

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

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

Volume LXXXVII

St. Louis, MO • March 11, 2025

Issue No. 3

Greetings, Fellow BMA Churches!

BMAA President Charles Johnson

Plans are underway for the 76th annual association meeting of the BMA of America. The dates are set for April 22-24, and we will be meeting in Waxahachie, Texas, in the facilities of our gracious hosts, Pathway Baptist Church and Heritage Baptist Church (WMA).

The meeting will be built around the BMA Missions theme – “Send Me” – which celebrates 75 years of outreach since our organization in 1950. This will be a time of worship and fellowship as well as caring for the most important business on earth – the Lord’s business. Although we may have to stay later the first two nights, we are attempting to finish the association’s business on Wednesday night, so messengers will be free to return home early Thursday.

We are prayerfully looking forward to the annual message by Dr. Gary O’Neal of Little Rock on Wednesday evening. Dr. Wayne Whiteside from Louisiana, a veteran pastor and volunteer death row chaplain in five states, will be the featured speaker in the Pastors’ Conference on Wednesday.

Waxahachie, like most suburban areas of the DFW Metroplex is experiencing tremendous growth in population. Several nice hotels and eating establishments will be available to meet your needs. A list of available lodging can be found at bmaamerica.org under the “Events” link. There is also a tentative schedule of association events on the website.

I urge each local BMA church to send your three messengers and other guests to this most important meeting. Please consider sending a generous offering to help with the meeting expenses and other related costs during the year. I hope to see you in Waxahachie on April 22.

“Send Me!” BMA National Meeting, 2025

Donny Parrish, Conference Director

The churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America will gather for their annual associational meeting April 22-23 on the campus of Pathway Baptist Church in Waxahachie, Texas. This will mark 75 years of BMA churches cooperating to fulfill the Great Commission around the world. The theme for the meeting is “Send Me!” In addition to conducting the association’s business, those attending will give thanks to our great God and celebrate the work He has done through His churches for 75 years.

Highlights of the meeting will include an opening celebration of 75 years of World Missions through the work of BMA Global. During this service, BMA missionaries will be featured, former missionaries will be recognized and future missionaries will be prayed for. This promises to be an uplifting and God-honoring time of worship. BMA of America President Charles Johnson will deliver the annual President’s Message that evening.

On April 23, the 2025 National WMA Conference will take place at Heritage Baptist Church in Waxahachie. Registration for this event will start at 8:30 a.m.

The Annual BMA Pastors’ Conference, sponsored by Healthy Church Solutions, will begin at 9 a.m. in the worship center at Pathway. Dr. Wayne Whiteside, pastor of Crestview Baptist Church in Farmerville, Louisiana, will be the speaker for this event. Following Dr. Whiteside, there will be breakout sessions on various ministry topics.

BMA Global will honor two new Legacy Missionary families at 3:30 p.m. on April 23. This event is always one of the highlights of any BMA National Meeting. The service will take place in the Pathway Worship Center.

• See MEETING page 6 •



BMAA Annual Meeting Tentative Schedule

April 22, 2025

- 11:00 a.m. Board Chairmen Orientation Meeting – Pathway Baptist Church Student Center Room #2200
- 6:00 p.m. Send Me – A Celebration of 75 Years of Global Missions
- 7:00 p.m. Break
- 7:15 p.m. Worship
Pathway Worship Team
President’s Message – Bro. Charles Johnson
- 8:15 p.m. First Business Session

April 23, 2025

- 7:15 a.m. New BMA Pastors’ Orientation
- 8:00 a.m. Brotherhood Meeting – Pathway Baptist Church
Committee Meetings – Pathway Baptist Church
WMA Meeting Registration – Heritage Baptist Church
- 8:30 a.m. WMA Women’s Conference – Heritage Baptist Church
- 9:00 a.m. Pastors’ Conference – Pathway Baptist Church
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch Break
- 12:00 Noon Women’s Luncheon
- 1:00 p.m. Second Business Session – Directors’ Reports – Pathway Baptist Church
WMA Business Meeting – Heritage Baptist Church
- 3:15 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. Legacy Missionary Celebration/
Missionary Commissioning
- 4:45 p.m. Break for Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Worship
Oak Park Baptist Worship Team
Annual Message – Bro. Gary O’Neal
- 7:30 p.m. Break
- 7:45 p.m. Third Business Session

April 24, 2025

Fourth Business Session (if needed)

*To register your church for the 2025
BMAA Annual Meeting
or for hotel or other
meeting information visit:*

bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting

State Missions

Dear BMAMO Churches,

Well, 2025 is certainly marching on! In just two short months we will be going to graduation parties, homecomings, and gearing up for BBQs, church camps, and of course, vacations and all the summer activities.

The Lord has been blessing in the area of missions in Missouri. If you haven't heard yet, Bro. Chuck Tedrow is leading in the effort of a restart in Union, Missouri, with the church formerly known as Central. As of February 22nd, the Meramec Association will support with \$500 a month, our national work will support in the same monthly amount, and our State work will support \$200 per month. We will seek direction from the State Missionary Committee at the Semi-Annual Meeting as to how to proceed in financial support. We can give an exhaustive report at that meeting to answer any questions about this effort. We are excited about what God is wanting to do in Union, Missouri, with this effort. New Testament is the mother church, and we are grateful for their leadership in this restart.



MISIÓN BAUTISTA BELÉN
(Bethlehem Mission)
Serving Hispanic Families • St Louis Metro East
Juan Fernandez
pastorjuanfernandez@gmail.com • 618-581-8056

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so, shall ye be my disciples. (John 15:8)

Greetings from our war room in Granite City, Illinois. The Lord is blessing our ministry with your prayers – amen, praise the Lord! We have a unique mission of bringing the message of reconciliation to our Spanish-speaking families. Our vision continues as we exist to glorify our Heavenly Father by bearing fruit and continuing to be His disciples.

