

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

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

Volume LXXXVI

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Issue No. 8

A Good Week at Camp Garwood

Chris Polk, Camp Director

Well, We made it! We're designing a T-shirt that says, "I survived the crazy train at Camp Garwood." But with the high temperatures we could drop the crazy train part. It was hot! But we made it.

Camp week saw 265 campers. That's up a little from last year and getting closer to pre-Covid numbers. It was good seeing the campgrounds full again. Overall it was a great week, with 24 professions of faith. Using the Monday check-in numbers our age groups break down like this: 0-3 year-olds – 11; 4-5 year-olds – 7; 6-7 year-olds – 15; 8-9 year-olds – 25; 10-12 year-olds – 37; 13-18 year-olds – 78; and 18 year-olds and up – 113. (There were 11 campers that didn't designate their age.)

The week kept me pretty busy as we had several air conditioner failures. Two were low on refrigerant, two had duct work issues, and one had a breaker failure. I definitely came home with more to do than when camp started. It was a trying week in many ways, but overall great. There were no major injuries, although we had a sprained ankle, one illness, some scratches, a couple seizure issues that ended up being minor – but mostly heat-related issues. Getting 200 kids to drink sufficient amounts of water is a tough job. We are thankful for Karen and her crew for all they do camp week!

We thank everyone who makes camp week successful. Teachers, recreation workers, cooks, the band, our evangelists, the sponsors who took time to bring campers, and the canteen workers. It takes all of us to get through a sometimes rough week.

Caleb and Aaron did outstanding jobs presenting the Word. Most will remember Bart and Bob, and the messages of Jonah. The Central Collective band sounded good, although I may be a little prejudiced. I really liked the songs this year, particularly, *His Mercy is More*. We had some powerful services.

Recreation time was just hot. We didn't set out sprinklers, but the kids had plenty of opportunities to get cooled off with water. The bubbles and water slide were cool, and we were spraying down the train riders. The guys put together a small basketball tournament. Lanny's Log Yard was busy with mini golfers, and others spent their afternoons in the shade.

I don't know what else to report, so many things happen in the week

• See GARWOOD page 5 •



Meramec Retreat Jesus Camp Report

Ben Kingston

It has been quite the experience through the years seeing the ebb and flow of camps and seeing souls harvested like our state camp experienced this year – an amazing tally of 24 professions of faith at Garwood! Hallelujah, Praise the Lamb! And then at Jesus Camp at the Meramec Retreat Center, three precious souls were saved during Teen Camp!

Being a typical American, I'm always looking for those numbers and results. Yet, we all know that these types of results are completely 100% dependent upon the Spirit and power of God. So, what are you and I to do? Well, we are to plant seeds!

I have all the confidence in the world that both of our camps, State and Meramec, do that faithfully every year. I want to go on record saying that I praise the Lord for every harvest each year and ultimately the planting of seeds that happens at both camps. Bro. Chris Polk and the churches that attend the State camp do an amazing job. Meramec camp committee and the churches that attend the Jesus Camp do a tremendous job. I could not be more grateful and thankful to be a part of these ministries!

This year our Jesus Camp theme was “Exploring the Gifts of God,” and that is specifically in the area of Ephesians 1:1-10. The preachers this year were Mike Hearst, Benjamin

• See JESUS CAMP page 7 •



My Missions Adventures in Africa

Melodi Miller

This summer I had the opportunity to go to Chad and Zambia, Africa on a mission trip with Majestic View Church. Pastor John and Debra Smith, Joseph and Brooke Tartaglia, their twins, Brooklyn and Brielle, and I went on the trip. I have never been in so much awe of the Lord. He was in this trip from the day it was planned. Leading up to the trip I was able to raise almost \$15,000, which allowed us to get two water wells for villages in Livingstone, Zambia. I even had the opportunity to be the first one to pump one of the wells while I was there.

Our trip began with several flights plus a seven-hour bumpy car ride to Bitkine, Chad. We visited Andrew and Kate Day, missionaries to nomadic Muslims. We met lots of the townspeople, went to the market, ate their food, ate with close friends of the Days, went to the local church, and went to two nomad camps. At the nomad camps we saw the challenges of their

• See AFRICA page 8 •



Meramec Landmark Baptist Association Annual Meeting

Bates Creek Baptist Church
10350 Bates Creek Rd • Potosi, Missouri

September 20, 2024 • 10:00 A.M.

Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri Annual Meeting

Kewanee Baptist Church
12397 Hwy 61 • New Madrid, Missouri

October 12, 2024 • 9:00 A.M.

State Missions

Dear BMAMO,

Greetings to our churches and pastors in the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri. Wow, it's been a great and busy summer! For Bethel, VBS and camp are in the books, and from the reports I've heard and from my own experience, our churches have gleaned tremendous fruit from these and other tried and true summer ministries. My congratulations to all the hard workers and volunteers that made these ministries possible, and ultimately all praise to our Lord and Savior that makes it possible to offer the free gift of salvation.

In this article today, I would like to cover three areas, first in a broad scope, then to a finer look, and finally, zero in at the heart of a need that many pastors have throughout the year.

So, the broad scope: I know Bro. Fernandez is covering these things in his article, but I wanted you to hear from your State Missions Director that I'm extremely grateful and thankful to specifically the New Testament Baptist Church crew and Bro. Josh Wright as the pastor for helping to get the garage ready for weekly Bible study. It has been a tremendous savings and a blessing to the Fernandez family and to that mission's effort of reaching Hispanic folks in that region.

