities with the gospel by equipping and encouraging them to pray and share Christ regularly and intentionally. To that end, the P&E Group has conducted dozens of evangelism training workshops and evangelism assessments in MBC churches over the last year. In addition, the group held the first MBC Evangelism Conference in several years, impacting more than 300 people from 163 churches. The P&E Group also conducted numerous age-graded disciple-making events. Below is a sampling.

Camps & Conferences

Super Summer 2026 welcomed more than 1,400 students and leaders for two weeks of camp, focused on the theme "Revival," helping students explore the idea of revival and renewal, both personally and corporately. The Daniel Doss Band led worship both weeks, while Scooter Kellum brought messages during week one and Ryan Young brought messages during week two.

The Student Evangelism Conference ran from October 2025 through January 2026 at four locations and brought over 300 hundred students together across the state. Students participated in gospel training and local outreach.

Supporting Student Leaders

Twenty MBC student ministry leaders attended Conclave 2026 in Chattanooga, Tenn., for training alongside 10 state conventions, where they heard keynotes from leaders like Paul Chitwood, Shane Pruitt, and others, along with 54 breakout opportunities to equip them to reach the next generation.

Vacation Bible School

The P&E Group completed nine Vacation Bible School (VBS) training events around the state, with a total attendance of 267. This included 27 associations and 54 churches. The VBS team also coordinated the preparation of full-size decorations for Lifeway VBS. These were displayed at training events and shared with churches for their VBS. This year, 10 churches and one association used the decorations.

Collegiate Ministries

Jerome Stockert, Director

MBCollegiate is dedicated to strengthening campus ministries, launching new ones, and partnering with local churches to reach college students and young adults with the gospel. Each semester, all 30 campus ministries prioritize gospel saturation, life transformation, church participation, and ministry multiplication.

Last fall, we placed increased focus on gospel saturation, intentionally sharing the Good News across every corner of our campuses. From the 2024–25 to the 2025–26 academic year, gospel conversations increased by 65 percent.

This past year, we also celebrated:

- 500+ students intentionally mentored by peers
- 50+ students sensing a call to vocational ministry and being equipped to pursue it
- 150+ student-led small group Bible studies
- \$50,000 raised by students for local, national, and international mission trips – from St. Louis to Brazil and Italy – partnering with churches, NAMB, and IMB

We also launched a new academic partnership with Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Beginning this fall, MBCollegiate offers a tuition-free Kingdom Certificate through the Contextualized Leadership Development program. Over two years, participants complete five courses taught by director Jerome Stockert, building a strong theological foundation that can apply toward a master's degree.

Together, MBCollegiate and partner churches are raising leaders and mobilizing a generation to make Christ known.

II. Strategic Partners Reports

Missouri Baptist Children's Home

Andy Helton, Executive Vice President

2026 marks the 140th anniversary of the Missouri Baptist Children's Home (MBCH). We have come a long way since five Baptist ladies started this ministry. I pray that they would be proud and encouraged if they could see how we have grown the ministry. Our purpose is still the same – serving God and responding to the needs of children, youth, and families to make a lasting difference in their lives.

In 2025, we served and ministered to 2,793 children, youth, and families, which resulted in 28 professions of faith and baptisms. MBCH helped place 210 children with their forever families, while maintaining 509 foster care-related homes. We praise God for the opportunity that we have been given to serve in this manner. Our staff has answered the call to serve and to be his hands and feet in this ministry.

We have started to shift our thinking by being more “upstream” in our approach to serving families. MBCH has started two new preventative services: Stronger Family Services and Home Visitation. These two services provide evidence-based support that will stabilize families in their own homes, preventing the need for out-of-home placements. We served 157 families between these programs last year.

We are so thankful for the prayers and support of Missouri Baptists.

Baptist Homes & Healthcare Ministries

Dr. Ron Mackey, Acting President

In this season of transition, we are blessed to have a strong set of principles to guide us forward. As a part of Rodney Harrison's retirement planning, he developed a series of principles to guide us to the future – to what would come NEXT.

