

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth the Word of Life” – *Philippians 2:16*

Volume LXXXV

St. Louis, MO • May 9, 2023

Issue No. 5

Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri Missions Symposium and Semi-Annual Meeting

Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church
12397 Highway 61, Kewanee, Missouri

May 19 - 7:00 p.m. • May 20 - 9:00 a.m.

From the Host Pastor

Greetings from Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church, Kewanee, Missouri. We are very excited to be hosting the Missions Symposium and Semi-Annual State Associational Meeting on May 19th at 7:00 p.m. and on May 20th at 9:00 a.m. We are looking forward to taking care of the Lord's business with our associated churches and enjoying our fellowship with you as we prepare to ordain our state missionary Brother Juan Fernandez. We also will serve a meal at noon on Saturday for all those attending. What a great opportunity this will be to prepare new adventures for our state work.

In His service, Pastor Dan Wisely

Missionaries Were Front and Center

By Allan Eakin (via Baptist Trumpet)

From the opening prayer by Joshua Phiri (Zambia) to the commissioning of new missionary families, missionaries were featured in every venue at the 2023 BMA of America Annual Meeting. BMA Global went to great lengths to have nearly all of our American missionaries from around the globe present at the meeting. Their presence had a profound impact on the tone and attendance at the annual gathering of messengers.

Missionary Joshua Phiri welcomed messengers and guests in the opening session of the meeting on Tuesday evening, April 25. In addition, he led the opening prayer in his native language (Chichewa). The Phiri family serves in Zambia, Africa.

Following the Tuesday evening session, messengers and guests were invited to enjoy a time of fellowship with missionaries from around the world. As the missionary

• See *MISSIONARIES* page 7 •

National Meeting Emphasizes Our Mission

By Jeff Herring (via Baptist Trumpet)



(Photo courtesy of Lifeword)

The chosen theme for the 2023 national meeting of the BMA was “GO: To the Word. To the World. Together.” I believe this chosen theme was implemented well throughout the meeting with the schedule and the faithfulness of those that shared God’s Word.

A number of things were different about this year’s meeting. One was a start on a Tuesday night rather than a Monday night. This year’s Tuesday evening session, which included the traditional message from the president, was an amazing time of worship led by Antioch’s Worship Arts Pastor Travis Sellers and their choir and a reminder that our basis for operating together is the doctrine we find in the Word of God.

Another difference, and highlight of the meeting was, according to many I talked with, the presence of most of our American missionaries that serve both abroad and in the United States. A time of fellowship with the missionaries followed Tuesday night’s service. It was so great for many to put a face with the name they have been supporting and praying for as they carry out their work on the field.

The BMA Global Missions Center opened for tours Tuesday morning and continued throughout the meeting. Many took advantage of their time in Conway to visit and see the new warehouse that was recently completed, along with the new television production suite.

Central Baptist College invited pastors and friends to the campus for breakfast on Wednesday morning. CBC President Terry Kimbrow shared that it was great to see many visit the campus who had never been there before.

The Women’s Missionary Auxiliary (WMA) hosted their National Women’s Conference in the Burgess Auditorium at CBC. They enjoyed having the CBC Singers during their meeting. They also had a special recognition for all of the missionary wives that were able to attend. National Miss GMA Audrey Johnson (daughter of Eric Johnson) shared a devotional with the group. There was a challenge between Arkansas and Texas this year regarding the National Project for Daniel Springs. It was reported that Arkansas beat Texas, but the real winner was Daniel Springs with over \$45,000 raised for the camp. The keynote speaker for the meeting was Trumpet Editor Emeritus Diane Spriggs. There were also breakout sessions for the ladies to attend. Brenda Hornaday was elected as the new president for 2023-2024, and the project

• See *NATIONAL MEETING* page 8 •

State Missions

Dear BMAMO Churches,

Believe it or not, we are through the first four months of 2023. Spring has sprung. It will be summer before you know it! Here comes VBS, church camps, vacations..., well, you get the picture.

As your missions director, I am available this summer on Wednesday nights to come and promote missions at your church. So please contact me so we can get that scheduled!

I am excited about the Missions Symposium later this month. (Most likely it will have taken place before this edition of the paper is published.) I am looking forward to the ordination of Bro. Juan Fernandez and our mid-year meeting.

I want to close this article with an analogy about church planting and some possible takeaways. I have been very frank and upfront on our need to be Great Commission people on every level. God expects us to reproduce on an individual level and church level. It is His plan to reach the world with the Gospel.

So, let's ask the question: "What are the concerns when a newly married couple discuss having a baby?" Our answer would include: the health of the mother, the direction of the family, and the cost of the new addition.

Firstly, we want, need, and must strive for healthy churches. But if that is being used as an excuse for not birthing a new church, why is there no effort given to becoming healthy?

Secondly, the direction of any New Testament church should be the direction given to her by her Lord and Savior, who we know intends for churches to produce churches.

And lastly, (my personal favorite) what God orders He pays for! Cost should never be the reason why we do not try to reproduce ourselves, because God does not have financial problems.

None of this is meant to be controversial, but to create conversation about a most important need in our state. Disciples making disciples and churches planting churches.

May the Lord richly bless you in my prayer.

Ben Kingston



MISIÓN BELÉN (Bethlehem Mission)

Juan Fernandez

pastorjuanfernandez@gmail.com • 618-581-8056

Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in him!"

We are so thankful for you, your family and your church families that continue praying for this missionary work in this area. The challenges are many and the task is difficult, but God continues being faithful.

Praise the LORD with us!

- For commitment in our three families to continue gathering on Sunday now at 12:30 pm for the fourth month in a row.
- For God's opening doors to new contacts to share the Gospel in the Cherokee and Gravois community.
- For God's provision and protection for our daily outreach in each one of the surrounding cities in St. Louis.
- For the trip to the national association, refreshing and full of good memories and prayer time to celebrate and continue increasing our prayer network.