We are getting prepared for our Easter celebration the first Sunday of the month. We will gather to worship early morning via Facebook with songs of worship and celebration in Spanish. Later in the day we will host a potluck for our families who have been invited for this special event for our ministry. We have planned to gather the first Sunday of the month with Granite City friends for fellowship. We can't wait for this special celebration with all the BMA church families in the area.

Also we are handing out invitations for Bible study on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Lindsay Lane Church in Florissant. We will soon resume our prayer tent, where we set up a tent, a table and some chairs to connect with parents and kids driving or walking by the parking lot. We share bottled water, flyers, etc., and most importantly we pray for and with them. As they walk by, some come close to share prayer requests, and this is such a

- privilege to be present in the community.
- Continue praying for us we are reaching out to our families and friends through the following ministries:
- Prayer Network: On daily basis online 6:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
 - Prayer Walks: Weather permitting, we pray as we walk around schools and neighborhoods, public buildings and local businesses.
 - Prayer Tent: Every Wednesday and Saturday we load the truck with our generator, speakers, bottled water, flyers and Bibles to connect with our community throughout the day.
 - Discovery Bible Study: On Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday at 1:00 p.m., Thursday at 4:00 p.m. and Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
 - Discipleship: One-on-one.
 - ESL Outreach: Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. in the St. Ann community. Also, during the evening hours we offer tutoring from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Granite City.
 - Translation Services: During weekdays this is often needed to help our friends communicate during doctors' appointments, court, etc. We love to spend time with our friends and learning how to serve them better.
 - Transportation: to different appointments, grocery shopping, etc.
 - Visitation: on job sites and hospitals.
 - Soccer Coaching: This spring season will bring many opportunities to reconnect with some of the families we met last season and connect with new families who we pray might become a vital part of our ministry locally.
- See MISIÓN BELÉN page 3 •



At the Meramec meeting we heard from Bro. Juan, and he continues to do a great work reaching Spanish-speaking people for the Lord. Please continue to pray for him and his family as they serve the Lord in the greater St. Louis area.

If you have not set an appointment for your church to be assessed this summer, please reach out to me soon so we can schedule a Wednesday night to assess your church. Healthy churches plant healthy churches.

Just as a reminder, please plan to attend our Men's Retreat on April 25-26 at Camp Garwood. This will be a great time of fellowship and training. The three sessions will be on training the trainers:

- Training the Disciple
- Training the Discipler
- Training the Dad

Please pray for this event. It is vital that our churches have strong men leading them. There will also be sessions for the younger men at the same time that the men meet, so bring your young men as well.

This is a free event, but any donations would be appreciated. I would suggest asking each man to bring \$25 for a tee shirt, and that would go a long way in funding this event – again, not as a fee, but a free-will donation.

Also please announce our Missions Symposium at Bethel at Sikeston, Missouri, on May 9 and the Mid-Year Association Meeting the following day, May 10. More details to come.

May the Lord richly bless you is my prayer.

Bro. Ben Kingston

Financial Report BMA Of Missouri Missions February 2025			
<u>Checking Account:</u>			
Balance January 31		\$	37,751.54
<u>Income:</u>			
Missions	\$	3,928.48	
Garwood insurance		<u>7,022.60</u>	
Total Income			\$ 10,951.08
Total Available			\$ 48,702.62
<u>Expenses:</u>			
Director, salary	\$	450.00	
Secretary, salary		200.00	
Juan Fernandez, support		2,333.33	
Office supplies		<u>35.26</u>	
Total Expenses			\$ (3,018.59)
Balance February 28			\$ 45,684.03
<u>BMAMS Revolving Loan Investment:</u>			
Balance January 31	\$	119,803.75	
Interest		<u>1,509.91</u>	
Balance February 28			\$ 121,313.66
Total in All Accounts February 28			\$ 166,997.69

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

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State WMA and Brotherhood Meeting

Sara Buckley

The Missouri State WMA and Brotherhood met on Saturday, March 1, at Matthews. It is always a blessing to be with your brothers and sisters in Christ. The WMA had good attendance and a few new faces! God blessed the meeting from start to finish. From the devotionals to the preaching from our missionary to Zambia, Africa, it was clear that God had a part in each message as it all tied together.

The new State WMA project for 2025-2026 is as follows: 25% Bro. Juan Fernandez work fund (missionary), 25% Bro. Mickeal Quillman (missionary), 25% Missouri Baptist paper, and 25% general fund. We also held our election of officers. (See picture.)

We all enjoyed a good meal and a time of fellowship, thanks to the great ladies at Matthews. A special thank you to Bro. and Sis. Quillman for coming to spend the day with us. They shared the gospel and the great work that is being done in Zambia. Please keep them both in your prayers as they continue to travel to churches in other states.

If you are interested in learning more about the WMA or starting a WMA in your local church, please know that we would love to visit your church.



Front (l-r): Samantha Barnett, Youth Promoter; Lauren Russell, Asst. Youth Promoter; Bea Evans, Bible and Tract Distributor; Deiatre Gillam, Historian; Sara Buckley, Vice President and Retreat Comm. Back (l-r): Janet Widger, Retreat Comm.; Juanita May, Asst. Treasurer; Connie Reifsteck, Treasurer; Kari Hartlein, Asst. Secretary; Tracy Goede, President Not pictured: Norma Womble, Secretary; Amy Asher, Retreat Comm.; Lisa Cox, Retreat Comm. (until September)

• From MISIÓN BELÉN page 2 •

• Pulpit Fill-In: We have enjoyed opportunities to cover the pulpit, giving a message and bringing a ministry update to Bethany Baptist Church in Overland the first Sunday of every month for the last 14 months. If you would like to have us join you for worship and sharing ministry update and pray for us, send me a message – I will be happy to schedule a time to come and fellowship with y'all.