Neighbors Matter - Baptist Homes is incomplete without neighbors. We are blessed today to serve more neighbors in more places than ever before. We are called to care for our neighbors physically, emotionally, medically, and spiritually.

Economic Stability - In an ever-changing senior healthcare market, economic stability is vital. We have made, and will continue to make, hard choices to become economically stable as a mechanism of securing our future viability.

EXceptional Care - Providing great care for our neighbors is vital. It is our commitment to set the standard for Christlike care for the aging. We strive toward this goal daily.

Team - We are working diligently to provide a work environment that is rewarding in every way so that our staff members truly become a team as they serve the aging neighbors on their campuses.

We believe these four principles will guide us to become the standard of Christlike care for the aging.

Christian Life Commission

Jayson Hoagland, Chairman

As the public-policy and moral-concerns arm of the MBC, the Christian Life Commission (CLC) applies biblical principles to cultural, ethical, and governmental issues throughout Missouri and beyond. It is our great joy and pleasure to help Missouri Baptists be “salt and light” based on Matthew 5 and to educate churches regarding family life, human rights, moral and ethical issues, citizenship, and religious liberties.

Each year at our annual pastor’s dinner, our keynote speakers address these issues that affect Missouri Baptists and their pastors, challenging them to engage the public square with boldness and biblical clarity. This year’s keynote speaker is Doug Richey, a former member of the Missouri State House of Representatives.

Each commissioner on the CLC serves faithfully to uphold a culture of life across our great state. This November, there is a constitutional amendment on the ballot (Amendment 3) to repeal the abortion amendment to the state’s constitution. Your critical YES vote this fall could forge a better path for everyone.

Currently, our commission is also addressing sports betting, which is robbing people of their relationships, integrity, and trust in God. So, get informed and act today. The CLC exists to help form a more prosperous Missouri!

Missouri Baptist Foundation

Dr. Neil Franks, President and CEO

During its 79th year of operation, the Missouri Baptist Foundation (MBF) continued helping Missouri Baptists use financial resources for lasting kingdom impact across families, churches, and associations.

One major highlight was the development and launch of MBF’s church loan program, focusing on kingdom-focused financing for Missouri Baptist churches and organizations. Early conversations and loans focused on helping churches address needs for building, renovation, and ministry expansion while carefully considering borrowing capacity, sustainability, and long-term ministry impact.

Launched alongside the church loan program, the Capital Stewardship Campaign program has already begun in several congregations, helping churches successfully raise funds and overall congregational giving.

MBF also awarded \$123,000 in grants to support Missouri Baptist Convention churches. These grants helped churches expand food ministries, host outreach events, improve facilities, and create welcoming spaces for children, families, and neighbors in their communities.

In addition, MBF continued managing more than 1,100 accounts with assets exceeding \$260 million. Through estate gifts, stewardship services, and the Kingdom, Harvest, and

Storehouse funds, MBF helped individuals and churches turn generosity into ministry support. Together, these efforts strengthened churches, encouraged associations, served families, and helped Missouri Baptists advance the gospel through practical financial guidance, resulting in lasting impact.

Historical Commission

Cody Harlow, Chairman

The Missouri Baptist Historical Commission continued its work of preserving and promoting Missouri Baptist history during the past year. The commission made significant progress in discussions regarding access to historical Missouri Baptist records housed at the William E. Partee Center for Baptist Historical Studies at William Jewell College. Following leadership changes at the college, new opportunities are emerging for preserving and obtaining digital access to valuable historical resources.

The commission also administered its annual scholarship program, recognizing students from Missouri Baptist institutions who researched and wrote on topics related to Missouri Baptist history. Scholarship recipients represented Hannibal-LaGrange University, Missouri Baptist University, Southwest Baptist University, and Spurgeon College.

In addition, the commission began developing a Church History Resource Kit designed to help churches preserve their historical records and collect oral histories that document God's faithfulness through generations of Missouri Baptists. Plans are underway to assist churches with digital preservation efforts and historical archiving.