Secondly, focusing the scope a little closer, this has been a very busy summer with the assessment. We've had the most churches ever being served through this approach, and I've had tremendous responses from those churches. We are excited and hoping for amazing results in churches from these assessments. If you have not yet assessed, I would lovingly beg you to get with me and let's set a date and make it happen. Healthy churches plant churches, so that's why we're trying to get all our churches to that healthy level of being able to plant a church for the Kingdom of Christ.

And lastly, like a laser beam to the pastor's heart for encouragement: One of the most needed skills of a pastor is to be able to do what David did in that Old Testament passage when he was running from Saul. He and all of his marauders' children and families were stolen, and they were wanting to stone him. The Bible says David encouraged himself in the Lord. When you and I go through even sometimes times of blessing, we can get lonely or feel attacked. We must have that ability to get alone with the Lord and encourage ourselves and allow Him to encourage us. In my humble opinion, you wouldn't be where you are as a pastor without knowing how to do this. However, the key is doing it; stopping and taking the time to turn to the Lord and say, "Lord, I need your encouragement," and recount your blessings rather than your bruises. Remind yourself of the mission. Remind yourself of the assignment. Yes, deacon or layperson, this will work for anyone, but my humble opinion is that our pastors probably need this word right now as well as anyone. It is my prayer that all of us will seek the Lord's encouragement as we strive to do what he's called us to do!

May the Lord richly bless you is my prayer.

Bro. Ben Kingston



MISIÓN BELÉN (Bethlehem Mission)

Serving Hispanic Families • St Louis Metro East

Juan Fernandez

pastorjuanfernandez@gmail.com • 618-581-8056

Praises

- Prayer network – Twenty-six days of prayer for revival among our families. Every day we enjoy three times for prayer: 6:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. I go live only in the evenings and invite people to read, reflect and pray with an invitation to join us in what God has planned for salvation. We are asking God for faithful, joyful, committed laborers for His Kingdom.

- Pastoral outreach – The Lord has blessed us by keeping, renewing and making new Hispanic friends on both sides of the river. We continue serving on a weekly basis our families in the Florissant, Chesterfield, Clarkson Valley and Overland areas. The Lord has kept these doors open. We have been led to keep our contacts, such joy and blessing to continue getting together for Bible study and prayer. We have been blessed with friends in the Granite City area that have shown interest in supporting our ministry with their prayer and have asked to sign up for prayer network. If you would like to read more about our ministry updates and prayer times in social media, follow this #prayernetworkmetroeast.

The last weekend of this month I will be ministering to young people in their home in St. Ann since they have expressed a desire to learn about God and the difference of being a born-again person. Please pray for Javier and Xiomara for a clear understanding of grace for salvation.

• See *MISIÓN BELÉN* page 3 •



Financial Report BMA Of Missouri Missions July 2024

<u>Checking Account:</u>	
Balance June 30	\$ 27,439.97
<u>Income:</u>	
Missions	\$ <u>18,723.00</u>
Total Income	\$ <u>18,723.00</u>
Total Available	\$ 46,162.97
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Director, salary	\$ 450.00
Secretary, salary	200.00
Juan Fernandez, support	2,333.33
Juan Fernandez, garage	4,500.00
Zalma Church Title	127.00
Website, Brad Miller	<u>69.97</u>
Total Expenses	\$ <u>(7,680.30)</u>
Balance July 31	\$ 38,482.67
<u>BMAMS Revolving Loan Investment:</u>	
Balance June 30	\$ 117,316.22
Interest	<u>0.00</u>
Balance July 31	\$ <u>117,316.22</u>
Total in All Accounts July 31	\$ 155,798.89

Brotherhood

Save the Date:

Brotherhood Fall Retreat

When: Friday, November 8, at 6 p.m.
to Saturday, November 9, at 2 p.m.

— • —
Where: Meramec Retreat Center

— • —
Theme: Raising a Modern Day Knight.
An opportunity for dads to pass manhood
on to their young men

— • —
Whole hog BBQ Friday &
southern fried catfish Saturday

More details to come!

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• *From MISIÓN BELÉN page 2* •

• Visitors – Salem Church: Bro. Steve and Sis. Deiatre, there are not enough words in my English vocabulary to describe our gratitude for you. So in Spanish: *Muchisimas gracias por todo lo que hacen para demostrar el amor de Cristo! Dios le bendiga.* Every time we think about the amount of time you spent in prayer for us and your visit to our home in Granite City, modeling for our kids a side of ministry that is hard to find, we are so blessed with your friendship and support for us. Then we paid the visit back a few weeks later to the farm where we all had an awesome time making and taking more pictures for the memories.

Brother Larry and Rhonda, thank you for praying for us; your enthusiasm always means a lot. We enjoy so much visiting your congregation – the fellowship is very contagious and very commendable. Thank you for having us and praying for us. Brother Larry is a very good listener and always keeps a practical perspective on the Lord. Thank you again for the hospitality and your friendship.

