

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

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

Volume LXXXVII

St. Louis, MO • April 8, 2025

Issue No. 4

BMA of Missouri Mission Symposium and Mid-Year Meeting

May 9th-10th

Bethel Baptist Church, Sikeston

Welcome, State Association

Billy Davis, Host Pastor

Greetings and salutations from Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Sikeston, Missouri. We are blessed to be hosting the Mission Symposium and Semi-Annual State Association Meeting on May 9th at 7:00 p.m. and May 10th at 9:00 a.m.

We are looking forward to the Mission Symposium. The speakers this year will be missionaries Mickeal Quillman, Michel Poirier, and Juan Fernandez and BMA of MO Mission Director Bro. Ben Kingston. The Mission Symposium will begin Friday evening at 7:00 p.m.

The Semi-Annual Meeting will be on Saturday beginning at 9:00 a.m. Pastries, coffee and juice will be served from 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. and lunch will be provided.

We look forward to fellowshiping with our churches and taking care of the Lord's business.

We are located at 128 Fifth St, Sikeston. My cell phone is (573) 521-8028 for any questions.

BMAA Directors Reports, Recommendations Available

The Directors of the BMA National Departments and Agencies have prepared 2024 ministry reports online for all BMA church members to peruse. These reports are presented by video and are much more in-depth than the reports that will be given at the National Meeting in April. Messengers attending the National Meeting are encouraged to view these reports and call the respective directors with any questions.

Also included online is the schedule for the National Meeting, the Report and Recommendations booklet, an opportunity to register for the meeting, and hotel information. There will be a limited number of Report and Recommendation Booklets printed for the meeting, but messengers are encouraged to download this information on their phones or tablets to help save print dollars.

Visit bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting to find all this information. If you need help with anything pertaining to the meeting, contact Conference Director Donny Parrish at donny@lifeword.org or (972) 571-0357

Next Stage of Camp Construction Begins!

At the time of this writing (Monday, March 31), the Master's Builders have arrived over the past weekend at Garwood, and today marks the beginning of their work on the new nurse's building and evangelists' quarters.

When asked about the Master's Builders and this project, Rose Bittner, Builders reporter shared, "There are nine men and seven women on this project. We will be here for two weeks or until we have gone as far as our talent goes." With Builders hailing from MS, TX, LA, and AR, the one with the longest drive on this trip traveled from Leakesville, MS.

"The Master's Builders started in 1990 with five men and their wives building their first church in Dolores, CO. Camp Garwood is job number 193 for our organization. The average age of our men is 79. Not one is a skilled builder by trade – all have learned from others or life experiences. We only have two requirements to be a Master's Builder: love the Lord and be breathing!"

Rose also shares that while they are on site Camp provides breakfast and lunch, and churches are taking care of their evening meals. She adds, "We encourage people to like our Facebook page and pray for us as

• See **CAMP** page 3 •



Recommendations from Department Reports, BMAA National Meeting

The following recommendations are found in the 2025 Reports and Recommendations book.

Baptist Publishing House

1. We recommend the adoption of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.
2. We recommend that the Executive Director be paid a salary of \$62,987. Benefits include one-half of Social Security, \$250 per month for healthcare expense reimbursement, retirement at 6% of salary, and travel reimbursement.
3. We recommend that \$11,000 of the Executive Director's salary be designated as a housing allowance.
4. We recommend that Jordan Tew stand as nominee for Executive Director.

Moral Action

1. That Dr. John M. Adams stand as a nominee for Executive Director of Moral Action.
2. That the proposed Moral Action budget be approved.
3. That our churches and pastors embrace and support our nation by participating and promoting the National Day of Prayer,

May 1, 2025, and join other Americans in praying for our nation.

4. That our churches recognize and honor "Grandparents Day," September 7, 2025.
5. That our BMA churches schedule the months of June or July, as the Moral Action "Freedom Offering."
6. That our local associations, our local and state WMA's and Brotherhood, and our local churches be encouraged to budget monthly offerings to Moral Action.
7. That Dr. John M. Adams, Executive Director, represent the BMA of America in Washington, D.C. as an ambassador for the BMA of MS and USA.

Daniel Springs Camp

1. Recommend the adoption of the 2025-2026 Daniel Springs Baptist Camp Budget.
2. Recommend and encourage all churches of the BMA to participate in the Camp Sunday emphasis on June 1, 2025, by praying for and considering taking a special offering to help Daniel Springs Baptist Camp continue to broaden the opportunities to be a ministry extension of the local church.

• See **RECOMMEND** page 5 •

State Missions

Dear BMAMO churches,
I hope and pray that this article finds you doing well. It has been a crazy start to 2025, and we have some exciting events coming up.