Serving in the following areas where Spanish-speaking families are present in Illinois: Granite City, Collinsville, and Edwardsville; and in Missouri: St. Ann, St. John, Overland, Maryland Heights, Florissant, Chesterfield, Clarkson Valley. We pray that in each of these towns God will raise men of peace to become change makers in their community. We have a discipleship process available through our BMA resources. Pray for each one of these men to stay faithful to God's calling and our ministry among them.

Don't forget to check with us on the many dates available to come and join us in one of our outreach opportunities for the kingdom expansion. Pray that soon we can pray with more pastors in the area and three new families

that will become the core team for our ministry as we head to our next stage of ministry serving our lovely friends.

We face many

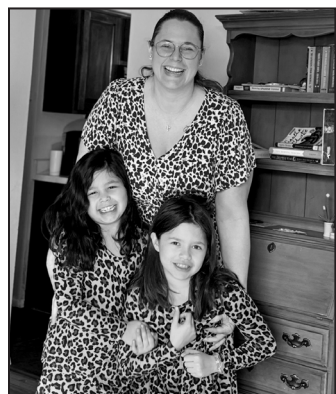
challenges. This is a mission field right at home, and just as important as the many mission fields overseas. Our ministry is being challenged since God is bringing people now to us from so many different countries. Even though Spanish is the primary language of their heart, their background, customs and traditions are still often a challenge. And many of these families are having a hard time being willing to trust, while hurting financially and their desire is to find jobs that will help them survive in this new community.

Pray that each one of our contacts becomes a faithful laborer for the kingdom – that each one of the men receives the training we offer to become men of God to grow the presence and influence in our many growing communities in the area.

Pray for us, that the Lord finds us faithful to the call, for our family to have healthy finances as we have grown since we joined the BMA back in December 2020.

Pray for our family. As we see our kids growing, we are praying we organize our schedules so this year we can enjoy decent vacation time, looking forward to a great spring time!

In His Service,
Juan Andres Fernandez (Acts 20:24)



Missouri WMA-Sponsored Retreat

September 5 & 6

Yalanda Merrell, Speaker

~ • ~

Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau Conference Center
3351 Percy Dr. • Cape Girardeau, MO

~ • ~

Retreat Fee: \$70.00 payable to MO WMA
(Mail to: Janet Widger, 5014 Hwy N, Salem, MO 65560)

Deadline: August 22, 2025
(after that, the fee will be \$80.00)

~ • ~

For Hotel Reservations: 1-800-325-0720

(Use group #10118265)

Room rate is \$155.00 (plus tax)

Deadline to get room in our block is August 3

Update Your Calendars

Missions Symposium and Mid-Year Meeting
of the BMA of Missouri

May 9th-10th

At Bethel Baptist Church, Sikeston

Association & Department Contact Information

BMA of Missouri

www.bmamissouri.org
Dan Wisely, Moderator
12391 US Hwy 61, New Madrid, MO 63869
wiselyfam@att.net
Don Burke, Clerk
potosipastor@gmail.com

Missouri Missionary Baptist

Don Burke, Editor
704 Valley Road, Potosi, MO 63664
mmbpaper@gmail.com

BMA of Missouri Missions

Ben Kingston, Director
569 Bethel Church Rd., Lonedell, MO 63060
Missions offerings: Stacie Hatfield
1220 Park Drive, St. Clair, MO 63077
stacieh73@hotmail.com

Camp Garwood

Chris Polk, Superintendent
P.O. Box 271, Matthews, MO 63867
573-380-1975

Missouri Missionary Baptist Loan Association

Dennis Baker, President/Treasurer
5146 Darkmoor Lane, Imperial, MO 63052
314-846-1867 • bbsafety4332@gmail.com

WMA / GMA

Norma Womble, WMA Secretary
7421 Hillsboro House Spg. Rd., Cedar Hill, MO 63016
nrwomble@juno.com

WMA offerings to: Connie Reifsteck, WMA Treasurer
P. O. Box 190493, St. Louis, MO 63119

GMA offerings: Lisa Cox, GMA Treasurer
767 State Hwy P, New Madrid, MO 63869

Brotherhood

Bryan Buckley, President
12499 St. Hwy P, Potosi, MO 63664
medic6905@hotmail.com

• Updates from Our Churches •

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston

February was a fantastic month as we realized a dream come true: the planting of a new church through us. February 28th, we organized our mission in Ubay, Bohol, Philippines into a New Testament church. We currently still have one mission in Tailbon, Bohol, Philippines.

Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

Bethel, Sikeston

Greetings, everyone, from Bethel, Sikeston. Spring is just around the corner, and we are so looking forward to the warmer temps. We had to cancel services a couple of times in February because of bad weather. We sure missed meeting together to worship and sing praises to our Lord!

We continue to see new visitors here and are so thankful, praying they will have a desire to come back and worship with us again.

We were so sorry to hear about the passing of Bro. Hoffmann. He will be sadly missed, but we have blessed assurance that he is resting in the arms of Jesus and we will see him again. Our deepest sympathies to his family.

We are so blessed to be hosting the missions symposium and mid-year meeting this year. We will be serving lunch after the mid-year meeting. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and hearing the messages that our missionaries have for us. We welcome all to attend these events on May 9th and 10th. Bro. Ben Kingston, Bro. Poirier, and Bro. Quillman will be with us. On April 6th Bro. Mickeal Quillman will be

with us for the evening service. We are looking forward to all these events coming up.