New Testament Baptist Church: We are so thankful for you, NTBC in Sullivan, for coming to build our ministry outreach garage room. Such blessing to see these men spending their time and talents. They have been in our place for three times – the project is not an easy one. But the unity and enthusiasm of these men has been exemplary to our neighborhood as a testimony of the light of Jesus. Bro. Chuck, Pastors Dave and Josh and these wonderful volunteers (I don't have all their names), too.

Stony Point: Always checking on us, they organized a fundraising event for our ministry. We used some of the money to purchase two pieces of furniture for the garage and purchased some of the materials for keeping the place organized. We can't express our deepest gratitude for partnering with us. We are blessed beyond expectation. Bro. Claude and Bro. Roy, thank you for always keeping us in your mind and in prayer – such a blessing!

Prayer

• For three families in the Hispanic community that will join us in carrying out the Great Commission and the vision, mission and timeline for our ministry.

• For daily evangelistic outreach, for 30 Bibles and tracts in Spanish to share with our family members during events coming up in the Hispanic Heritage Month.

• For salvation for each one of our neighbors.

• For our street to be illuminated with public lights. (Last month our only public

light was destroyed by a limb falling off our tree in the front yard.)

• For the neighbors in the back yard. There is a facility for men on probation. God's protection and opportunities to share the Gospel accordingly.

• For completion of the garage remodeling, especially for Bro. Chuck's health. He is going through a time of testing, surgery, resting, etc. His heart is for serving the Kingdom. May God continue blessing!

• For healthy Discovery Bible Study in each place we have doors open, that our families are not afraid of sharing with others and inviting them to hear the Gospel.

• For a dedication and baptism to happen soon, with hearts ready to give testimony of a new life and commitment to grow in Christ.

• For the Hispanic families we have met here in Granite City, that the Lord will give grace to have healthy relationships and discipleship.

• For the prayer walk in different areas of the city; protection and meaningful relationships to be developed.

• We signed up our two girls, Victoria (7) and Eleanor (5), on a soccer team.

• For our ESL outreach this fall. We are planning to serve our Hispanic families in Florissant and Granite City.

• For my health, I think is time to have another doctor appointment soon.

Thank you again for keeping us in prayer as we seek God's blessing to pour out in our discipleship process and evangelism.

In His Service,

Juan Fernandez (Acts 20:24)



2024 BMA Salary and Benefits Survey

BMA Financial and BMA America Information Services are partnering on the second BMA Salary and Benefits Survey. The purpose of the electronic survey is to provide churches with benchmark data to inform and assist in the establishment and maintenance of viable compensation packages for their pastor and staff. The data resulting from the study will be made available with respect for the autonomy of each local church, but we hope the information will provide an objective resource in considering appropriate staff compensation. The survey is designed to be completed by all church staff personnel and is completely anonymous. An email was sent out on Thursday, May 30th, to all pastors and staff in our database. If you did not receive an email and would like to participate, please go to bmafinancial.org and complete the survey online. For questions about the study call 1.844.262.8637 or email Ryan Johnson, Chief Development Officer, ryan@bmaamerica.org.

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• Updates from Our Churches •

Oak Hill, Alton

Hello to all from Oak Hill! The Lord blessed Bro. Preston and Sis. Mya on July 13th with a healthy baby, Gentry Lee Nix.

July 21st Bro. Ed baptized two members, John and Chanda Carswell.

We are also very thankful to the Lord for our weather we had in July. It was cooler than usual and more rain. Now in August we are starting to have the normal HOT summer weather.

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

*Edward Casey, Pastor
Jennifer Williams, Reporter*

Westview, Jefferson City

Greetings from the BMA church in Missouri's capital city.

We have had many things going on recently. Bro. Ben and Dawn Kingston came to lead us in a BMAMO Missions Benchmark Assessment. Pastor Benjamin and Emma have been working with the foster care program in the mid-Missouri area. We had 15 people attend the Meramec Jesus Camp in July. We have been blessed with several visitors during June and July. We had a birthday party for Glynn Holt, our adult Sunday School teacher. We had a funeral for one of our elderly members, Shirley Ferguson. We plan to have the Prakash BMA missionary family with us for a service in September.

Busy, but still true - Christ is King!

*Benjamin Kingston, Pastor
Rae Lynn Hearst, Reporter*

Ozark Heights, Potosi

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. We pray all are surviving well in the heat.

Our church suffered the loss of a long-time member, Sis. Doris Crocker-Lawson, on July 1st. Sis. Doris had been shut in for some time. Another loss was Bro. Leonard Compton, who was the pastor of Ozark Heights on four different occasions. The community as a whole realized the loss of a man who married and buried over half of Washington County. He will be missed. I told Bro. Jim Ainley he got to preach the easiest funeral that he will ever preach, "Well done good and faithful servant."

The church is doing well, with great support and attendance as we begin our search for a pastor. We are thankful to have had several come to fill our pulpit. We are very thankful to Bro. Jeff Moorman who has been providing great teaching on the book of Revelation on Wednesday evening. We have had many attend and compliment him on the great teaching and research in a very challenging book. He has also filled in on Sunday evening when I (Bro. Gary) have filled the pulpit. The medications I take for kidney cancer have taken a lot of energy out of me, but I still love to preach as much as possible. Bro. Jeff Moorman has made that possible by taking Sunday evening services when I preach.

We are also thankful for Bro. Jim Shy and Sis. Karen Stone for leading Sunday evening song service. It has blessed our worship to have them step up and lead.