Daily prayer network and Discovery Bible Group

(#prayernetworkmo #redeoracionmissouri #santabibliaparati)

We continue our prayer walk. Every day we invite people to a Bible study. This time we are adjusting our vision in where to gather with our new contacts. We are asking local libraries for a space and time to let us use during the weekdays. We hand out flyers in the surrounding streets. We are praying for many divine appointments.

Children's Church on Sunday and Vacation Bible School this summer – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are planning to have our VBS this summer in the evenings during the second week of July. We are praying for the Lord to lead us as we focus our efforts on the ages of the kids in our families – ranging from 1 year old to 12 years old. Two locations have been selected – Overland and Chesterfield. We will have a better picture as we pray for wisdom and request the place in Chesterfield. We are thinking the community park in the trailer park where our brother Nahum and Ermilanda are currently living. Would you pray with us? Thank you.

If you and your church group would like to participate and be part of what God is doing among our Hispanic families before, during or after VBS we are praying that this could bring

FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS

April 2023

Checking Account:

Balance March 31, 2023 \$ 24,894.18

Income:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Missions | \$ 2,361.94 |
| JFernandez work funds | 500.00 |
| Total Income | \$ 2,861.94 |
| Total Available | \$ 27,756.12 |

Expenses:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Director, salary | \$ 450.00 |
| Secretary, salary | 200.00 |
| Juan Fernandez, support | 2,333.33 |
| JFernandez work funds | 500.00 |
| Special Missions Comm | 669.16 |
| Men's Retreat, food | 500.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ (4,652.49) |
| Balance April 30, 2023 | \$ 23,103.63 |

BMAMS Revolving Loan Investment:

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Balance March 31, 2023 | \$ 221,550.54 |
| Interest | 1,365.72 |
| Balance April 30, 2023 | \$ 222,916.26 |
| Total in All Accounts April 30, 2023 | \$ 246,019.89 |

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growth to our children's ministry. We need help every Sunday, like for next Sunday!!!! We need to offer quality time and develop a Sunday school class with our children.

International family potluck every First Sunday of the month

We have celebrated four family potlucks so far this year where we enjoy a time of friendship, fun, food and faith to share among our Hispanic families. We are preparing in May a special meal for the moms in our ESL class, our DBS Bible study and our daily visitation outreach. We serve late lunch after service around 1:45-2:00 p.m. Come and join us for a time of fellowship, bring your own grill and meal, and be ready to try something different. We promise we'll do our best to feed you and that you get to put a face to your prayers for our family and other families the Lord will continue adding to His church in the Spanish-speaking community.

Pray for the following special events this month:

- May 14th – 9:00 a.m. live-streaming message via Zoom; 12:30 p.m. family worship service
- May 19th – evening ordination for Brother Juan Fernandez.
- May 21st – 9:00 a.m. live-streaming message via Zoom; 12:30 p.m. family worship service
- Wednesday 7:00 p.m. live-streaming message/prayer meeting via Facebook personal page.

In His Service, Juan and Hannah Fernandez

WMA

National Meeting Highlights

Janet Widger

Wednesday, April 26th was a wonderful time for the ladies who attended the annual meeting of the WMA of BMAA. It started with prelude music from the CBC singers.

President Charlotte Johnson kept the tight agenda on schedule.

We were blessed with a wonderful devotion from Miss GMA Audrey Johnson.

The trio from Worden Baptist Church along with Judy Wallace led us in music prior to hearing from keynote speaker Diane Spriggs.

After a great luncheon for close to 225 ladies, there were 4 English-speaking breakout sessions and 2 Hispanic breakout sessions to choose to attend.

Officers elected included these from Missouri: Janet Widger, Treasurer; Sara Buckley, Asst. Treasurer; Kathy Longstaff, Project Promotion; Bryan Buckley, Advisory Council.

If you were not there, you missed a great day. Make plans to attend the 2024 meeting.

National Project

Theresa Reus

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2023 national WMA project. We were able to raise \$45,380 to help Daniel Springs buy a generator to keep the camp running in all weather. This year, we had 3 worthy nominations for our project. The Jeevan Prakash School in Gulbarga India has been chosen as our 2024 national project.

The school is in great need of renovations. The school's almost 1000 students and 40 staff members share just 2 toilets. They have no source for clean drinking water at this time. There are some walls in the school that need to be reinforced. The youngest children meet in the lower levels of the school with very little ventilation. There are plans to adjust the roof lines to draw the hot air out of the building with the help of fans added to classrooms. In addition to improvements to the building, the desks

and furniture are also in need of updating.

I hope we can all work together to raise money for this worthy cause. Last year was a great success for our national camp. This year we can share the love of Jesus and help children across the world with a better, safe school facility. The goal has been set high, \$75,000! Let's work hard and see what the Lord can do with our efforts! John 3:30



Bro. Jason Prewitt recognizing the WMA of Grandview in Springfield, MO for being the top donor to Daniel Springs Camp, 2023 project

From Our National President

Brenda Hornaday

"I am excited to serve the ladies of the BMAA for the coming year! I encourage each of you to strive to live out our new theme of *More Like Jesus, Less Like Me!*

I look forward to visiting as many local, district and state meetings as possible. If you would like for me to speak to your group or just visit, please contact me."