The first event is our Brotherhood Retreat on April 25 and 26. Please lovingly strongly encourage your men to make a commitment to come. I know they will not regret it. The event is free, however if you could encourage each man to purchase a \$25 T-shirt that will help defray the cost of the event. Of course, our young men are invited to this event as well. Bro. Benjamin Kingston will be doing some breakout sessions with them after the movie that we will show on Friday evening and as he's having those sessions, we will be having men's sessions as well. The program is as follows:

Brotherhood Retreat 2025 – April 25-26
Friday
6:00 p.m. – Dinner
Evening Theme: Training the trainer
• Movie: The Forge
• Bull session after the movie
• Reaching the disconnected but attending man (30 min session led by Bro. Ben)
Saturday
7:30 a.m. – Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – one-hour session led by Bro. Bryan and Bro. Ben

- Theme: Enlisting, training, and sending the connected man
 - The church-producing trainers
 - The Brotherhood vehicle
 - The national chapter
 - Bro. Bryan's vision
 - How it works and what it does
 - The state and local level
 - Bro. Bryan's dream
 - What events we have currently
- Bro. Ben
- The men's ministry vehicle
 - Using the Brotherhood as the vehicle to staff the men's ministry in the church
 - The Brotherhood is the core and the fellowship arm and the men's ministry is the evangelical arm
 - What we are doing
 - What we are going to do
 - Men in the arena
- 9:15 a.m. – Break
- 10:30 a.m. – Last session, Bro. Ben – Training the dad, grandpa, or uncle to disciple their men
- Mission – to raise up godly men out of our sons, grandsons, nephews, foster children, etc.
 - Material – *Raising a Modern-Day Knight*, material of your choice.
 - Map – intentional modeling of manhood, memorization of the definition of



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

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. (Ezekiel 36:26-28)

Professions of Faith: Every day as I spend time in the mission field I encounter and develop many conversations with so many people. We are blessed to be able to build rapport with our Spanish-speaking friends in the area. We have many people that are in the practice of repeating a prayer – we don't mind praying with them. As we pray for each one, we are seeking if God is at work in the person.

The seed is planted, we continue to water it, etc., but we are resting in God's timing for ministering with a person. Last week we gave away two Bibles after we spent time going over the Romans Road. I asked these men why they were interested in requesting a Bible. Their response was unique: "We were told it is for good luck." Would you join me in prayer that the Bibles given and the reading guides for praying through the Gospel of John will bear fruit and we can get to develop a meaningful spiritual relationship with these two: Jose and Rolman. We are going to get together this coming Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

ESL Outreach: We are so excited to have resumed our spring class. We have two groups of English as Second Language outreach. One is in the St. Ann area, with Javier and Xochitl attending. This past session they asked me to pray for them as they are going through a rough time – the first time they have made such a request in the almost six months since we first met. The other ESL class is held in Hazelwood with our long-time friend, Kikin Avalos. He owns a business in the area. Kikin lives in Chesterfield a block away from our friends Nahum and Ermilanda. Pray the Lord brings them to a relationship with Him and they soon start our discipleship process in their home.

Discipleship: For the first time in three years I heard one of our men share his testimony on how he has been alcohol free. After the Bible study we walked around the block to look at a house that caught on fire. We walked and walked, and finally someone asked what we were looking for? I replied that we heard about a house on fire. They started to share what happened

• See MISIÓN BELÉN page 6 •

manhood, ceremonies highlighting each young man's journey through manhood, a gift to spike the ceremony and achievement.

12:00 p.m.– Lunch
Outdoor fun
Concerning the age of children who are welcome to attend, we encourage you to bring the young men who can handle themselves. (We would rather not put an age on it.)

Now, the next event we want you to know about is Mission Symposium at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Sikeston, on May 9-10. Please contact Bro. Billy Davis if you need information on the hotels. The program is as follows:

Friday
6:30 p.m. – Welcome
6:35-7:00 p.m. – Bro. Poirier
7:00-7:30 p.m. – Bro. Quillman
7:40-8:00 p.m. – Bro. Fernandez
8:05-8:15 p.m. – Bro. Ben
8:15-8:30 p.m. – Bro. Chuck Tedrow (missionary to Union, MO)

Saturday
9:00 a.m. – Mid-Year Meeting at the same venue
If you have any follow-up questions, please contact me. May the Lord richly bless you is my prayer.
Bro. Ben

Financial Report
BMA Of Missouri Missions
March 2025

<u>Checking Account:</u>	
Balance February 28	\$ 45,684.03
<u>Income:</u>	
Missions	\$ 4,113.75
Total Income	\$ 4,113.75
Total Available	\$ 49,797.78
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Director, salary/bonus	\$ 450.00
Secretary, salary/bonus	200.00
Juan Fernandez, support	2,333.33
Director Mileage/meeting exp	41.28
New Testament church plant	600.00
Total Expenses	\$ (3,624.61)
Balance March 31	\$ 46,173.17
<u>BMAMS Revolving Loan Investment:</u>	
Balance February 28	\$ 121,313.66
Interest	0.00
Balance March 31	\$ 121,313.66
Total in All Accounts March 31	\$ 167,486.83

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Quarterly Financial Reports

Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper
1st Quarter 2025

Beginning Balance Jan. 1	\$ 21,295.36
Offerings	2,960.55
Independence/Neelyville Disbanded	3,000.00
Funds Available	\$ 27,255.91
Salaries	(2,400.00)
Printing & Mailing	(2,639.42)
Other Expenses	(321.10)
Ending Balance March 31	\$ 21,895.39

Kenneth E. Gibson Grant Fund
1st Quarter 2025

The Grant Fund balance remains unchanged at \$31,643.07.