Our youth committee has

been busy planning events such as church camp, which was a success for both the younger ones and the teens. They brought home some wonderful teaching and claimed they had a great time.

The youth put on an excellent lasagna dinner and games. The food was great, the games were fun, the attendance was exceptional, with many visitors who came to support and join us.

It has been great to see Bro. Bill Gau back after knee surgery. Bro. Butch Wilkinson has been able to return after a long hospital stay and time at home recovering. Bro. Lonnie Masson had shoulder replacement surgery this week and is recovering well. So many are going through so much. We thank God for his promise to always be with us through all of our trials. Praise God!

Please continue to pray for God to provide us a pastor. We are anxious to see where the Lord leads Ozark Heights Missionary Baptist Church.

Our prayers are that God bless our sister churches and all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Gary Gilliam, Reporter

Bethel, Sikeston

Greetings to all. We have so much to be thankful for. We are thankful for all the good news from Camp Garwood this past week. Thirty-four from our church attended camp, with two of those accepting Christ as their Savior. Congratulations to Bros. Steven Passmore and John Ottinger. God bless them both plus all the others who accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior while there.

We completed our Christ-

mas shoeboxes in record time this year. Thanks to everyone that donated money and items and to those who helped with the packing and getting them prepared to ship. What a joy for all God's people to work together to get things accomplished!

We are in the book of Revelation on Wednesday nights for Bible study. Such a great study it has been with lots of questions and answers. Sunday night, Aug. 4, Bro. Les Cantrell preached for us and brought the story of Jonah – it was a great message of God's mercy!

Please be in prayer for our children as they will be heading back to school this month. All the staff, teachers and bus drivers need our prayers too.

Pray for upcoming election in November, that God's will be done! God bless you all 'til next time.

*Billy Davis, Pastor
Joan Wood, Reporter*

Stony Point, Mineral Point

Happy August to everyone from Stony Point. It has either been very rainy or super hot for us here.

We did, however, get to have a wonderful and blessed time at Camp Garwood, with 24 people turning over their lives to the Lord! During the Sunday service Pastor Claude said he was exhausted after the week, but what a great time they had!

We also had Vacation Bible School. That was a great week with around twenty kiddos. The theme was 'Be a Light for Jesus.' Everyone enjoyed games, arts and crafts, pizza party, and sno-cones.

*Claude Evans, Pastor
DeLaina Stegall, Reporter*

First, Potosi

Greetings from First Baptist Church, Potosi.

July was an extremely busy month beginning with Vacation Bible School and Jesus Loves Potosi. The month ended with Teen Camp, Kids Camp, and then some teens went to camp at Garwood. I

love seeing the young ones praising Jesus.

Some of our outreach programs continue to be Mom-Co, U-Turn, and Overflow. We continue to serve those in need of clothing, food, and showers. It is a blessing to be able to share Jesus with the people who pass through our doors. Many have asked for Bibles when they shop for clothes. We are very blessed that we have wonderful people to donate such good clothing, food, and/or money for the pantry.

Our Wednesday night services will begin again soon.

Be sure to pray before you vote and turn it all to God.

We've been blessed with souls saved and baptism for membership into the church. Now it is time for discipleship.

The BMA Missions' prayer focus this week is Miceal and Sharon Quillman in Zambia for the new church plant and the three men they are training as pastors there.

I receive a new text every week for a specific missionary to pray for their ministry.

God is good even though there have been ups and downs, happiness and sadness, victory and defeat; however, with God on our side we will have victory. I have a favorite acronym that I would like to share with you: TASAPIO -- Take A Smile And Pass It On. Please pray for us as we pray for you.

*Jim Ainley, Pastor
Deborah Rauhut, Reporter*

Ohlman, Bunker

What can we say about how July ended and August began? WOW!

Camp Garwood week was hot and humid, but we survived. We had over 60 adults and youth attend throughout the week. The majority were full-time campers with some coming for parts of the week and services, especially on Wednesday evening when many of the parents came.

Tuesday evening, three of our boys (one from South

~ Upcoming Events ~

WMA Sponsored Ladies' Retreat –

Sept. 6-7; Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau Conference Center

"Final Authority" Gospel Singing –

Sept. 15; 6 p.m.; Landmark, DeSoto

Meramec Association Annual

Meeting – Sept. 20; 10 a.m.; Bates Creek, Potosi

BMA of Missouri Annual Meeting –

Oct. 12; 9 a.m.; Kewanee, Kewanee

Send event info to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

Carolina) accepted Christ. (See picture.) On Wednesday evening, four of our girls accepted Christ. (See picture.) Then to cap off the week, on Thursday evening, three more of our girls accepted Christ. I have to apologize that we did not get a picture of them but a couple are in the group pic-

tures. That was almost half of the 24 known professions of faith, and all but one are part of our Wednesday night student ministry. We continue to pray for each one that they will start attending church full time and follow the Lord in baptism. Sunday, August 4th, we

had special prayer at the end of services for Bryson May, Holden May and Wyatt Bishop who will be attending Missouri State Tech School. (Bryson has already started). We have a few of our ladies planning to attend the Missouri WMA sponsored retreat September 6th and 7th.