Camp Garwood

Greetings from Camp Garwood! Literally from camp this month. It's Monday May 1st. I came to camp after work to try and get some things done before the Brotherhood retreat. I've done this a couple times already this year. It's helpful getting some extra time here. Our weekend schedule is pretty crazy this summer. Spending one night a week at camp is the best way I could think of to compensate. Last weekend we were in Conway for Calhan's birthday. Next weekend is the Brotherhood retreat which limits work time. The following weekend is set aside for a trip with Caleb. The next weekend is Missions Symposium/Mid-Year Meeting. If you're keeping track, that has me either away from camp or limited time at camp every weekend in May except Memorial weekend. Crazy schedule. June is about the same and then it's July, camp month. So, I'm trying to spend one night a week at camp.

Tonight I added some lights to the fire area and worked on the dining hall lights. I also worked on the new TV in the dining hall. Its primary purpose will be flashing pictures for the food line during camp. It will also be used for movies during retreats. Thanks to the NMCC FCA for donating this screen to camp.

Working on a slideshow for that purpose brought back a lot of memories. My kids have grown up at camp. There are pictures of me feeding Caleb in his Jeep stroller while I was wiring the original dining hall. He's a senior this year. My goodness, time has gone by so fast. We have several camp seniors this year. Noah Taylor used to come to camp as a little snout. He was happy with a hammer breaking rocks in the creek. Caitie Cox has pretty much grown up at camp. Dylan Walls, Carly Kimball, Levie Sutton, Lynleigh Carroll, Trustin Polk, Easton May and Carrison Teser are all seniors. I'm sure I've missed others. My prayer is that these guys will remain faithful in their church and will continue to be Garwood campers and supporters for years to come. Congratulations, guys! We are proud of you!

We don't have one "big" project this year, but there are several small projects that could be adopted by someone or some group. Regular cleaning is always necessary. Cleaning out gutters, cleaning off roofs, fixing leaking toilets, faucets, hose bibs, etc. is never ending. Replacing broken toilet seats, lights out, air filters, trimming trees, cleaning up limbs, cleaning tabernacle, tabernacle pews, replacing tabernacle screens and lights. The dorm windows need to be painted again. There's some fascia material that needs attention. Like I said, nothing big; it's more like death by a thousand cuts. If you have a group planning to work, with this year's crazy schedule maybe you should plan to come work either June 10 or July 22. There's nothing that is "do or die" for camp week. Just a lot of cosmetic/maintenance that needs to be done.

I'll be posting the building adoption list on Facebook about the time this edition comes out.

Remember to be praying for camp -- campers, speakers, musicians, teachers, sponsors, cooks, committee, and us. Pray for my family and especially for Matthews Church. I'm not much of a pastor 9 months out of the year, but these months leading up to camp week are a real challenge every year. We can always use your prayers.

Chris Polk

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Updates from Our Churches



Bethel, Sikeston

Greetings to all! We continue to see visitors. We are thankful for each one and pray that they will feel at home here and want to join us in fellowship. We have had some sicknesses recently and pray they heal quickly and are able to be back with us soon.

We had a good month with lots of planning going on to update our church building inside and out. Our plans are to replace our worn carpet with new and make a few more changes inside if possible in the near future. Outside Bro. Matt Bolen took out some old shrubs and plans to do some landscaping around the front and side of the building. We are so thankful for all that he and Bro. Joe do for the upkeep of the church.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Keeley Bolen attended the BMA national meeting in Conway, AR. They reported a great time and a really good and informative meeting.

Just a reminder that our VBS will be June 12th-16th. We would love to have you come join us and bring your little ones.

Bro. Billy had a wonderful sermon this last Sunday of the month. It was a very hum-

bling service, as he showed how we are to serve others by washing some feet. We are having our regular 5th Sunday night singing which is always a blessing and a good time in the Lord! Bro. Dave Maynard is starting a men's Bible study on prayer, starting on Thursdays at 6:30. If you desire to join us, we welcome you and will be glad to have you.

Thank you for your prayers for us as we continue to keep you in our prayers.

*Billy Davis, Pastor
Joan Wood, Reporter*

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston

We mourn the passing of member Judith Myres. We were thankful when God brought restoration to the marriage of one of our members and her husband.

Our overseas ministry has again experienced targeted opposition, and at this point they are not conducting public services. We often talk of how it's difficult to serve God in this country; we do not even know.

Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

Landmark, DeSoto

Hello to all from Landmark.

We've had a variety of "happenings" this spring... some good, some bad, but God has blessed us through them all.

We finally got our church van repaired after thieves stole the catalytic converter, which also fried the poor van's computer brain when they cut all the wires. We also had our American flag pole cut down by human vandals, and about a week later, the weather vandals (high winds) knocked down our Christian flag pole. BUT ~!Praise the Lord!~ thanks to insurance AND the efforts of some of our members, repairs are being made.

We have also been blessed with a new church member, Juanita Schaffer, who joined recently by letter. Welcome to our crazy church family, Juanita! We have been blessed with visitors almost every week and thank God for them too.

Bro. and Sis. Crites are another source of blessings as they work together to help guide all of us here in God's ways. And they both like corny jokes, which is a BIG plus in my book. Example: In one of Bro. Crites' recent sermons, he asked (this is paraphrased), "Why did

the chicken only cross the road halfway? Because she wanted to LAY IT ON THE LINE!" He then proceeded to "lay it on the line" about our need to follow Christ and His teachings no matter what's being taught by the world.

We enjoyed our fifth Sunday potluck dinner on April 30th after morning services, with great food and even better fellowship. We then observed the Lord's Supper during evening services, which for me is a time for reflection and deep thankfulness for the Lord's ultimate sacrificial gift of salvation.

We still covet your prayers for several members who are suffering illness and other hardships, and we will continue to keep all of you in our prayers also. May God keep blessing each and every one of you.

*David Crites, Pastor
Barbara Williams, Reporter*

Lindsay Lane, Florissant

Happy spring! Praying that all our sister churches celebrated resurrection Sunday! We serve a risen Savior! Bro. Mike McKenzie led us in Good Friday services. What a wonderful time of worship!