Bro. Billy has started teaching on the book of Psalms for our Wednesday night Bible study; such an inspiring book it is. Sis. Helen and Sis. Shelly are working on an Easter program. We are so thankful that they are willing to put this together. It always turns out to be such a blessing to all of us.

We had a lot of sickness this past month, but everyone seems to be getting better. Praying that you and yours are all well. Please keep us in your prayers as we keep you in ours.

*Billy Davis, Pastor
Joan Wood, Reporter*

Westview, Jefferson City

Winter has been hard. We had to cancel several Sunday and Wednesday services.

We were able to host the Meramec Association's Missionary Committee meeting in February and heard encouraging reports from Bro. Fernandez (Hispanic ministry) and Bro. Tedrow (Union, MO, church plant). Bro. Hearst preached an encouraging message titled "So" (Job 42:12).

Westview recently heard a report from Maddie Lahmann (New Testament Baptist Church, Sullivan) and received an offering to help with her expenses on a planned summer mission trip to Bosnia.

One of our members, Ted Brown, passed away in January. He was a resident of the Missouri Veterans Home in Mexico, MO, due to declining health.

Bro. Hearst has continued to help fill in several times a month at Bethany Baptist Church, St. Louis, where Bro. Jim Hoffmann pastored for many years. Bro. Hoffmann was a faithful and much beloved servant.

Christ is King!

*Benjamin Kingston, Pastor
Rae Lynn Hearst, Reporter*

Oak Hill, Alton

HELLO to all from Oak Hill! Thank the Lord spring is just around the corner!

Bro. Chad Casey rescheduled Carstyn's check-up at St. Jude's for March 5th because of bad weather. We hope and pray that Carstyn's scans come back clean with NO cancer/tumors.

March 30th is a fifth Sunday, and we will have our fifth Sunday dinner. If you are in our area, please stop by and eat with us.

As of right now we do not have any plans for Easter. We want everyone to have a blessed Easter remembering what the Lord has done for everyone who believes in him as their Lord and Savior.

Until next month 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*

Lindsay Lane, Florissant

Greetings from Lindsay Lane! Praying for blessings on you and yours. Thanking and praising God for His protection through these winter storms. We have so much to be thankful for. It's so good to have warmer sunshine

temps. We have had several of our folks out due to the flu but thankfully most have recovered. Sis. Terri Krieg had surgery recently and is recovering and able to join us in worship. Praise God for healing! Sis. Shelia is waiting for results of tests. I can see clearly now since my cataracts are gone in both eyes! Thank you, Dawn Olson, for being my driver and cheerleader. Our Valentine banquet was well attended in spite of the weather. And both Pastor Brian and Dawn were home with the flu.

Saints Alive still meets the second Tuesday of the month. We have fun, fellowship, and food. We are enjoying the FBI-class series. We have recently added seven new members to our church family! We will be starting a ministry for our youth. We will also be planning for our VBS. The fifth Sunday we will have lunch then spend some time singing the old songs, some new songs, praising God for His blessings! We continue having visitors. We covet your prayers as we serve in the Florissant area! May God bless and keep you 'til we meet again!

*Brian Meade, Pastor
Kathy Chapman, Reporter*

Landmark, DeSoto

Spring greetings to all from Landmark, DeSoto! SO thankful for temperatures above freezing.

We missed a couple of services due to that arctic blast that hit us, but we're back on track now. In fact, we had a pot-luck dinner this past Sunday (March 2) just to celebrate the warmer weather! It was a good time of sharing both spiritual warmth and physical warmth.

Bro. Len Young, our pastor, is still making sure we are being fed the meat of God's Word every week, such as his message from II Corinthians 5, regarding our building of God, our house not made with hands. Thanks also to Sis. Rebecca Young and Bro.

David Burch for their diligent and joyful music leadership.

We've scheduled a barbecue fundraiser for Saturday, April 5th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We'll feature pork steaks and bratwurst, with tater salad, baked beans, and rolls. There'll be both dine-in and carry-out available. Come on out and join us if you can.

We welcomed two new members into our church this past month, Bro. Earl and Sis. Sharilyn Mendenhal. We're so glad to have them in our church family!

We again ask for prayers for several members who are dealing with health and other issues. Bro. Kevin Saylor is fighting heart issues, and Sis. Debbie Steinbach is recovering from broken bones after a fall. Bro. Young's knees are still giving him problems, and he also lost a relative to cancer. There are many more requests. We ask that you would pray for God's grace to get us through every difficulty, and to do so with joy! We will also continue to keep all of you in our prayers.

Until next month, remember Romans 15:13: *Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.*

Len Young, Pastor

Barbara Williams, Reporter

Stony Point, Mineral Point

Hello from Stony Point. We have all made it through our snowpocalypse and are looking forward to spring!

In February we had a candlelight supper fundraiser for the Washington County WMA and the Missouri State WMA, with over 60 in attendance.

Sunday, March 2nd, we showed appreciation for our deacons. Jim Douglas, Michael Bourbon and Larry Jarvis, thank you for all you do.

Hoping everyone has a safe and happy March and a happy Easter!

*Claude Evans, Pastor
DeLaina Stegall, Reporter*

~ Upcoming Events ~

MO GMA House Party and Annual

Meeting – March 14-15; Camp Garwood

Bible Trivia Night – March 20; 6:30 p.m.;

First Baptist, Matthews; fundraiser for Camp Garwood

Spring Retreat – March 21-22; Speaker

Mickeal Quillman; Camp Garwood

BMAA National Meeting – April 22-24;

Pathway Baptist Church, Waxahachie, TX

Brotherhood Men's / Renewal Retreat –

April 25-26; Camp Garwood

Missions Symposium / Mid-Year Meeting

– May 9-10; Bethel, Sikeston

Prayer Retreat – May 30-31; Speaker

Larry Barker; Camp Garwood

Send event info to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

Sixth Annual CBC Scholarship Gala

Central Baptist College hosted its sixth annual Scholarship Gala on February 28th. The black-tie optional event featured keynote speaker, Houston Nutt, and was held at Antioch Baptist Church.