On September 28th we will have a dessert auction to benefit the National WMA project, Zambia Bible Institute. This has become a popular event. We hope to raise a large amount to benefit this worthy project.
*Terry Sharpe, Pastor
 Janet Widger, Reporter*



• *From GARWOOD page 1* •
 that get lost while trying to get them in the report. A highlight of the week for me came before camp ever started. We were blessed to see Bro. James and Sis. Mary Hoffman on Monday. They came down to bring the desserts sent from the ladies of Bethany. We had a good visit as they toured the Dorm 7 remodel.

Some financial information. The Dorm 7 remodel cost approximately \$22,000. The week before camp our account was below \$2,000 so we called Bro. Baker to initiate a loan to ensure we had finances for camp week. We borrowed \$10,000 at 0% for 5 years. The day after receiving the loan, we received a check for \$3,000. We don't have the electric bill at this time but expect it to be in excess of \$2,000 for the month of July. We paid out to various workers (band, speakers, cooks) \$3,325. Additionally, we spent \$4,374.48 on food and expect insurance to be \$7,000. I have paid myself most of the compensation checks and more mileage than normal this year as we made numerous trips working on the dorm. Since January we have made 51 trips to camp. We worked every weekend except for two, and many days I went to work from camp so I could work on the dorm at night.

There is currently approximately \$17,000 in the account, prior to paying the bills such as food, T-shirts, electric, etc. We have a few things left to complete Dorm 7. We still need to work on the Dorm 7, Dorm 1 and Dorm 2 roofs. We also have several other jobs since camp week. I'm not satisfied that the Dining Hall air conditioners are working properly. I need to replace the breakers that failed and were just temporarily fixed.

Our hope is to start work on the new evangelist/nurses quarters this winter. Folks often say, "Now that camp is over you can take a break." Well, not really. Now that camp is over I can start on next year. 2025 is going to be a great year. We are excited for our speakers and for our theme, and also for some new things the committee approved camp week.

Camp week 2025 will be July 28-August 1. Our theme will be "Walk the Path," using Psalm 16:11, "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." Our scheduled speakers are Jordan Bowen and Shawn Hammontree. We have loved these guys and enjoyed having them at camp. It will be a lot of fun having this father and son-in-law combination. We are already praying for them... and for cooler weather.



Winter Is Almost Over!

Mickeal and Sharon Quillman

Mwabuka Buti! It is hard to believe that July is over, which means our winter is almost finished. Yes, you read that correctly. Your summer is our winter since we are in the southern hemisphere. Each day, the weather is getting warmer. It seems that this year is just flying by. In only five months, Sharon and I will come back to the United States for our first furlough. While we are very



excited to visit with as many of our churches as possible, we are even more excited that we will be back for the birth of our fourth and fifth grandbabies. This will give us four granddaughters and our first grandson, Mickeal Quillman IV. This is the first child for our oldest son and the second for our youngest son

Matthew. We are so thankful that God worked out the timing for us to be there to celebrate these new lives. We are scheduling visits with churches from the US that would like for us to come and speak. If your church would be willing to host us, we would very much like to visit with you and your congregation. If your church would consider hosting an evening get-together with multiple churches, this is even better as it allows us to share our ministry here in Zambia on a broader scale.

If you have read our newsletters in the past, you have seen us asking for prayer for one of our local headmen. He is an unbeliever and caught up in the witchcraft and animistic religion that is prevalent in Africa. When his wife became a believer, she was being punished by him for attending church or Bible study. Through this tribulation, she continued to attend and pray for her husband. I am excited to say that her husband has now attended Sunday morning services for six weeks in a row! He has not accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior... yet, but we serve a faithful God. Please continue to lift him and his family up in prayer for his salvation.

We are continuing our weekly Bible studies with the community and pleased at the continued response. We are also halfway through our BMA doctrinal study with our church leadership. This is a very important step toward organizing Chabantu Missionary Baptist Church. Our children's ministry has

continued to grow, and we are praying for God to raise up more leaders to help us as we train and disciple these children. We are averaging between 60-70 children each Sunday morning and have 130 children for Bible study on Thursday mornings. We are praying for God to send us someone who can help us with a ministry for our teenagers and young adults.

Temple Baptist church from Jonesboro, Arkansas, just left and did a great job of helping us to minister through soccer and netball to our teens and young adults. This will open the door for more interactions with our teens and young adults. They also helped us to paint our church building, inside and out. Pastor Andy taught a leadership class to our local headmen and village leaders while Sharon and Connie taught our ladies what it means to be a Godly wife and mother. The council chairwoman for our district even attended this teaching.

Phil and Anita Swayne recently visited with us from Heritage Baptist Church in Waxahachie, Texas. While they were here, Sis. Anita taught my wife to crochet. They began to make hats and little coats for our children. Women all over town and the villages saw both ladies working and were asking to be taught to do this. When the Swaynes arrived back home, they began to collect supplies to bring back and teach our ladies. September 27th to October 4th of this year, Anita plans to make a return trip to train the ladies how to crochet so they have a skill for their family and something they can do to supplement their incomes. If there are any ladies that would like to come and help, please contact me for more information about this. Men are also encouraged to make this trip so we can also train and equip our men while the ladies are learning this new skill, as well as being disciplined. This is a short, one-week trip and would be a great introduction to Zambian missions. Please continue to pray for us here as we adjust to having power and water for only six hours per day and as we seek alternative options to combat this.