Bro. Don Crawford recently had surgery. He's doing quite well. Bro. Rex and Sis. Eunice Gibson had the dreaded Covid but praise God they both recovered. Please keep Bro. Rex in your prayers as he will be having serious surgery on the 2nd of May. Sis. Kathy McKenzie was recently involved in a very serious accident! Praise God she was not seriously injured! Bro. Josh had an encounter with a deer recently on his way to work. The deer apparently walked away but his car was badly injured! Thank God Joshua wasn't hurt. Sis. Mattie Parish recently had her car stolen and it was involved in an accident. To make matters worse, she fell on the parking lot at church! She was able to get the car back and someone tried to steal it again! Even with all that she's been

through, she still has her sweet spirit!

Our ladies will journey to an undisclosed place in May. We will be surprised! Will clue you in, in June! Sis. Amy will be leading our ladies in a Bible study starting in May. Our Awana program has finished. Pray for the children that came and learned about God's unfailing love. Our sweet Ben loves his church family so much! He greets each one with a hug and a smile and a hug! Sometimes he gets a hug back that might just about squeeze him to pieces! Will not name any names but—/—! Lindsay Lane has been blessed with our pastor and his sweet wife! Bible led, soul searching messages and all in love!

Reports from the national meeting are that it was very well attended and spirit filled!

Please keep Bro. Brian and his family in your thoughts and prayers as his Granny Huett's health is failing.

Til we meet again,
*Brian Meade, Pastor
Kathy Chapman, Reporter*

First Baptist, Potosi

Greetings from First Baptist Church, Potosi. April has been full of activities including the beginning of some new classes. Jaclyn Rowe began a "Knowing Him" study on Sunday mornings. This study showcases Jesus in all His glory, from birth to ascension. The Kairos Prison Ministry Team were our guests again for the first time since Covid. This is a very special ministry and needs our prayers.

The FBCKids Mothers' Day Choir began practicing for their performance on Mother's Day.

After being church secretary for over 30 years, Denise Malloy resigned. A retirement luncheon was held for her. She will be greatly missed.

Connie Middleton planned a ladies morning of praise. Over 100 ladies from several churches met for catered

~ Upcoming Events ~

BMA of Missouri Missions

Symposium and Semi-Annual Meeting – May 19-20; Kewanee

Revival – May 21-24; Mt. Olive, Salem; Melvin Meade, Terry Sharpe, Bryan Buckley, Brian Meade, evangelists; 7 p.m. each evening

Revival – May 22-26; Oak Hill, Alton; Jerry Arnold, evangelist

Brotherhood Fishing Tournament – June 2-3

VBS – June 4-8; Bethel, Lonedell; Stellar - Shine Jesus' Light

VBS – June 5-9; Kewanee; Stellar - Shine Jesus' Light

VBS – June 12-16; Bethel, Sikeston

Girls' Discipleship Camp – June 14-17; (sponsored by GMA); Daniel Springs, Gary, TX

MO GMA Retreat – June 23-24;

Camp Garwood

National Galilean Camp – June 23-26; Stoneridge Baptist Camp, Smithville, AR

Baptist Publishing House Weekend – June 30-July 1; Bro. Jordan Tew; Camp Garwood

SOAR Student Conference – July 3-5; Gaylord Texan Hotel, Grapevine, TX

Revival – July 10-14; Kewanee; John David Smith, evangelist

BMA of Missouri Camp – July 31-August 4; Jordan Bowen, speaker; Camp Garwood

DEWr Weekend – Aug. 18-19; 7 p.m. Fri. through Sat. afternoon; Camp Garwood

WMA Sponsored Ladies Retreat – September 8-9; Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau Conference Center

Send event info to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

breakfast, prayer time, and then worship. Everything was wonderful and the music was awesome.

Brother Jim leads a study on Wednesday nights called The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names. We had a Sunday morning very special speaker; Brother Costa, missionary to Lebanon, shared with us about his ministry and preached the message.

Camps and VBS plans are being made. June will be here before you know it.

Overflow and the food pantry have been very busy. God blesses us each week. One Friday, our pantry was very sparse but we opened it anyway since we had some new items. I didn't even think there were 1,000 items on the shelves and in the freezers, but from 10:00 to 2:30, we had a constant line of people. We served 38 families and gave out over 4,000 items of food. That was just one day out of April. I see miracles happen all the time. Elaine Mercer does the laundry for the Overflow, and sometimes she has ten washers loaded at the same time. Some of the homeless come in for showers. We always talk with them about church and God. It takes a lot of volunteers to cover all of our ministries. Please pray that we can get more volunteers for the Overflow ministry.

Two of our Sunday School classes are studying Esther. Kathy and Kelley Silvey are teaching it in the young couples class, and then Debbie Ainley is teaching a precept study of Esther in one of the women's classes.

*Jim Ainley, Pastor
Deborah Rauhut, Reporter*

Oak Hill, Alton

HELLO to all from Oak Hill! Saturday April 29th was my mother's (Edith Williams) birthday; she turned 77 years old. We had a little birthday party on Sunday afternoon.

April 30th was our fifth Sunday dinner where we always have an abundant supply of food and a great time of fellowshiping. Like always, Bro. Ed says the ladies

out-did themselves in cooking. He says he has to try everything so he doesn't hurt anyone's feeling and usually leaves feeling miserable because of overeating.

On May the 12th a couple of our kids, Christina Kemper and Christopher Smith, will be graduating from one of our local schools, Alton High School.

Another event in May is our revival the 22nd through 26th with Bro. Jerry Arnold as our evangelist. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy our services. We had Bro. Jerry preach a revival a couple of years ago. He did a great job then so we are hoping and praying for a great revival.