The theme of the event was "Legacy of Faith," and the program focused on the mission and ministry of Central Baptist College, which is "the integration of Christian faith and academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment."

Houston Nutt shared his personal story of growing up and working towards playing professional football before injuries changed his plans. Soon he was offered a position working with college freshmen and felt drawn to the role. "I knew I was meant to be a difference maker," he said. "There are a lot of difference makers here tonight."

At the event, Central Baptist College President Terry Kimbrow announced that \$772,650 had been raised through event sponsorships and private donations and that all proceeds would benefit student scholarships. President Kimbrow acknowledged 58 event sponsors and many additional individuals and businesses who made contributions towards the total. "I am beyond grateful for the generosity of so many," said President Kimbrow. "The Central Baptist College Board of Trustees, local businesses, not only in Conway but across the state of Arkansas, and other individuals who are such faithful supporters of Central Baptist College all came together to make this an unforgettable night for the support of Christian higher education."

Contributions are still being accepted. To contribute visit cbc.edu/gala and complete the online giving form. Checks may be mailed to Central Baptist College, 1501 College Avenue, Conway, AR 72034 with "2025 Scholarship Gala" on the memo line of the check.



From One Bicycle to a Church

Joshua Phiri

What if your simple act of faith could change an entire village?

Let me tell you about Rudolf and his wife, a couple whose commitment to Christ sparked something extraordinary.

A Two-Hour Walk for Worship

Rudolf was a devoted member of Mbangweta Church. When he and his wife moved to another village, they refused to let distance keep them from worship. Every Sunday, they walked for two hours – each way – just to be in church.

Their love for God and their hunger for fellowship were unwavering. But the journey was long, exhausting, and often difficult.

A Bicycle, A Blessing, A Beginning

Then, something amazing happened. Majestic View Church heard about their faithfulness and gifted them a bicycle. It was a small gesture – but one that made a huge impact.

Instead of walking for hours, they could now travel faster, making it easier to attend services, grow in their faith, and even bring others along. But God wasn't done

writing their story.

A Church Is Born in Delevu

As Rudolf and his wife continued their journey of faith, they didn't just keep it to themselves. They began sharing the Gospel in their new village.

Soon, we started a Bible study group right where they lived. Week by week, more people gathered, drawn by the message of hope and salvation. And then, something incredible happened – a new church was born.

Now, Delevu Has a Church and Clean Water

Today, because of one couple's faith and one church's generosity, Delevu village now has a thriving church of its

own. Not only that, but they also have clean water, a tangible reminder of God's provision and love.

What started as one bicycle turned into a movement of faith, transformation, and life-giving water.

Be Part of the Next Miracle

This is what happens when we step out in faith together. A simple gift can lead to a revival in a

• See **BICYCLE** page 7 •



The Master's Builders Annual Retreat

The Master's Builders met for our Annual Retreat on January 28-31 at Daniel Springs Camp in Gary, TX. We always enjoy this time of fellowship, food, fun, and relaxation. It is a great time to catch up and visit with each other. We had 34 at the retreat this year and really missed those who were unable to attend. Most of us stayed in the dorm rooms at the Daniel Dorm and used the kitchen and other areas for our time there. Two couples brought their RVs and were able to connect to the RV outlets, which the Master's Builders put in at the end of the building a few years back. Thank you to Jason Prewitt, Camp Director at Daniel Springs, for our accommodations.

On Wednesday night, our dear friend Randy Decker came over from Canton, TX, and led us in a time of singing before Bro. Charles Bobo brought the Bible study. On Thursday afternoon, we had our annual business meeting where we learned of the upcoming jobs for the year. We have a full schedule for 2025! Praise God! Of course, these may have to be changed or adjusted as we progress through the year, but any changes will be sent out on our Facebook page. These are the jobs we have scheduled, as of now:

- March 3-14 – Stoneridge Baptist Camp, Smithville, AR
- March 31 - April 11 – Camp Garwood, Van Buren, MO
- April 28 - May 9 – Go Forth Baptist Church, Kilgore, TX
- May 28 - June 13 – Round Prairie Baptist Church, Fairfield, TX
- September 8-19 – Daniel Springs Camp, Gary, TX
- October 6-17 – Beckham Baptist Church, Sulfur Springs, TX

If you are in the area or near any of these jobs, PLEASE come by and visit.



We'd love to meet you! The Master's Builders completed Job #191 this past September at Ramsey Heights Baptist, South Batesville, AR, and by 2026 we should be very close to job #200, if the Lord allows!! Praise God!! Wow! Thank you, Lord, for continuing to bless this ministry!

Thursday evening, we were privileged to have a guest speaker come and share his ministry with us. Missionary Maylon Foshee from Agape for Haiti, spoke

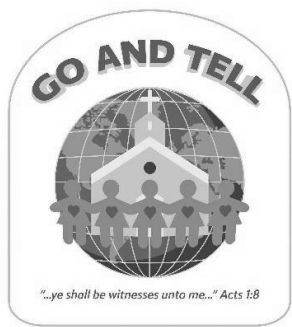
about his work with the children in Haiti. Please pray for this ministry and connect with him online on Instagram or Facebook, @maylonfoshee, if you are interested in learning more about this ministry.

Thank you to all of you who pray for us and for the camp here at Daniel Springs. Pray for Jason as he strives to serve the Lord here. I was saved because of the ministry of this church camp, so it has a special place in my heart. The Master's Builders biggest prayer need is for workers. We are losing our men, who have been so faithful to come and work, because of age and health concerns. Our average age of active workers is 79! There is a great need for this ministry work, and our prayer is that God will call men and women to come alongside us and help.