BMA Of Missouri Minute Fund
1st Quarter 2025

Beginning Balance Dec. 1	\$ 5,281.11
Offerings	0.00
Funds Available	\$ 5,281.11
Cmas Bonus	(500.00)
Misc Expenses	(18.00)
Ending Balance Feb. 28	\$ 4,763.11

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Camp Garwood

Happy spring from Camp! We have been working since January trying to prepare the ground, plumbing and concrete for the Master's Builders, and the time has finally arrived. By the time you read this they will have been here and gone and camp will have a new nurse's building and evangelist quarters. They have been here a few days at the time of this writing. The building frame is up and we are hoping to set the trusses tomorrow. These men and women have been such a blessing – yes, for the building work being done, but more so for the fellowship and friendships that have been forged.

We have had some storm damage in the spring storms – roof damage to Dorm 4, roof damage to Dorm 6 and minor gutter damage to the Tabernacle. We will tackle those things when we get the new building under control.

Camp has already had one retreat this spring. Bro. Mickeal Quillman spoke about the work in Africa. It was a great weekend, the weather was great, and it was encouraging to hear what God is doing around the world.

Soon after this article is published we will have our second retreat of the year. The April 25-26 Renewal Retreat is for all men, young and old. We will have crawfish, catfish, corn hole, skeet shooting, great fellowship and encouraging words from great men. Bro. Ben Kingston and Bro. Bryan Buckley are planning this retreat and it is always a great time.

May 30-31 is our Prayer Retreat with Bro. Larry Barker. I cannot express the depth of spiritual growth I experienced on the last Prayer Retreat led by Bro. Barker. If you have something else planned for that weekend, cancel it and come to camp ready to grow. This retreat will be worth whatever effort it takes to get you here.

Calling all girls! June 20-21 is the GMA Retreat. Come and enjoy a weekend together. If your church does not have a GMA program, that's okay! You are welcome to attend this retreat anyway. The girls always have a wonderful time.

Regular church camp will be July 28-Aug. 1. I have been looking forward to this camp year for two years. Our evangelists will be a tag team effort by Bro. Shawn Hammontree and Bro. Jordan Bowen. Both of these men hold a special place in our hearts and we look forward to hearing from them again. Our camp theme this year is *Walk the Path*. Psalm 16:11 says, *You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

There are always things to do at camp. If you want to help get the grounds ready, reach out to us by email (campgarwood@gmail.com) or give me (Chris Polk) a call ((573) 380-1975).



• From CAMP page 1 •

we work.”

Many of us can recall as kids watching the Apollo missions by NASA and how it took multiple stages of rocket boosters to fully project the flight into space. Similarly, this stage of construction is built upon the tremendous efforts by Bro. Chris and others who worked tirelessly in the



demolition and prep work necessary to get things this far. And even additional work will be required in the future to see this mission through to the end.

But at this moment we are excited to have the Master's Builders with us at this stage of the project, and to be able to share with our readers the first fruits of their labor.

Photo credit: Rose Bittner



• Updates from Our Churches •

Ozark Heights, Potosi

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ. Finally some beautiful warm and sunny days to remind us that spring is upon us. What a refreshing feeling comes with seeing the new life form before our eyes. I love this time of the year and all that it brings.

We had Sis. Porter come and speak of her desire to go to Bogota, Colombia, on a mission trip. She shared her insight and passion to reach out to the people and give the good news of God's love and His Son who makes it possible to know our eternal future in Christ Jesus. She received a nice offering from the church to help make her missionary trip possible.

On February 23rd Sis. Sarah Buckley came and spoke to our WMA ladies about the state and national work of the Women's Missionary Auxiliary. She returned and attended our ladies' WMA meeting on Wednesday, March 26th, inviting them to attend the meeting at Matthews on March 1st. Bro. Petete and Bro. Moorman attended along with some of our WMA.

The WMA ladies held a pie auction on March 7th to raise funds for their project this year. We had a great time of fellowship, and the pies raised significant donations. The ladies were very pleased with the event.

We were excited when Taylor came forward on February 16th for baptism and shared her desire to become a member of the church. She followed the Lord in baptism and is now a member of our church.