Until next month when I hope I will have some more good news to tell you. But until then we will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

God Bless!!

*Edward Casey, Pastor
Jennifer Williams, Reporter*

Kewanee, Kewanee

Greetings from Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church.

On Sunday, April 30th, we held our graduation ceremony for our high school graduating seniors. Congratulations to our 2023 seniors. Pictured are (front row) Macy McCannless, Caitie Cox, and Carly Kimball and (back row) Levie Sutton, Noah Taylor, Sawyer McElveen, and Dylan Walls.

Mrs. Beth Murphy moved her membership back to Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church! Welcome back, Mrs. Beth!

Our annual youth fundraiser auction will be held Sunday, May 7th immediately following morning services. We will grill hamburgers and hotdogs; have a silent auction, and a "live" baked auction. All proceeds go to

our youth for trips and youth events. This event is always a great time of food and fellowship. You never know who will end up with Mrs. Emma's chocolate chip cookies or Mrs. Pam's custard pie!

On Friday, May 19th, we will have the Mission Symposium/ordination service for Bro. Juan Fernandez. This will start at 7 p.m. On Saturday, May 20th the Associational Meeting will be held at KMBC. Please make plans to attend.

The GMA Coronation will be held at 1st Baptist Matthews on Sunday, May 21st at 2 p.m. Please join us to honor our girls who have worked hard all year in the GMA's.

Our VBS, Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light, will be held June 5-9th. Our summer revival will be held July 10-14 with Bro. John David Smith. Sign-ups for Camp Garwood will be soon! Be praying for camp!

Please "like" our Facebook page, Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church, to keep up with future events.

*Dan Wisely, Pastor
Lisa Cox, Reporter*



Ohlman, Bunker

Looks like we've not reported in a couple of months.

Four of our ladies enjoyed attending the MO WMA annual meeting at Zion on March 4th. Juanita May and Dottie Steelman were speakers in the afternoon program.

Several of our ladies attended a women's conference at Walking Faith Baptist Church in Salem on March 11th. Dottie Steelman was one of the breakout session speakers.

Janet Widger drove to Mat-

thews on March 18th and had a great time at the SEMO District Pound in a Purse Auction which benefited Camp Garwood.

We enjoyed 3 nights of revival services with Bro. Ben Kingston as the evangelist March 21, 22 and 23. The men had their annual fish fry before services on the 23rd. Great food was enjoyed by all.

On March 25th some of our members attended a "wild game" dinner at Liberty Baptist in Turtle, MO. Again, lots of good food!

We did not have our youth ministry on March 22nd due to revival service, on March 29th due to spring break at school, or on April 5th due to a death in the church family. After missing three weeks, they were ready to come back, and we were ready to have them back.

Our youth attendance on Wednesday nights is averaging in the 50s. For many of these kids, this is the only time that they hear the gospel. We pray that the seeds we are sowing will continue to grow.

April 6th, Doris Skaggs and Janet Widger drove to Amory, Mississippi to volunteer with "Just the Crumbs." We took donations of food and other items from Mt. Olive, Ohlman, Matthews, Kewanee and Camp Garwood. We slept on cots in a SS room at East Amory Baptist Church for 3 nights. We thank them for making our accommodations comfortable. We saw a lot of devastation and need, making us thankful for what we have. We both came home with the desire to go serve again.

April 22nd, several of us went to Liberty Baptist in Turtle, MO to hear a concert by Dalton Harper and his group.

April 24th - 26th some of

our members attended a conference in Branson, MO.

Janet Widger represented Ohlman at the BMA of America annual meeting April 25th-27th.

We will close out our Wednesday youth program on May 31st for the summer. We will have Doug Mickan and friends there to minister to the kids, young and old.

*Terry Sharpe Pastor
Janet Widger, Reporter*


Mt. Olive, Salem

Our church was represented at the BMA of America National Meeting in Conway, Arkansas. What a blessing to meet, visit with, and attend the meeting with everyone there, including our BMA missionaries from all over the world! Sis. Rhonda Nash and Sis. Deiatre Gillam attended the national WMA meeting. They also attended one of the afternoon break out sessions - "Loving Missionaries Well." What an opportunity to get insight to missionary needs, big and small. Our Pastor, Bro. Larry Nash and one of our deacons, Bro. Steve Gillam, attended the national Brotherhood meeting. The Legacy Missionary Service and the Dinner on the Ground were highlights for our members who were present! Inspiring reports and challenging messages are a special part of this meeting also. Thank you, Mt. Olive, for sending messengers to participate in the business of the Lord in the BMA of America and the opportunity to fellowship with churches from all over the United States!

We will have a work day at the church house May 6, 2023 to get things in order to host our spring revival, May 21-24, 2023. Services will start at 7 p.m. every evening.

• See **UPDATES** page 8 •

Bethel, Lonedell



VBS @ BETHEL!

JUNE 4 - 8

6:00-8:30pm

Pre-K - 6th Grade

CBC Day Announced

We are grateful to the faithful churches of the BMAA in partnering with CBC in helping us to carry out our mission of transforming this generation through higher education that “integrates Christian faith and academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment.” We are inspired by your faithfulness, and we encourage you to keep living out the following verses in Galatians 6:9-10: “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”



CBC Day for 2023 has been set for Sunday, September 10. We are encouraging churches to set aside this Sunday, or another day which best fits your church calendar, to pray for the college and promote Christian higher education at Central Baptist College. In addition, we encourage our churches to take a one-time offering for the annual fund program, “Gifts that Transform,” and/or make a pledge to give additional offerings over the twelve months to follow. All CBC Day contributions will be for the CBC annual fund that supports, among many other things, the ministry tuition grant, academic and performance scholarships, spiritual life programs, and the development of new academic programs.