The commission also continued discussions regarding the re-establishment of the Missouri Baptist Heritage Church Award and explored future projects that will strengthen historical awareness among Missouri Baptists for years to come.

III. Higher Education Institution Reports

Hannibal-LaGrange University

Dr. Robert J. Matz, President

At Hannibal-LaGrange University, students are Shaped and Sent: Shaped by the Word and Sent to the World. In an era when many Christian colleges and even Baptist seminaries are moving away from their commitment to Scripture, we are leaning in. In recent years, we have increased the number of Bible courses all students take. In addition, we are the only Baptist school in Missouri with multiple chapels each week.

At HLGU, students are shaped with a strong, relevant education, incredible student life events, and competitive athletics. Our LPN nursing program is ranked top in the state. This fall, we are hosting Nick Freitas for Constitution Day and the Gettys for Booster Night. We are excited to welcome high school and college students from across the state to our Worldview Weekend conference next spring. Our athletic programs compete at a high level while consistently being recognized for excellence through the NAIA Champions of Character program. This fall, we're bringing bring back wrestling to Secker Fieldhouse.

At HLGU, we don't just shape students; we also send them out. Recent graduates now serve as doctors, optometrists, computer scientists, nurses, teachers, physical therapists, musicians, missionaries, pastors, and business leaders across our state, nation, and world. HLGU graduates can be found on the mission field on six continents. Missouri Baptists, you can be proud of what God is doing at HLGU through your Cooperative Program giving and through the students you send to be shaped and sent.

Missouri Baptist University

Dr. Keith Ross, President

Greetings from Missouri Baptist University. We thank God for another year of faithfulness as we continue preparing students to serve Christ with wisdom and compassion. Through Christ-centered education, discipleship and service, MBU remains committed to equipping men and women for lasting Kingdom impact in their churches, communities, and careers.

In recent months, MBU students and faculty served alongside ministry partners in Egypt, Liberia, Malawi, and Bulgaria, sharing the love of Christ while strengthening their faith and deepening their understanding of God's work around the world.

Construction continues on the Pillsbury Wainwright Academic & Welcome Center, scheduled to open in late fall 2026. Home to the Mary Pillsbury School of Nursing and the Robert W. Plaster College of Business & Entrepreneurship, the facility will also serve as the university's front door for prospective students and families. It reflects our commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and Christian hospitality.

Thank you for your faithful prayers, generous support, and enduring partnership. Together, we are investing in the next generation of Christian leaders who will serve the church and advance the gospel wherever God calls them. To God alone be the glory.

Southwest Baptist University

Dr. Rick Melson, President

SBU continued "forward in faith" during 2025-2026 with steady enrollment growth, expanded academic and athletic offerings, strengthened spiritual formation, and strategic investments across our five campuses.

SBU enrolled more than 1,000 new students in the fall 2025 semester. This included 309 new undergraduate students on the Bolivar campus, 164 new graduate-level students, and nearly 600 students at our regional campuses (Springfield, Mountain View, Salem, Worldwide) and in dual enrollment.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Bolivar campus enrolled more freshmen than the previous year. Master's programs in STEM welcomed more than 200 new students. Total enrollment during 2025-2026 surpassed 2,700 students.

The university invested in renovations on the Springfield campus, creating updated lab and classroom spaces for the relocated Doctor of Physical Therapy program. SBU also

received approval to expand its radiology program to prepare more students for in-demand healthcare careers while meeting regional workforce needs.

Spiritual formation was enriched through expanded discipleship groups, dynamic chapel speakers, Center for Global Connections mission trips, and new initiatives out of the Center for Worldview and Culture including a study abroad trip to England.

New programs include a Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership, Bachelor of Science in AI+X, PhD programs in Technology, an undergraduate research minor, and the relaunch of men's golf.