Bro. Jeff Moorman provided our message on the first Sunday in March. Normally he is serving as our youth church pastor, and Bro. Petete gives him opportunity to preach to the adult church one Sunday each quarter. I am so glad they work and complement each other with their service at Ozark Heights. Bro. Dwight continues to provide great messages on Sunday mornings and Bible study on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

Sunday evening, March 23rd, was our talent night, and we enjoyed a great time in the Lord. We had some music solos, a women's quartet, men's quartet, personally written poems, and testimonies that blessed our hearts. We hope you will visit with us on the monthly 4th Sunday evening talent nights at 6:00 p.m. and share your talent with us.

We will have an Easter cantata on April 13th as we prepare our hearts for the week that gives significance to our Lord Jesus arriving on a colt as King of Kings. Then on Easter, April 20th, we are planning a musical that will portray the events leading up to the celebration of Easter and our resurrected Savior. Not to leave the children out, we will have events following service for the younger children.

Save the Date: May 4th. We want to invite you to our homecoming services on May 4th with food and fellowship following the morning service. The Heritage Boys will be providing the music following our lunch fellowship. Please come worship with us or come out after your ser-

vices are over and join us for some great food and fellowship. Around 2:00 p.m. come prepared to enjoy some wonderful southern gospel singing by the Heritage Boys.

Prayer is the power that God has endowed us with to reach out to our Lord. Prayer can heal, relieve burdens, remove doubts, and provide peace and comfort. The power that prayer yields can stop Satan in his tracks. God says all you have to do is ask and He can provide strength at our weakest times.

Ozark Heights asks for you to keep us in your prayers, as we keep you in ours.

May God bless you.

*Dwight Petete, Pastor
Gary Gilliam, Reporter*

Lindsay Lane, Florissant

Greetings once again from Lindsay Lane. We pray for God's blessings on our sister churches.

Wintertime came and went in the same day, and now we are in the "stormy" season with tornados, strong winds, rain in some areas and none in others!

We are gearing up for a busy season as we prepare for VBS and other ministries. We have our senior ministries meeting the 2nd Tuesday of the month for food, fun and fellowship! On Mondays and Saturdays we gather for FBI. Learning and studying God's Word not only on Sundays but other times is such a blessing, as well as having homework!

Our attendance has been increasing and we're thankful for meeting our visitors and welcoming them. The men of the church meet the first Friday night of the month for Bi-

ble study and the ladies also meet then for Heart to Heart! We were blessed to have Pastor Brian's parents with us recently. Please keep them in your prayers as they both are in poor health. Our 5th Sunday singing was a wonderful time of praise and worship! From our younger ones to the older(?) even the little ones that asked if we were done! Out of the mouth of babes!!! May God bless till we meet again!

*Brian Meade, Pastor
Kathy Chapman, Reporter*

Lower Doe Run, Ellington

We at Lower Doe Run Baptist Church are rejoicing for God's blessings recently.

At the end of the service on March 2, Alice Morris came back into the fellowship after being out for about a year. We received her with great joy, and we enjoyed her famous vegetable soup at our Sunday lunch the next week!

In the same service we received John Beardsley Jr., his wife Lisa and daughter Sara into the fellowship of the church. Two weeks later, John announced that he would like to lead a children's church on Wednesday evenings. The church voted to fully support that project, and we held the first service on the 26th. Help us pray for this project, leaders and children.

Another blessing was a surprise when 15 members of The Master's Builders came in the church fellowship in time for Sunday School on the 30th. In the group were Brother Charles and Sister Linda Bobo, former missionaries in Japan, that we hadn't seen for about 35 years!!! What a reunion and what a worship service with the group, to hear their testimonies, have them join in the choir, and then eat with us afterwards.

The tornado barely missed our church one Friday night and forest fires barely missed us on the following Wednesday. We have helped several days with the Just the Crumbs

disaster relief and the donations for the community of Des Arc, MO. We enjoyed being with the Quillmans at Bates Creek and again at the Spring Retreat at Camp Garwood. We are excited that our daughter and son-in-law will be with a team going to Zambia in September.

As always, we are asking prayers for our senior members.

God has blessed us, and we give Him glory.

*Melvin Meade, Pastor
Carolyn Meade, Reporter*

Bethel, Sikeston

Happy spring, everyone, from Bethel, Sikeston. We have had a blessed month of March.

We had a tornado threat one Sunday night. We all gathered into the hallway until it passed. As we waited, we sang and prayed for God's protection. He was watching over us and kept us safe. After the storm blew over, we finished our fifth Sunday night singing, and afterwards we had refreshments in the fellowship hall. We are looking forward to a little calmer weather in April.

We welcome new members that joined our fellowship this month on statement, Bro. David and Sis. Heather Beardsley and family. We are so thankful to have them. They were welcomed with hugs and handshakes.

We congratulate Debbie Grace and Blake Sloan on their wedding engagement! We also congratulate Bro. Brett and Sis. Annabel Hurst on the birth of their beautiful and precious baby girl!