We would love to know if your church is committed to participating in CBC Day. We are available to share at your church on a Sunday night, or during a mid-week service, to better fit your church schedule. We are also available to share at BMA of Arkansas events such as WMA and Brotherhood meetings. Please register for a CBC Day by going to the link, www.cbc.edu/cbcday. If you have any questions, please personally contact Duffy Guyton, Director of Church Relations, via email at dguyton@cbc.edu or call him at (501) 269-6784 with any questions you may have.

Request for Church Histories

Dear Churches of the State and Meramec Associations of Missouri,

My name is John Beardsley, and I live in Sikeston, MO. I was saved in 1957 at First Baptist Church of Matthews and surrendered to preach at the same church in 1973. I moved to Texas to attend the BMA Seminary in 1974. When I graduated, I moved back to Missouri and served for four years as a state missionary at Malden.

For some years I have not been a pastor of any church. Lately I have been collecting material to write a brief history of our churches in Missouri. I can't do this without the aid of the churches, so I am asking you to assist me in this endeavor.

If each church will write a brief account of when and how their church was organized and the people involved, I will put this information in book form and attempt to get it published so the churches will have a record of their collective history. I believe this will give a more unifying spirit to our work and give the church a tool to use in outreach. I would like to get a record of any church that was started and then later closed, as this will give our people a strategy to work from for future growth.

I can only hope and pray that our people can see the benefit of such a venture and will assist me in this endeavor. When you send the information, please include the name, address, and phone number of a contact person in case I have questions. I pledge not to edit anything but structure and spelling.

You can send your information to me at 49 West St., Sikeston, MO 63801 or contact me by phone at 573-703-3860.

Maranatha,
J. W. Beardsley

*✪ Faith of our mothers, living faith,
We will be true to thee til death. ✪*

A Challenge That Benefits Generations to Come

The Natchez Trace Parkway covers three states and 450 low-speed miles. Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama share sections of this fifty-mile-an-hour highway that is meant to be enjoyed by hiking, biking, camping and horseback riding. If you have ever driven the parkway, you've noticed the peacefulness of being the only one on the road.

That's what native Mississippian, cyclist, and BMA Global President John David Smith will be doing May 8-12, but for a higher purpose. He says, “This challenge has long been a personal bucket list item. A big challenge, but it's not about me. The ride is called ChangeMaker Challenge 2023 in honor of our ChangeMakers with whom we partner globally by offering them church planting grants for new churches.”

The vision for ChangeMaker Challenge is to build a foundation for future generations of ChangeMakers around the world. The heart of all missionaries is to establish a ministry that flourishes well beyond their years on the field. Dr. Smith has the same vision: to build an income-generating portfolio that will contribute funding for future ChangeMakers through the money raised.

Your gift will establish a fund to support ChangeMaker missionaries for generations to come. To learn more or to give, go to www.bmamissions.org/changemakerchallenge.

The one million dollars raised will be added to other available funds to create a managed investment account where projected growth will provide a new, recurring, annual income stream for BMA Global that we project could be \$200,000 of annual income within five years.

When the baton of leadership is passed, what a blessing to know that current funds are being stewarded to assure ongoing income to continue church planting around the world for future generations.

Will You Accept the Challenge?

BMA Global President John David Smith has been training for his ChangeMaker Challenge bike ride on May 8 - 12 and recently spent two days on the Natchez Trace Parkway mapping it out. He will begin in Mississippi and ride 444 miles to Nashville, Tennessee, the entire length of this beautiful, serene highway with a speed limit of 50 mph.

John David says, “Right now the physical training in the gym and on my bike is causing great agony, stretching the limits of my body. But the men I'm riding for have great difficulties in their own contexts as well, serving in both hostile and complacent places that severely hinder the gospel. The purpose of this ride is to continue building systems that build men, our hundreds of ChangeMakers around the world. Our association's decades-long missionary legacy is the backbone of BMA Global missions.”

John David's challenge is for people to give a total of one million dollars to establish a fund that will support ChangeMakers for generations to come.

It's a big ask and a big goal, but as BMA Global “builds systems that build men” and creates a missionary legacy, will you accept the Challenge?

To learn more or to give, go to www.bmamissions.org/changemakerchallenge.



• From *MISSIONARIES* page 1 •

families scattered throughout the gym of Antioch Baptist Church, messengers had the opportunity to meet or reconnect with those serving through BMA Global. The fellowship time allowed for great conversations, fellowship, scheduling of speaking appointments and face-to-face connections.

During the second session of the meeting, Jack and Latrelle Bateman were recognized as legacy missionaries for their service to the people of Taiwan. In the 38 years of ministry in Taiwan, they established four churches in Taipei and helped Dale and Barbara Thornton in Taichung. Other ministries included a radio broadcast to mainland China and a mobile library on the back of a motorcycle.

The Legacy Missionary Award was received by three of the Batemans' children — John, Mark and Ann. Jack passed away on January 9, 2021, at age 92. Latrelle passed away on August 24, 2015.

Bobby and Ruth Bowman were also recognized as legacy missionaries. Bobby and Ruth served in Honduras for 20 years. During their tenure there, they planted nine churches, built a medical clinic and started a Bible institute. Later, he established BMMI — Baptist Medical Missions International — a ministry that hosts medical clinics



(Photo courtesy of Lifeword)

around the world to open the door to sharing the gospel. Flanked by his wife and children, Bobby spoke on behalf of the couple. (Bro. Bobby also served as editor of the Baptist Trumpet from 2002-2005.)

Messengers were also introduced to three new missionary families. They included Cherry Gamboa as North American church planter to the Garifuna community in Bronx, N.Y.; Edixon Pina as a North American church planter to Phoenix, Ariz.; and Mkram Shahatit as North American church planter to El Cajon, Calif.