Prayer Requests:

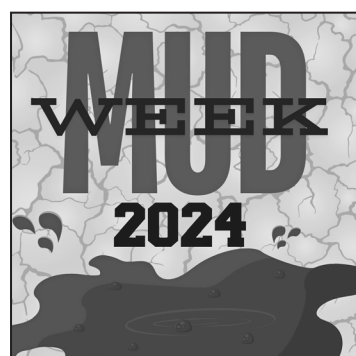
- Drought and famine in Zambia
- Headman for salvation

Prayer Praises:

- Sharon's tests came back good
- We have another grandbaby on the way



CBC M.U.D. Week 2024



The fall semester is just around the corner, and to kick it off, we are looking forward to M.U.D. Week 2024.

M.U.D. Week (Mustangs Under Development)

is a weeklong program to help new students feel welcome as they begin their CBC journey. The goal is for incoming freshmen and transfer students to build friendships, learn about campus, and have fun while participating in various games and activities.

Each new student will be assigned to one of four teams, and each team will consist of members of our Student Orientation Staff (SOS) who will help put on the week's events. Throughout the week, new students will compete in various team challenges to earn points, and in the end one team will be crowned as the 2024 M.U.D. Week champions.

On Saturday, August 17, new students will move into Dickson Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. After move-in, M.U.D. Week will officially kick off at 6:00 p.m. with the first team challenge. Following this event, everyone will go into Team Time where

they will get to know their SOS members and fellow teammates. That night, there will be residence hall meetings which are mandatory for everyone living on campus.

On Sunday, SOS will do a church carpool giving new students the opportunity ride along with them to various local churches. Games will be set up in the Dining Hall from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. That night, there will be student-led worship in the Dining Hall at 7:00 p.m. Following the worship service, the second team challenge will take place in the Dining Hall at 8:00 p.m.

Monday morning at 9:30 a.m., New Student Convocation will be held in Burgess Auditorium, and the President's Cookout will be that afternoon at 4:45 p.m. We will then have karaoke, the next team challenge, in the Dining Hall at 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m., all new students will attend our core values meeting in the Burgess Auditorium where we will talk about CBC's Christ-centered mission and recognize various college ministries in the Conway area. At 1:30 p.m., we will have our next team challenge, Minute to Win It, in Burgess. We will then have our annual theme night at 4:30 p.m. and Capture the Flag at 8:00 p.m. Capture the Flag is one of the most anticipated team challenges of the week and will be a great opportunity for students to gain team points.

Wednesday will begin with Games on the Lawn at 9:30 a.m., during which time our SOS members will be available to answer questions and help students locate their classes before they begin the next day. The next team challenge, Kickball, will then be held on the campus lawn at 2:00 p.m. That night at 7:30, each team will have off-campus Team Time which is another great opportunity for students to get to know their teammates and SOS team better.

Classes begin on Thursday, and SOS members will be available to help students find their classrooms throughout the day. At 6:00 p.m., teams will participate in M.U.D. Night, the final team challenge, on the campus lawn. At the end of this event, the M.U.D. Week Champions will be announced and will sign The Post which is signed every year by the M.U.D. Week Champions and displayed year around in the student services office. After M.U.D. Night, all students are invited to the Blue Party celebrating their completion of M.U.D. Week and entrance into the CBC family.

M.U.D. Week is an exciting time on campus as we welcome our new students and work to prepare them for the upcoming semester. We look forward to meeting all of our new freshmen and transfer students and are excited to see what God has planned for them at CBC.



I Didn't Sign Up for This!

Kelly Williams

But Mom, "That is so not fair!" How many times as mothers do we hear these words from our children? I remember clearly Travis Plumlee saying, "Life is not fair. Fair is where you take your kids in the fall to ride the Ferris wheel."

Have you ever thought in your life, well this is not what I thought my life would look like? In less than two weeks, my husband Ken and I will be married 50 years. That boggles my mind! When Ken and I (as babies) got married, he was half way through college and I had just graduated high school. We moved the next week to Fayetteville where he completed his degree to be a Vocational Agriculture teacher. I finished enough hours at the University of Arkansas to be able to go to work as a secretary. We settled into his first teaching job and found a solid church to join. We were the youth leaders for a wonderful church as volunteers.

After four years of marriage, we were ready for children. We struggled for about a year to get pregnant, but then we were told we would soon add a child to our home. At that point, it seemed a good idea to move closer to our parents, so we returned to south Arkansas, and Ken went to work for Hudson Foods. He really did not think he wanted to continue teaching at that point. Pregnancy was not easy for me. I was sick every day (throwing up) until the day our son, Aaron, was born.

We had joined the church where I grew up when we returned to south Arkansas, and Ken began to be troubled about something. I knew there was something going on, and sure enough a few months later he shared that God had called him to preach but he didn't want to do it. You see, my husband is basically a shy man. He was nervous to read in Sunday School when he was a teenager and the other students were mostly his family. He just didn't think he could stand up and preach in front of people. He went to the altar during the invitation nearly every service. He says he was trying to get God to leave him alone.

One Sunday night, Ken stepped out to go to the altar like he did so many times, but somehow I knew this time was different. I lost all strength in my legs and just had to sit down. He told our pastor that God had called him to preach and he surrendered to the call. As a naïve mother of two with the third on the way, I thought "oh how fun!" I'm going to be a preacher's wife. Life was about to change!