We are still practicing on our Easter program. I pray it will be a blessing to all. Our ladies are still having their monthly prayer meetings and seeing prayers being answered, praise God!! Some of our members attended the Camp Garwood spring retreat and had a blessed time.

Bro. Mickeal Quillman will be with us on the 6th of April for the evening service to

~ Upcoming Events ~

BMAA National Meeting – April 22-24;	Larry Barker; Camp Garwood
Pathway Baptist Church, Waxahachie, TX	
Brotherhood Men's / Renewal Retreat –	MO GMA Retreat – June 20-21; Camp
April 25-26; Camp Garwood	Garwood
Mission Symposium / Mid-Year Meeting	SOAR '25 On Purpose – July 2-4; Loews
– May 9-10; Bethel, Sikeston	Arlington Hotel; Arlington, Texas
Prayer Retreat – May 30-31; Speaker	BMA of Missouri Camp – July 28-Aug. 1;
	Camp Garwood

Send event info to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

give us the Word of God and let us know how their ministry is doing. We are looking forward to hearing how God is blessing their mission field.

We pray everyone has a happy and blessed Resurrection Day!!

*Billy Davis, Pastor
Joan Wood, Reporter*

Oak Hill, Alton

Hello to all from Oak Hill! We are very thankful to the Lord for keeping His protective hand over us from the storms and tornadoes. We pray that the Lord would bless in the areas that got hit.

We would like to thank you for your prayers regarding Carstyn's check-up at St. Jude's in March. He had a good check-up with NO cancer/tumor!

March 30th, we had our fifth Sunday dinner. We enjoyed great food and had a great time of fellowship with

each other.

Ethan Williams (my cousin) will be graduating from high school this year. He has not told or mentioned any plans to pursue for his future that I'm aware of. April 26th we will be celebrating his graduation from high school in our fellowship hall. If you are in our area at this time, please stop by and help us celebrate.

Next month 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*

Landmark, DeSoto

Happy spring to all from Landmark, DeSoto.

Well, sort of.... It's that time of year in Missouri when you need to have winter, spring, AND summer outfits ready to

wear – all in the same day!

Prayers are still going out to all of you who suffered from the storms and tornadoes. We are blessed at Landmark that we did not have any major damage or injuries.

By the time you read this, our fundraiser barbecue on Saturday, April 5th, will be in the history books. We're hoping it will be a success at both raising funds AND raising awareness that Landmark is still alive and kickin', spreading the news that God's love and grace still abound, and both are still free for the asking.

We're looking forward to a visit from Bro. Miceal and Sis. Sharon Quillman for Sunday morning services on April 13th. It's amazing how their mission work in Africa has grown! They've been traveling all over telling about the success God has given them in spite of all

the trials and hardships that Satan has thrown at them. Come join us if you can.

Easter is coming up REAL fast! Sis. Rebecca Young (our pianist and pastor's wife) has been helping us prepare some special music for this sacred time. We enjoy a good time of fellowship at each practice.

I have to complain a little about Bro. Len, our pastor. He keeps preaching these messages that are aimed right at ME. Oh sure, he'll say "We Christians" need to grow our faith, our prayer life, our compassion for others and stuff like that, but his messages seem to knock me on the head every time. Anybody else have a pastor like that?

(Special note: I am kidding!

We are SO very blessed to have Bro. and Sis. Young at Landmark. We just love 'em to pieces!)

God has still been blessing us with visitors from time to time. We hope and pray they feel welcome and will soon join our church family.

We ask that you continue to pray for several of our members who are battling many medical, physical, and other problems. We'll keep on lifting all of you up to God in prayer also. I'm so grateful God listens to each and every one of us.

Thanks for letting me ramble on. May God keep piling blessings on you beyond number!

*Len Young, Pastor
Barbara Williams, Reporter*

• From RECOMMEND page 1 •

3. Recommend that Jason Prewitt stand as the nominee for the position of Executive Director of the Department of Camp Ministries.

Lifeword

1. We recommend that the 2026 proposed budget be adopted by the messengers.
2. We recommend that the Lifeword reports be approved.
3. We recommend that Rodney Burns be recognized and given a rising vote of thanks for his years of service on the Lifeword Board of Directors.
4. We recommend that Sunday, October 19, 2025, be designated as Lifeword Sunday across the BMA of America.
5. We recommend that every church in the BMA make world evangelism a priority by including Lifeword in their monthly budget giving.
6. We recommend that Donny Parrish stand as the nominee for Executive Director for Lifeword.

BMA Global

1. We recommend the election of (names withheld for security) as missionaries to Asia.
2. We recommend Rana Costa be changed to the status of American missionary.
3. We recommend the election of Clinton Morris as church planter to Indianapolis, IN.
4. We recommend Will Sellers as a church planting resident in Provo and Morgan, Utah.
5. We recommend Alberto Costales and Javier Velasquez as church planters in

Lake Wales, FL

6. We recommend Chuck Tedrow as church planter in Union, MO in cooperation with New Testament Baptist Church in Sullivan, MO.
7. We recommend Vlad Beckley as church planter in Pensacola, FL in cooperation with Parkview Baptist Church in Pensacola.
8. We recommend that John David Smith stand as nominee for President of BMA Global.