On Wednesday evening, April 26, the 2023 BMA Global Dinner on the Ground event took place at the Conway Expo Center. With over 1,000 people in attendance, missionaries were front and center. Veteran Missionary Buddy Johnson delivered the annual message at the event. At the conclusion of the evening, all American missionaries, plus personnel from endorsed ministries assembled near the stage for the closing prayer. For the benediction, the CBC Choir shared a song written especially for the occasion to thank them for their faithful service to the Lord and the association.

During the final session on Thursday morning, April 27, BMA Global President Dr. John David Smith gave the annual report to the messengers of the BMA of America. He emphasized that in addition to American missionaries around the world, BMA Global supports nearly 400 Changemaker Missionaries worldwide. Changemaker Missionaries are indigenous leaders trained by American missionaries to assume leadership roles in church planting and other ministries in their native country.

The middle name of the Baptist Missionary Association is Missionary. At the 2023 BMA of America meeting, the BMA certainly lived up to its name!

“She believed she could . . .

. . . so she did.”

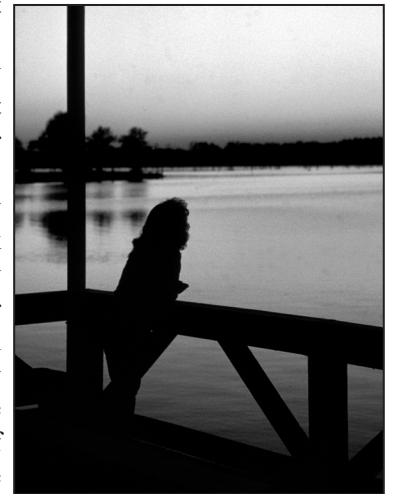
Okay, I understand the point of this. There is something to be said for having a sense of confidence, belief in your abilities, so that you will attempt the things you should.

And there's the “she” part of the statement to consider. There are some places and situations where women and girls are treated, or have been treated, as less valuable, less capable, simply because they are female. As a result, many parents and other leaders are set on teaching their young girls to be strong and assertive and show the world what they can do.

But what would God say about all this? His Word clearly teaches that He values us all, male and female. Paul, inspired by the Spirit, says, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” And I would think we could all draw from that same source of strength.

But is believing in and focusing on my abilities how God expects me to live? I don't think so. On the contrary, His Word has much to say about humility and trust — all directed toward our Almighty God.

So instead of the catchy slogan I began with, I think one that I have recently run across is a much better one to follow. (And even though it specifically mentions “she,” I believe it will work just as well if you are a “he.”) It goes like this:

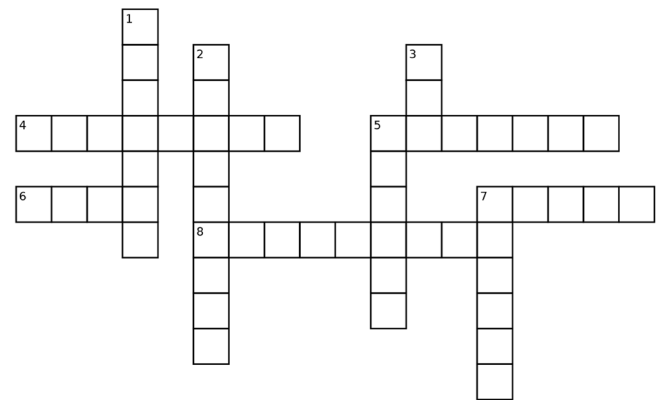


“She believed HE could . . . so she prayed.”

Pam Burke

Bible Mothers

Here is a chance to test your knowledge of mothers from the Bible. Some of these may be a little obscure, so they might offer a bit of a challenge. If you get stuck, there are some hints provided on page 8 of this paper. (If you are interested in sharing this with anyone else, feel free to make copies.)



Down:

1. Paul commended him for having the same faith his mother had.
2. Her child leaped within her womb.
3. She was the mother of all living.
5. After she died in childbirth, her husband changed the name of her newborn son.
7. His mother was instructed to drink no wine or strong drink during her pregnancy.

Across:

4. She told her daughter to ask for the head of John the Baptist.
5. Two nations struggled inside her womb.
6. She was married through her father's deception; she later gave birth to four sons.
7. God promised her husband that she would become a mother of nations.
8. She appealed to her husband to make sure her son would succeed him as king.

SOAR 2023

DEVOTED

DEVOTED

DEVOTED

DEVOTED

JULY 3-5, 2023
GAYLORD TEXAN, GRAPEVINE TEXAS

REGISTRATION

\$135.00 PER PERSON
DEADLINE IS JUNE 4, 2023

\$150.00 PER PERSON
AFTER JUNE 4, 2023 DEADLINE

GAYLORD TEXAN

\$139.00 PER ROOM
UNTIL JUNE 10, 2023



CHRIS VINES



NATHAN BREWER



SOAR COLLECTIVE



STEPHEN CASTLEBERRY



DONNY PARRISH

• **From UPDATES page 5** •

Our evangelists will be Bro. Melvin Meade Sunday, Bro. Terry Sharpe Monday, Bro. Bryan Buckley Tuesday, Bro. Brian Meade Wednesday. Please come and worship with us! Everyone is welcome!

Please continue to pray with us about the health needs of some of our members. Sis. Elaine Stricklin has finished her chemo and radiation treatments and has started the next phase of her cancer treatment. Thank you so much for your prayers for her; please continue!

Some of our men plan to attend the Brotherhood fishing tournament in June. They are looking forward to a fun day of fishing and fellowship with the Brotherhood and any visitors who will be there!

Thank you and please continue to pray for us as we keep on keeping on for HIM at Mt. Olive.