If you have questions about the Master's Builders ministry, or if your church has building needs, please contact Mike Green at (972) 935-3877, David Axe at (903) 918-0702 or Eddie Sikes at (479) 462-1675.

Follow us on Facebook and see where we are and what we're doing - "Like" us at "The Master's Builders" (arbor logo).

Nelda Malone - Reporter



National WMA 2025 Ladies' Conference

April 23, 2025

Heritage Baptist Church • Waxahachie, Texas
Registration 8:00; Program 8:30 to 12:00

Business meeting following lunch

Keynote Speaker – Bro. David Dickson



Bro. David will be speaking to the WMA ladies about the unique contributions that women have made, and are making, as they serve alongside their husbands on the mission field. Often overlooked, the “quiet ministries” of single women and wives continue to have an eternal impact on a multitude of children and women who often respond to the “softer” touch of the gospel message modeled by Christian women. It should come as no surprise that the men who serve as BMAA missionaries are quick to credit their wives for their success at spreading the gospel around the world.

Breakout Sessions (*choose two*)

In Jerusalem – Our Home – Diana Morris



I am a retired elementary music teacher, and I loved that mission field so much I am now a substitute teacher. My home church is Union Hill Baptist in Brownsboro, TX where I teach 4-5-year-olds Sunday School and K-5th graders on Wednesday nights. My greatest joy is my family where I have a daughter who is a nurse and a son who resides in heaven with my husband of 50 years before God called him home. I love being Grammy to eight grands and Great Grammy to one. I will be sharing about sharing our home and our family.

In Judea – Our Community – Terrie Triplet



Terrie is a member of First Baptist Church, McNeil, Arkansas, where she has served for many years in many positions, particularly within the GMA group. She will be speaking on being a witness in her community where she has served as mayor for eight years.

In Samaria – Our Nation – Dr. John Adams



America is in a “Valley of Decision” as Joel 3:14 declared. Satanic forces desire to silence the voice of Christ and His church as vividly portrayed in the recent video, “*Speechless – Silencing the Christians*.” But we that believe in Godly, Biblical convictions cannot sit idly by – our voice must be heard. BMA churches believe in the home, morality, the Bible, the church, and the greatness and power of God.

Uttermost Parts of the Earth – Shelly Dickson



David and I were missionaries for 50 years. We served in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Puerto Rico. Our four children grew up on the mission field and were a large part of our ministry. I will be discussing how to reach the uttermost parts of the world. I look forward to sharing my experiences and also learning from you ladies.

Join Us for Early Fun and Fellowship (Topgolf)

Dr. Charley Holmes

BMA Seminary is excited to announce that it has been awarded a Pathways 2025 Assessment and Planning Grant. The award comes from a philanthropic foundation and is intended “to support exploration and opportunities that strengthen and sustain . . . the school’s capacity to prepare and support pastoral leaders for Christian churches.”

Through the years, BMA Seminary administrators have gathered anecdotal information from BMA pastors and congregational leaders on specific needs and emerging challenges for their congregations pertaining to pastoral leadership. After all, the seminary exists to equip individuals for leadership roles within BMA churches.

However, the assessment and planning grant will allow BMA Seminary to give opportunities for church leaders to clarify specific needs and challenges for their congregations as they pertain to pastoral leadership. Hopefully, seminary personnel can respond by developing accurate and targeted strategies for addressing the stated needs and challenges for BMA congregations and their pastoral leaders.

So, how will the Assessment and Planning Grant work? First, it allows BMA Seminary to use grant funds rather than the institution’s general fund that comes from donations and tuition income. Second,

it allows BMA Seminary to host a series of events where fun, fellowship, and fact finding can occur.

The main event is scheduled for April 21, 2025, at Topgolf Dallas, a day before the annual association meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of America in Waxahachie, Texas. Grant funds will pay for those attending to play golf and eat. In other words, this is an opportunity to play Topgolf for free, including those with physical disabilities. Designated congregational leaders will also be asked to help the seminary by sharing their thoughts about pastoral leadership needs and challenges. The designated congregational leaders will also receive a stipend to help offset an extra night’s hotel expense. The event is scheduled from 1:00-4:00 PM. It will be very helpful if you can sign up for the event by emailing the seminary president’s office at president@bmats.edu.

Please take advantage of this unique opportunity to have some fun and help BMA Seminary. We hope you can join us!

• From MEETING page 1 •

Dr. Gary O’Neal, senior pastor of Oak Park Baptist Church in Little Rock, was selected by the churches during the 2024 BMA National Meeting to deliver this year’s annual message. The service is scheduled for April 23, starting at 6:30 p.m.

To register your church messengers for the 2025 BMA National Meeting, secure hotel accommodations, reserve a display table or send your church’s annual funding for the meeting, go to bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting. The meeting schedule is also available on this page.

For other questions about the meeting, call Conference Director Donny Parrish at (972) 571-0357.

Ministers' Wives and Widows Luncheon

April 23

Heritage Baptist Church • 1000 Butcher Rd. • Waxahachie, TX

The WMA of the BMAA invites all ladies to enjoy a fellowship luncheon recognizing ladies who have served in the ministry with their husbands. The wives and widows of ministers and missionaries are invited as our special guests (free of charge).

The luncheon cost for all others is \$15 per person.

To plan adequately, we ask that everyone, including guests, pre-register. Please send the name of each person attending, along with a check (where applicable) made payable to WMA of BMAA. Indicate any attendee who is the wife or widow of a minister. Mail your registration information to the following address:

WMA of BMAA • PO Box 23 • Salem, MO 65560
Registration deadline (including guests) is April 9.