BMA Financial

1. That we adopt the proposed operating budget for Fiscal 2026.
2. That we express appreciation to Bro. Dennis Clark for his service as a board member over the past ten years.
3. That we classify \$20,000 of the Executive Director's compensation as housing allowance.
4. That Steve Crawley stands as a nominee for Executive Director.

BMA Theological Seminary

1. Affirmation of the proposed 2025-2026 budget
2. Affirm appointment of President Philip Attebery
3. Each church observe Sunday, May 18, 2025, as Seminary Scholarship Sunday with:
a. Special prayer for our graduates, and
b. Receive a special scholarship offering to support the training of future ministers and missionaries on that Sunday.

Editor's note: Find the link to the full Reports and Recommendations book at bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting.

Bethel

Resurrection

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 20, 2025

6:45-7:15am - Sunrise Service

7:30-9:00am - Pancake Breakfast

8:20 & 10:45am - Worship


9:30am - Sunday School

Evening services are dismissed

569 Bethel Church Road, Lonedell, MO 63060

636|629|2978

BMA Seminary Sunday – May 18, 2025



BMA Seminary graduating class of 1990

PRAY - for BMA Seminary's 2025 graduates

GIVE - to provide Scholarships

ENCOURAGE - President Dr. Philip Attebery (pictured above) and the entire Seminary family by observing Seminary Scholarship Sunday on May 18, 2025.

The Builders Blessed at StoneRidge Camp

Nelda Malone-Reporter

The Master's Builders were so excited to be able to return to StoneRidge Baptist Camp for their first job of 2025. StoneRidge Camp was blessed with the construction of a 24 x 48 metal building, and the Builders were needed to help in constructing three individual rooms inside the building.

Each of these rooms will house up to five people. They will be used to house camp evangelists, music ministers, and anyone needing

special accommodations while at camp. They will also serve as guest rooms for visitors who would like to stay a night during the camps or at special events. Each room will have a living/bedroom/coffee bar area, a closet, and a bathroom. The Master's Builders framed and put up walls, insulation, and doors. They also built a covered porch over the entry doors. Brother Scott Small, camp Director, said "We are praying to dedicate it to the Lord's work before the 2026 camp season."

This was job #192 for the Master's Builders. Looking back on our past jobs, this is the seventh time we've had the privilege to work at StoneRidge Camp and partner with Scott and Myrtie Small in the Lord's mission there. Our first time at the camp was in March 2012. It is like a family reunion every time we come!

The Master's Builders had some extra men come alongside to help on this job. Brother

Brian Coats, Pastor at Ramsey Heights Baptist, South Batesville, AR, came and helped us for two days. Danny Watson and his wife, Denise (members at Ramsey Heights) also came, with Denise serving our lunch meal

for those two days. Also, Ed Shelby, from Mansfield, TX, came up and worked a few days with the men.

They filled in the gaps as some of our men had to leave early for various reasons.

Our group of men

is getting smaller and smaller, so we do ask you to continue to pray for workers to come and help us. The Master's Builders pray we can continue to serve Him in this work for many years to come!

Our next job, #193, will be at Camp Garwood, Van Buren, MO. This will be our first time serving there, and we are excited to work at this camp. This is a beautiful part of Missouri! The camp has dorm rooms and RV spots available for us. This will be a new construction building from the slab up.

Please follow us on Facebook and pray for us! "Like" our page at "The Master's Builders" (arbor logo) and watch for daily updates with lots of pictures and information about the work being done. If you have questions about The Master's Builders ministry, or if your church has building needs, contact: Mike Green at (972) 935-3877, David Axe at (903) 918-0702 or Eddie Sikes at (479) 462-1675.



Professor's Article to be Published

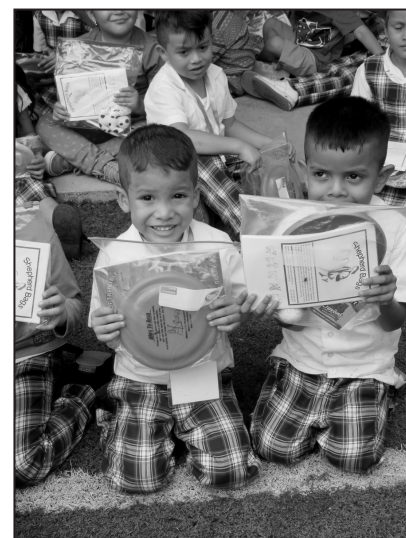
Ronnie J. Johnson, Ph.D., Professor of Christian Education at the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary, received word that his article, *Inductive People Helping: Integrating Inductive Bible Study and the Process Model of Helping*, has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Pastoral Care and Counseling (JPC&C). This peer-reviewed journal advances theory and professional practice through scholarly and reflective literature on pastoral care, counseling, education, and research. The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education is a sponsor of the journal.