*Larry Nash Pastor
Deiatre Gillam Reporter*

Ozark Heights, Potosi

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus!

We are enjoying the beautiful weather God has blessed us with recently. First of all, as usual, we want our shut-ins to know you are missed and we hope we get to see you soon.

Bro. Brian continues to provide great messages and Bible studies. We have interactive Bible studies on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. We just finished Ecclesiastes which was full of strong lessons.

The new G.I.F.T. class (Growing In Faith Together) meets every Sunday at 5:00 p.m. and is a blessing both to the youth and the teachers.

We enjoyed a wonderful Easter program with amazing music, to celebrate our risen Saviour. Following a great

service, the weather was perfect, and the little ones searched for eggs.

We had a Christian illusionist D. J. Edwards that come on Friday April 21st and provided a performance for our youth with 57 attending and 14 of our youth going to the altar following. It was a different way to get the attention of our youth, show the love of Christ, and instill in them a need to follow Him.

Bro. Brian attended the BMAA National meeting in Conway April 25-27. We are glad our pastor goes and represents our church at the national meetings.

We had one young lady saved following Bible study on Wednesday, April 26th. We had such a great interaction with both the adults and the youth as they participated in a Bible study from James 2 regarding the characteristics of a Christian.

Bro. Brian and six of our Brotherhood men are planning to attend Camp Garwood May 5-6 with other brothers around the state.

On Sunday evening April 30th, we had our talent night which had to be postponed with our pastor away at the BMAA meeting. We had several wonderful songs, testimonies, and praises honoring our Lord.

Remember our services:

Sunday: Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11:00 a.m.; G.I.F.T. youth class 5:00 p.m.; Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Roots to Wings youth program and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

2nd and 4th Thursday: Brotherhood 7:00 p.m.

3rd Thursday: Sisterhood 7:00 p.m.

Until next month, may God add His richest blessing upon you.

*Brian Kingston, Pastor
Gary Gilliam, Reporter*

• **From NATIONAL MEETING page 1** •

chosen for the coming year will be the Jeevan Prakash School in India.

The National Brotherhood also met on Wednesday morning.

In addition, there was some intentional time for those attending the national meeting to gain some knowledge and ministry help. Steve Crawley led in the general session of the Pastor's Conference presented by Healthy Church Solutions on Wednesday morning and talked about the importance of leadership development. This was followed by the option to attend two breakout sessions of your choice. The topics covered included Preventing Abuse and Protecting Your Church by Brotherhood Mutual, Helping and Resources for Mental Health by Lee Poe and Leading for Growth by Pastor Bill Eliff. BMA Global Hispanic Ministry Coordinator Elvis Garcia led a breakout session for Spanish speakers.

Wednesday afternoon included a time of worship and a message by David McMurray. He continued the emphasis of the mission to "Go" and shared about the importance of taking the message of the gospel to world.

At the 3 p.m session, Legacy Missionaries Jack and Latrell Bateman and Bobby and Ruth Bowman were honored. It was a special time to remember and remind everyone of our mission.

The highlight of Wednesday was the "Dinner on the Grounds" with all the missionaries. It took place at the Conway Expo Center, where over 1,000 people gathered to enjoy a catfish and chicken dinner and hear the annual message from BMA Global Regional Coordinator for South America Buddy Johnson. He shared about the importance of going "together" as we carry out the mission of God.

The meeting concluded on Thursday morning with a streamlined business session. We heard from each of the national departments about how God has been working over the past year. All officers were re-elected to serve for 2023-2024.

Some discussion occurred about the updated meeting format since the body voted to move the production of the meeting to the conferences division of BMA of America. The regular rules for the meeting were suspended for two years so some new things could be tried this year and next year. Donny Parrish leads the conference production for the BMA of America and he shared that there would be recommendations at the meeting next year regarding future meetings and production. Next year's meeting is scheduled for April 16-18, 2024 at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson, MO. Tentative plans have been made for the 2025 meeting to return to Waxahachie, Texas hosted by Pathway Baptist Church (formerly Farley Street Baptist Church).

The video from Tuesday night's opening session is available now at bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting and videos from the other sessions will be available there soon.

Ministers & Ministry Opportunities

Entries are published at the request of the individual or entity listed and should not be considered as an endorsement by the Missouri Missionary Baptist or the BMA of Missouri.


John Beardsley, of Kewanee (Kewanee) is available for pulpit supply. Contact him at 573-703-3860. (0423)

Ministers and ministries must be associated with the BMA. Entries for available preachers and for churches seeking pastors or staff will be published for three consecutive months; others will be limited to a single issue. Listings may be resubmitted quarterly, subject to editor approval. Send entries, including the name of the church of membership, to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

JESUS CAMP WEEK
SUN, JULY 16 – SAT, JULY 22

KIDDIE CAMP SUN–WED
Boys & Girls Grades 1–5

TEEN CAMP WED–SAT
Boys & Girls Grades 6–12



Hotel Information for Mid-Year Meeting

For anyone needing last-minute hotel reservations for the meeting, here are phone numbers for motels in Sikeston.

- Pear Tree Inn.....573-471-4100
- Drury Inn573-472-2299
- Hampton Inn.....573-621-4100
- Holiday Inn Express573-475-9522

Bible Mothers

Here are scripture references to help with each clue in the crossword puzzle on page 7.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Down: | Across: |
| 1. 2Tim 1:5 | 4. Mark 6:24 |
| 2. Luke 1:41 | 5. Gen 25:23 |
| 3. Gen 3:20 | 6. Gen 29:23 |
| 5. Gen 35:18 | 7. Gen 17:16 |
| 7. Judges 13:4 | 8. 1Kings 1:28 |

*Her children rise up and call her blessed;
 Her husband also, and he praises her.*