The Fogs

Judy Wallace

I knew they were there. I had seen them the day before. In fact, I had been there when they were built and had visited both of them. But because of the fog, I couldn't see either my niece's nor my nephew's houses that were just across the field.

The fact of the presence of those houses dispelled any doubt the fog may have caused by its dreary, gray curtain that they even existed. Oh, that we would be that cognizant of the fact of the presence of our Heavenly Father no matter whatever may try and block our view.

To have a godly family legacy, we must have our own personal legacy with God. From the time we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior we began a journey that should have solidified our total trust in His presence despite the 'fogs' in our lives.

There is the fog of physical decline. When your husband has been diagnosed with cancer, when you are facing surgery, when several of your most faithful church members have major, sometimes incurable, diseases the fog rolls in and tries to hide the fact of God's presence; the fact that He is Jehovah-Rapha...the God Who Heals.

Then there is the fog of financial despair. Does there seem to be a lot more month at the end of your paycheck? Is it difficult to meet even your most basic of needs, like food and shelter? Then the fog rolls in and tries to hide the fact of God's provision; the fact that He is Jehovah-Jireh...the God Who Provides.

Next is the fog of relationships. Maybe it is constant disagreements with your spouse. Or perhaps you

have a broken relationship with a child. It could be that out of the clear blue you have been hurt by someone you thought was your friend. That's when the fog rolls in and tries to hide the fact that God loves us unconditionally and wants us to show the same love to others; the fact that He is Jehovah-Shalom... the God of Peace.

Finally we have the fog of anxiety and worry. These sins (and yes, that's what they are!) could be some of the most devastating. The mind is constantly set on the problem, the person, the malady, the money...or lack thereof. These thoughts occupy the heart and mind to such an extent that there is no room for any other thought. This fog controls all of the others and tries to hide the fact that God is Jehovah-Roi...the God Who Sees.

The fogs will always be there but the facts are much more reliable. He is there, present with us at all times. He sees what we are going through and is there to provide and guide. Trust the truth of who God is.

"I will trust when I cannot see, though I'm faced with adversities, and believe Your will is always best for me. I will trust when I cannot see." – John Peterson

Prayer: Father, it is so easy to dwell on the problem and circumstances instead of choosing to look to you. You promise to always be with us in any and all situations. Help us to dwell on that fact.

Scripture: Is. 26:3; Ps. 139; Prov. 3:5-6; Phil. 4:6.

"Lord, I am willing to receive what You give, to lack what You withhold, to relinquish what You take, to suffer what You inflict, to be what You require." – Jerry Bridges, *Transforming Grace*.

Hellwig Named BMA Seminary Vice-President

BMA Seminary is pleased to announce that Dr. David Hellwig of Jacksonville, Texas has been elected to serve as the institution's new Vice-President/Dean.

The seminary's Board of Trustees met for a regularly scheduled meeting on February 28, 2025, and accepted President Philip Attebery's nomination of Hellwig for the position.

Since 2009, Hellwig has served BMA Seminary as a Professor of Biblical Studies with primary emphasis in New Testament. According to Attebery, Hellwig has been a tremendously beloved professor.

During the fall 2024, Attebery appointed Hellwig to serve the institution as its Associate Dean. Hellwig's credentials include 30 years of significant pastoral experience and several earned academic degrees. Hellwig holds a B.A. degree from Central Baptist College of

Conway, Arkansas and both an M.Div. and Ph.D. from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary.



Hellwig is a native of Missouri where he attended a BMA church. He and his wife Kerri have four grown children.

According to Hellwig, "I have enjoyed my tenure as a Professor of Biblical Studies at the BMA Seminary and look forward to the future. I appreciate the Board's confidence in electing me to this important position.

I am excited about furthering the seminary's ministry of equipping faithful workers to serve in our churches, throughout the BMA, and around the world."

Individuals with interest in attending or supporting BMA Seminary may contact Vice-President Hellwig via email at bmats@bmats.edu or phone at (903) 586-2501.

BMA Global Celebrates 75th Anniversary with Missionary Reunions

Jonathan Montgomery, Director of Missionary Care

BMA Global is honoring its rich missions heritage by recognizing the dedicated men and women who helped build its legacy. To celebrate our history of 75 years of global missions, Missionary Care is excited to host special reunions for missionary families, both past and present.

The reunions are open to all BMA international and interstate missionaries, including those who have served, missionary kids who grew up on the field, and their families. The gatherings will provide a meaningful opportunity for former and current missionaries to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate their shared experiences.

To accommodate as many attendees as possible, three reunions will be held, one at each of our BMA colleges, all beginning at 11:30 a.m. on the dates shown.

We encourage every missionary and their family to attend at least one of these reunions, though all are welcome at multiple events.

So come to one or join us for all! The gatherings will serve as a time of fellowship, reflection, and gratitude for the individuals who dedicated their lives for God's global mission.

Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP by registering at <https://form.jotform.com/250163918763159>. For any questions about the 75th Anniversary reunions, feel free to email me at jonathan@bmaglobal.org.

• Missionary Reunion Dates •
Central Baptist College • Conway, AR • April 5
Southeastern Baptist College • Laurel, MS • June 7
Jacksonville College • Jacksonville, TX • September 6

• From BICYCLE page 5 •

new village. A small sacrifice can turn into a lasting legacy.

Would you like to be part of the next chapter? There are still many villages waiting for the gospel, for discipleship, and for clean water. Your support can make that possible.

Thank you for being part of this mission. Your prayers, your giving, and your faith change lives – one step at a time.