Dr. Johnson's article presents Inductive People Helping as a complementary approach to Bible-based counseling and discipleship. By applying principles of Inductive Bible Study, the goal is to assist pastors, ministers, and lay leaders in using their existing knowledge of inductive-Bible-study questions to understand individuals in need. To be clear, the article does not support integrating secular counseling methods with Christian counseling. Rather, it can assist those familiar with Inductive Bible Study in integrating the questions they use for Bible study into counseling or discipleship. This approach has the potential to significantly enhance the practice of pastoral care and biblical counseling. Dr. Johnson is eager to support pastors and churches in counseling ministry.



Need a Project for VBS?

"EIM – Shepherd's Bag Ministry"



By giving to EIM's Shepherd's Bag Ministry™ we can reach children around the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. For more information contact Fonda Norris, Shepherd's Bag Ministry Coordinator at: (870) 226-3626 or fnorris@eimworldwide.org and visit our website at www.eimworldwide.org/ourministries.

• From MISIÓN BELÉN page 2 •

to the house, saying no one was hurt, it was a house being remodeled. Next thing you know they offered me a beer, and I gently replied, "No, thank you, I don't drink." Before I knew it, our friend was telling them about me and the spiritual work we have been doing with him and his family and how the Lord had delivered him from alcohol abuse. They asked me to share more about this Lord, so for the next 30 minutes I shared from scripture the gospel. One of the gentlemen (there were six or more) asked for help to have a closer walk with the Lord. He admitted the need to stop wasting his life, and Lord willing next Saturday we get to reconnect with these gentlemen. The harvest is plentiful!

Prayer Tent Outreach: This ministry will resume this month (April). We set up a tent and table and offer water, Bibles, and gospel tracts and collect prayer requests from those who walk by. We invite them to join us for a prayer service later on (Wednesdays for Lindsay Lane, and Saturdays and Sundays in Granite City). We are excited about how the Lord will continue leading this pioneer ministry to grow in eternal relationships through faith in Jesus Christ.

VBS: We are so excited as the VBS date is around the corner. Pastor Cofer and his wife Megan are planning to come and join us to reach our community during the first days of June. We are having our VBS from 10:00 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. They are traveling from Texas so they will arrive on Monday by noon. We are planning to have our VBS in the park, so pray for the permits and whatever is needed for God to be glorified and for many families to receive the gospel. We are planning to go canvassing to invite new friends to join us. There are 25 volunteers who have been preparing to come to Granite City, a place that is in desperate need of salvation for each one in our families. Would you join in prayer for God's blessing, provision and protection during these days? Amen.

We will continue with our prayer network. If you would like to join us any time for prayer don't hesitate to text (618) 581-8056 and we will add your prayer request.

God bless you and have a blessed Easter celebration, He is Risen, indeed!



We are So Blessed

Jackie Ricks

My husband and I listen to gospel music every time we're in the car and quite often at home. Yesterday, driving alone, I sang along with "We Are So Blessed" and realized what I needed to write for this blog. So many times we forget how truly blessed we are. Many people think of it around Thanksgiving time or after things work out the way they want. This week, a good friend of mine is dealing with a grand baby who has been diagnosed with cancer. I can't really imagine what that family is going through. But I know we serve a mighty God who doesn't make mistakes. He is with the baby and all the family and will see them through no matter what happens.

Another friend has been without a job or a car or unable to drive at all for several months due to a health issue. She's been looking for work at home and trying to be strong. To top it off, she's a new Christian and doesn't

stuck at home all day with no way to go anywhere or even able to pick up things from the store. She has to rely on others until her husband gets home. Then he's tired from work and doesn't really want to run errands.

How many times have you possibly been like me? Although I recognize I'm blessed, I often look at the nitty gritty details of daily life and complain instead of looking at the big picture and seeing how much God has blessed me and my family. So instead of others hearing about how awesome God is and Him receiving the glory for every good thing, I complain about all the little nagging things that drive me crazy. What kind of picture does that send the world? What kind of legacy does that leave?

Sometimes we get so caught up in our problems that we don't remember God is the One in control. He always wants (and KNOWS) what's best for us. We may complain about our problems and think that God has forgotten about us. However, He always has our best interest in mind

understand yet how God sometimes allows trials to come our way to make us stronger. I don't know what I'd do if I was

because He can see the big picture. It's important for us to allow others to see that we have the faith it takes to persevere and learn patience and endurance when we are being tested. That's how we grow stronger.

My great grandson is a powerlifter in high school. For his weight, he can lift an amazing amount. However, he didn't do it all in one day. He's been lifting weights and getting stronger over a period of several years. He didn't start with big weights, but he gradually added them on. As such, he now can lift two to four times his own weight at a time, depending on how the lift is done. If he had continued to lift the same amount all the time, he would never be able to lift what he does now. Similarly, the trials that we have help us to increase our spiritual strength. Then God sends a little heavier trial to show us that we can handle it if we rely on Him. That's the good thing: GOD is actually the One who takes care of each problem when we have faith in Him to take care of us.