A small BMA church north of the farm we lived on called Ken as their pastor. We drove over an hour and a half every Sunday morning with our son, age 3, and our daughter, Jessica, age 2, and our youngest daughter, Jennifer, coming soon. Things went very well for a couple of years. The people were so kind to us and we learned so much about being the pastor's family. Then our first ministry challenge came into our lives. The church had an annual call (they would vote every year whether to keep the pastor). One woman in the church collected as many people as she could find in an attempt to vote my husband out as pastor. The church was full that Sunday. Many of those people we had never met. Before the vote at the end of the service, Ken had me to take the kids and go to the car. I learned when he got in the car that the vote had been close but he was still pastor. What a discouraging time! We were trying to serve these people and God allowed this to happen? I had a very hard time with this. Ken and I would talk and he would tell me, you have to forgive her. Oh, how I struggled with that. He would say, pray for her. I was not able to pray for her because I could not forgive her.

It wasn't long before Ken resigned from that church and we were called to another BMA church in south Arkansas. At that church, God helped me to forgive the woman and move forward with our ministry. She later mailed us a letter asking for forgiveness.

There have been other hurts in the ministry. Ken has pastored six churches and we planted a church in Algonquin, Illinois, as we served as Interstate Missionaries for the BMAA. All these churches had their own joys and challenges.

We are all sinners! The church is full of sinners! The main thing I have learned throughout these years serving as a pastor's wife is this: Love them! Love them when they get upset, love them when they are discouraged and lash out, love them when they are acting unlovable. Because God loved us when we were totally unlovable, and I want to be like my Father, God.

I have learned that we are all on a journey, and not everyone is at the same place in their journey as I am. Our journey may be like the country road that leads to my mother-in-law's home. It is full of potholes and ruts. You have to slow way down and consider which way to steer the car around those potholes or you can do much damage to your car. In life, we need to slow down and carefully consider how our words and actions can hurt others or help others. They can encourage or they can slander. They can build up or they can tear down. Psalms 19:14 says, "*Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.*"

Perhaps your disappointments in life are because of choices you made. Our legacy will always have bumps in the road! Stay the course, ladies! It is never too late to start your Godly legacy again! We just have to immerse ourselves in HIS Word, ask for God's forgiveness, forgive ourselves, and pray continuously, especially when those bumps come along.

Prayer: Father, I pray today for the pastors' wives who are reading this article. I pray for the deacons' wives who serve alongside their husbands. I pray that we will love like You love. Hold my tongue, Lord, when it needs to be quiet. Loose it when I need to speak for You. Slow my speech so that I might consider before I speak. In Your Son's beautiful name, Amen.

Scripture: Psalms 19:14; Proverbs 31:26; Matthew 12:34

• From JESUS CAMP page 1 •

Kingston, Jeff Moorman, Kevin Smith, Brad Banderman, and myself. We covered the topics of exploring salvation, exploring God's Spirit, exploring the blessings of the church, exploring the blessings of the Word, exploring the blessings of trials, exploring the blessings of being an heir of God.

We do what we call 'Kiddie Camp' Sunday through Wednesday, and then Teen Camp Wednesday through Saturday. We go swimming on one of those days for each camp and then we spend the other day doing recreation. A tremendously special blessing happened this year at Teen Camp. We normally go swimming twice at Teen Camp, but it was not possible this year, so we had a bonfire on Friday evening. We heard some amazing testimonies from these young people. One teenager shared the fact that she had lost a parent to cancer. Another teen had lost a parent in a tragic car accident. Both gave testimony of how God had brought them through, and how specifically the message on trials had blessed them. We had a little mini-revival there at that bonfire with these teenagers sharing their testimonies and what God had done for them.

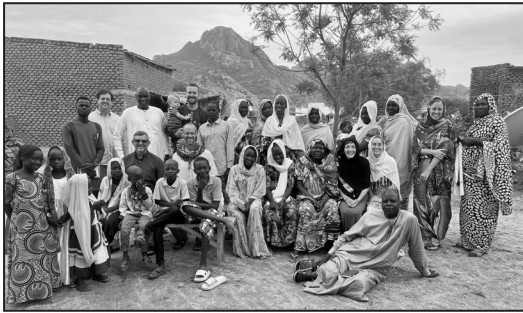
Thank you, everyone who prayed for camp, who stayed at camp, and who served at camp.



• See AFRICA page 5 •

lifestyle and the challenges of sharing the gospel.

At the first nomad camp we had lunch with them. Which meant the men slaughtered the goat while the women were getting everything else ready for the meal. We got water from a large puddle, peeled garlic, cut onions, started the fire, made tea, and watched the wives run all over the place making sure we were comfortable and taking care of everything. When the goat was finally ready to be cooked, it started pouring so we all had to run to the tent for cover. Everyone was in the tent except the wives. They were bringing things out of the rain, protecting the fire, and tightening the tent so we didn't get wet. The whole time they were doing that, the husbands were sitting in the tent drinking tea. I couldn't believe it. That was a culture shock for me and made me very grateful it's not like that here. Those women live hard lives, as well as the whole family. They're constantly moving, taking care of each other, the animals, and just surviving – but they're happy. They are so grateful for the little things although life is hard. At the second nomad camp one of the wives had recently lost her 15-year-old daughter to tetanus.