CONSTITUTION

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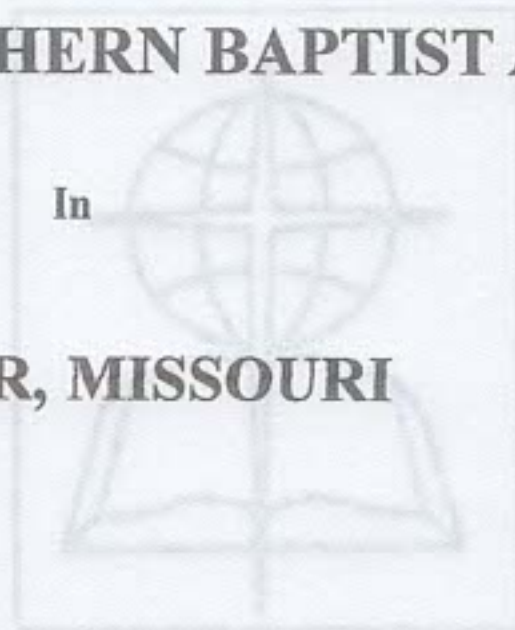
BY-LAWS

OF THE

MID-LAKES SOUTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

In

BOLIVAR, MISSOURI

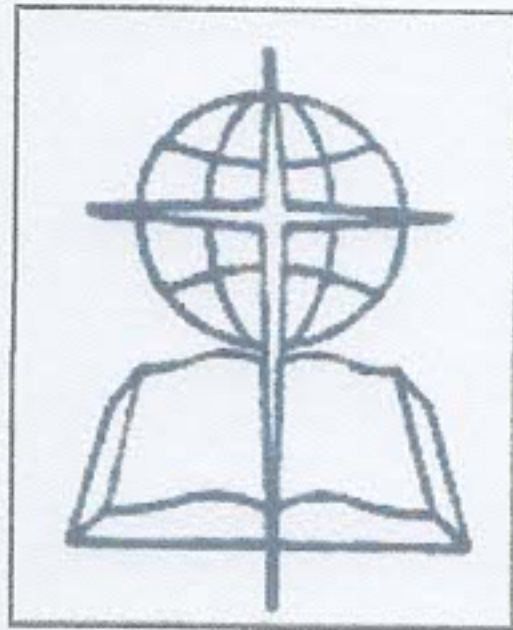


AS ADOPTED OCTOBER 7, 2014

LATEST Previous Revision OCTOBER 4, 2016

Latest Revision October 12, 2026

"Churches working together...
Serving Jesus...
Throughout the World."



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

**AS ADOPTED OCTOBER 7, 2014
LATEST REVISION ~~OCTOBER 4, 2016~~ **October 12, 2026****

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~~, **Associational Missions Strategist** 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 quorums 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~~ **at** the Annual Meeting and **for** action **to be** taken. ~~on the second day.~~

BY-LAWS**ARTICLE I -- MEETINGS**

Section 1. The Association shall meet annually within the month of October at such time **s** and place **s 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 office 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~~ **Associational Missions Strategist**, 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 called 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.

Section 5. Electronic communication is acceptable to conduct Executive Board business and for the purpose of making recommendations and votes if deemed necessary by the moderator who has the authority to call such meetings. A quorum of 40% of the churches must respond for all electronic votes. The clerk will keep a record of all correspondence which will serve as the minutes for the meeting.

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~~ **Associational Missions Strategist**, 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~~ **Associational Missions Strategist**, 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 **other standing** 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. **No person shall serve on two committees at one time.**

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 **or emailed** 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~~ **Associational Missions Strategist**. In the event the position of ~~Director of Missions~~ **Associational Missions Strategist** 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 for staff personnel.
4. Recruit, interview and recommend to the Association or Executive Board, **a nominee for the Associational Missions Strategist position** ~~the Director of Missions~~.
5. Consider the recommendation of the ~~Director of Missions~~ **Associational Missions Strategist** 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~~ **The Associational Missions Strategist** 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 amendment(s), further, shall be presented ~~on the first day of~~ **at** the Annual Meeting and **for** action taken ~~on the second day by the messengers.~~

Test complete



Mid-Lakes Baptist Association

~~L. Joe Coppedge, Director~~

John Rhodes, Associational Missions Strategist

Bolivar, MO

Printed: October 7, 2014

Latest Revision: October 12, 2026

Revised October 12, 2026