With gratitude, Joshua and Meagan Phiri
BMA missionary to Zambia

If you would like to give via check, please make checks payable to *BMA Global - ChangeMaker*, write on the memo line, *For*



Joshua and Meagan Phiri, and mail the check to PO Box 878, Conway, AR 72033. If you would like to give online, please go to BMA online giving page and make your donations to Joshua Phiri. All gifts are tax deductible.

Free Lecture Series: The Importance of Associationism

Have you ever wondered why the Baptist Missionary Association of America (BMAA) has “Association” in its name? In conjunction with the 75th Anniversary of the BMAA, we would like to invite you to BMA Seminary and Jacksonville College in Jacksonville, TX on April 8-9, 2025 for a series of lectures on what it means to belong to an association of churches.



Dr. Thom South

Lectures will be presented by Dr. Thom South, adjunct professor of Church History and Theology at BMA Seminary and pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, Conway, AR; and Dr. David Erickson, president of Jacksonville College and former professor of Church History and Theology at the BMA Seminary.



Dr. David Erickson

April 8th

10:00 a.m. *Defining “Church” and “Association”* Dr. Thom South
Dorman Chapel, BMA Seminary
2:00 p.m. *Biblical Basis and Benefits of an Association* Dr. Thom South
Dorman Chapel, BMA Seminary

April 9th

11:00 a.m. *A History of the BMAA* Dr. David Erickson
Buckner Chapel, Jacksonville College

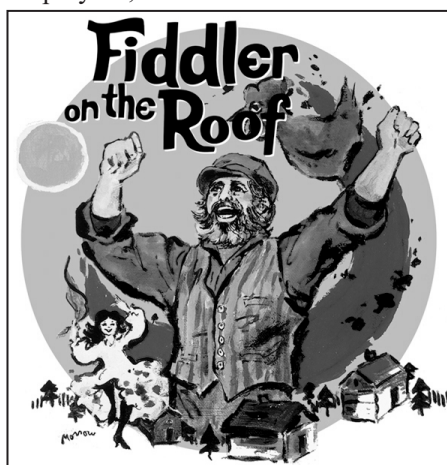
*Lectures are open to the public – no registration required.
For more information call BMA Seminary at 903-586-2501.*

Fiddler on the Roof

The Central Baptist College Fine Arts Department is working hard this semester to prepare for their upcoming musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. The musical will be presented March 14 and 15 at 6:30 p.m. We are encouraging all alumni, students, employees, and friends of CBC to come support the department and enjoy a great musical. Tickets will be sold at the door; prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and CBC students. Please be prepared to pay with cash or a check.

The director of the musical is CBC Assistant Professor of Music Suzanne Banister. “We are so excited to bring the timeless musical *Fiddler on the Roof* to Central Baptist College!” Banister said. “This musical is set in Anatevka, Ukraine, in Imperial Russia around 1905 when Russia encompassed parts of Ukraine. The story is about the life of a poor milkman, Tevye, who is determined to find good Jewish husbands for his five daughters. He and his wife, Golde, consult the town matchmaker for help! Tevye also has a running conversation with God! You will meet the beloved townspeople, experience the conflict with the Russians, and learn about Jewish ‘Tradition!’

We are very excited to see this show in March, and we encourage anyone interested to come enjoy the musical and support these students and their hard work. For more information, please contact Suzanne Banister by email at sbanister@cbc.edu. We look forward to seeing you there!



Dear Youth Workers,

We’re excited to announce that registration for SOAR 2025 is officially open! Mark your calendars and get your students signed up for an incredible time of worship, teaching, and community at the Loew’s Arlington Hotel in Arlington, TX, from July 2nd-4th, 2025.

Visit soarconference.com to register your group today!

This year our theme is *On Purpose*, and we will be talking about what it means to live On Purpose

for Christ.

In addition to powerful sessions and breakout opportunities, we’re offering discounted tickets for Six Flags, Hurricane Harbor, Texas Rangers games,



and Dallas Cowboys stadium tours. These will be available for booking on our website as soon as they’re released—stay tuned!

For the latest updates, be sure to follow us on social media.

If you have any questions, reach out to Donny Parrish at donny@lifeword.org. We can't wait to see you and your students at SOAR 2025!

Blessings,
The SOAR Conference Team
soarconference.com

Deaths

Dorothy Mae Thurman, 85, of Potosi, departed this life on February 14 in Jefferson City, surrounded by the love and care of her family. She was the widow of the late Bro. Ray Thurman and served alongside him as he pastored churches in Missouri, Alaska, Arkansas, and Tennessee. Dorothy was well known for her love of God's creation and her artistic talents. Burial was at Antioch Cemetery in Oxly, Missouri.

Tony Max Cleaver, Sr., 81, passed away on February 25 in Temple, Texas. From the age of 20, he was involved in a wide range of ministries, including pastoring churches in Texas and Mississippi and serving in various capacities at Jacksonville College and BMA Seminary. Bro. Cleaver was also the first US Army chaplain to represent the BMAA. A celebration of life is scheduled for March 21, with burial at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Killeen, Texas.

Anthony Allen Pennington, 74, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, was called home by the Lord on February 27. He served the Lord in various ministries as a pastor, church planter, BMA missionary and chaplain.



Our focus is to equip men to disciple others and to teach the boys biblical manhood.

- There will be separate sessions for the men and boys •
- The night kicks off with a 6 p.m. group dinner •
- There is no fee to attend, but donations are appreciated to help pay for expenses and to fund the state Brotherhood •
- Door prizes will be awarded •

In addition to fellowship, there will be a wide range of activities available including: skeet shooting, cornhole, and axe throwing.

Contact Brotherhood President Bryan Buckley ((573) 854-2251) or Missions Director Ben Kingston ((636) 629-2526) with any questions.

SOAR 2025 Registration is Now Open!