The nomadic Muslims are an unreached people group. To reach them they have to do life with them. This means they travel with them for either a few days or a week at a time. During this time, they're sleeping in tents, making food which could mean slaughtering a goat and then cooking it for everyone, setting and tearing down camp, and traveling on camels for hours at a time. Living this way of life is very simple. You have the basics and that's it. To reach these people is a huge challenge. They don't think abstractly like us. For example, if you show them a picture of a dog on your phone, they will say it is a mouse because it's too small to be a dog. Therefore, for them to understand the gospel seems almost impossible because they just can't fathom something like that. The Days have made a lot of progress by learning the language, culture, and making connections with the townspeople and nomads. Now they're onto the next step of how to share the gospel in an understandable way and a way that the people see the need for it. Be praying they can figure this out and there will be revival in Bitkine, Chad. Also, be praying men and women will be called into the mission field and be sent to Chad.

The second part of our trip was in Livingstone, Zambia, where we supported Joshua and Meagan Phiri. Joshua and Meagan are doing amazing work in villages in Livingstone. They have started three churches, are doing small groups to foster spiritual growth and community, and are actively spreading the gospel in the villages. The mission of our trip was to teach the women how to teach the children, and to train pastors. The men taught some of the local pastors as well as pastors from Zimbabwe. The women taught the children, ages 3-14. Mrs. Debra taught the 7-14 year-olds while Brooke and I taught the preschoolers. We brought seven suitcases full of teaching supplies. We had crayons, playdough, stickers, Bible stories, Bibles, pictures of Bible stories, and booklets.



The booklets we made had 45 Bible stories in them, spanning from creation to Heaven, and each kid got to take one home after our four days of teaching. During the first two days we taught stories from the Old Testament. We did creation, Noah, and Moses and we had a blast.

For Noah we had animals for each kid to have and they'd match with their pair. Once they matched up they got on our pretend ark, a group of trees, when it started raining (each kid had blue streamers we waved in the air). The kids loved it. Next was Moses and we had some fun acting out the plagues and yelling, "Let my people go!" When Pharaoh finally let us go, we walked on dry land through the Red Sea (two blue blankets) and celebrated at the end because God saved us from the evil Pharaoh! I don't know if the kids or I had more

Ministers & Ministry Opportunities

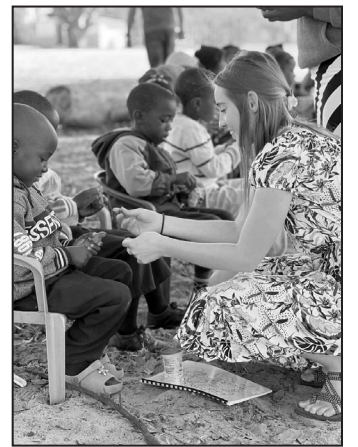
Entries are published at the request of the individual or entity listed and should not be considered as an endorsement by the Missouri Missionary Baptist or the BMA of Missouri.

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Caledonia, is seeking a pastor. If you are available and seeking God's will for a place to serve, please contact Dean Johnson at 573-210-3700 or Charlotte Cooper at 361-563-0756. (0824)

Ozark Heights Missionary Baptist Church, Potosi, MO, is in search of a pastor. You may contact Bro. Gary Gilliam at 314-550-7260 or 573-438-7207. (0624)

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.

fun doing that. The last two days we taught the New Testament. We learned about Jesus' birth and childhood, miracles, death, burial, and resurrection, and our future hope in Christ. One miracle we taught was the one where four men lower a paralyzed man through a roof and Jesus heals him. We had one of the boys lay on a blanket and we lowered him onto the mat acting the miracle out, and the kids thought it was hilarious. They were all laughing. We blindfolded the kids and had them walk to "Jesus" (a kid we chose) to get healed. We made glasses out of pipe cleaners and all kinds of stuff to demonstrate the things Jesus did. And then we got serious and talked about the death, burial, and resurrection.



The kids were too young to understand it all, but we were able to plant seeds and leave all the material so that one day those seeds will sprout and flourish. We asked on day one if the kids had ever heard any Bible stories and our translator said no. So it was such an honor and privilege to get to tell them those stories and share the gospel with them for the first time. As I was reading our book about the death, burial, and resurrection, I started tearing up because I was reminded of how we serve such an awesome God. We have a God who loved us so much He sent His Son to die on the cross for our sins and then Christ raised from the dead and defeated death. We serve a powerful God who is worthy of all praise, honor, and glory, and we need to share Him with the world.



Another way we've been able to witness to the villagers is by putting in two wells. I arrived just in time to help put the pump on the first well and was able to be the first one to pump water out of the well. That was one of the highlights of the trip for me – it was so cool. Those wells will be beneficial to those village for years and years to come and give the Phiris opportunities to talk about Christ and their mission. Be praying Joshua and Meagan can use the materials we left to start a kids' ministry, that the women will learn to teach the children the Bible, and that the wells will never run dry and be an

opportunity to talk about the Living Water.

I had an amazing time in Africa and encourage anyone reading this to be prayer warriors. Pray men and women will be called into missions. Pray men will be called to be pastors. Pray for the Days' and Phiris' ministries. Pray the Lord will move in Bitkine, Chad, and Livingstone, Zambia. Pray we will have the courage to share the gospel with those around us. Be a prayer warrior!