If you'll think about it, God has been preparing you all of your life. Children have their own child-size problems. Once they work through those, they are better able to handle the bigger problems of teens and then young adulthood, and so on. Some people don't ever learn how to rely on God, but instead either fall apart or expect parents, spouse, or other

people to solve it. Or, they mess everything up trying to come up with their own bad solutions over and over.

It isn't easy. It takes a lot of prayer, Bible study, prayer, helpful Christian friends, prayer, and time. I like the song *Through It All* because it reminds us that without our problems, we'd never realize that God can solve them. We just have to trust Him completely and then thank Him because we really are so blessed. We need to remember to tell our families and others just how blessed we are and how Jesus is the reason that things work out in our lives. It isn't luck or coincidence or our own abilities. It's always God. Give Him the glory.

Scripture: Psalm 34:8; 119:2; Matthew 6:25-34; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; James 1:2-12

Prayer: "Thank You, Lord, that You know exactly what I need when I need it. Your timing is perfect. Please help me never to take Your blessings for granted. And help me to share that with others for Your honor and glory. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Response: First, think back over your life and recognize some times that God helped you through situations. Then think about how those times made you stronger for another problem that may have come later. Thank Him and continue to rely on God to help you through each daily situation. Remember, you are so blessed.

EIM News and Shepherd's Bag Ministry

Fonda Norris, EIM Shepherd's Bag Ministry Coordinator & Program Director

Spring is on the way, and we are gearing up for a wonderful year at EIM. Let me share with you what God has been doing at Evangelistic International Ministries as well as our EIM's Shepherd's Bag Ministry this past year, and some plans and goals for 2025.

By God's grace, we shipped 16,000 Shepherd's Bags to Honduras in October. Amen! When you have a year-long project sometimes it begins to feel like it won't come together, but God has always had the pieces in place to make it all work – different pieces such as finances, workers, coordinating supplies, shipping and the list goes on. I praise Him for His goodness. Our workgroups this past year consisted of golden agers, youth groups, VBS children, GMAs, WMAs, families, church groups and friends representing at least four states. Even though it was people of all ages, they all had one thing in common: the desire to see children come to know Jesus as Savior all around the world! It was a lot of red tape to navigate the shipping requirements this year in Honduras as (as the old saying goes), "the rules changed in the middle of the game." But again, by God's grace the shipment made it through

customs and has been safely put in storage in a shipping container that we were able to purchase this year.

Our goals and plans for 2025: Our plans are to assemble 16,000 Shepherd's Bags for Ghana, West Africa. We have printed our EIM Frisbees with John 3:16 and our EIM Shepherd's Bag gospel storybook so that the children of Ghana can understand the gospel. I buy all supplies in bulk quantities which allows EIM to be the best stewards that we can be with God's money. Inflation has hurt as it has with all ministries, but by God's grace the gospel is still being preached using a one-gallon bag full of items to open the door to preach Jesus. We will start assembling Shepherd's Bags this spring and work through the summer and by God's grace ship to Ghana in the early fall.

If any group would like to come to our warehouse in Warren, AR, to assemble bags, you can call me at (870) 226-3626 or email me at fnorris@eimworldwide.org. Or if you would like to help financially, all offerings donated for the Shepherd's Bag Ministry goes to purchase our supplies, overseas shipping and in-country transportation.



Go to our website at: <https://www.eimworldwide.org/ourministries>, then click on the 'How You Can Get Involved' link to get information about the cost of assembling Shepherd's Bags. Or contact me – I would be happy to share with you.

And *Wow!* by God's grace, EIM currently has three

Shepherd's Bags Mission Teams, and two Overseas Bible School Teams set to travel to Honduras and Tanzania. Help us pray for many to hear the message and come to know Jesus as Savior. By the way, we still have an open date for a Shepherd's Bag Team for October 6-10. If you'd be interested in going into the schools in Honduras to hand out Shepherd's Bags, we'd love to hear from you and give you the mission trip details.

EIM will soon have a new VBS curriculum for 2025 available for downloading on our website at www.eimworldwide.org. If you have questions about EIM's VBS curriculum, contact Mike Goodwin at mgoodwin@eimworldwide.org.

God has been so faithful to EIM, and we look forward to seeing what He will do in 2025 to bring glory to His Great Name!

Terry Kimbrow Retirement Celebration

Central Baptist College invites you to President Terry Kimbrow's retirement celebration on May 9, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

President Kimbrow first came to CBC as a student in 1987 after surrendering to the ministry earlier that year. He then returned to serve as Vice President for Institutional Advancement in 1992 and held that position for ten years before transitioning to Executive Vice President in 2003. Kimbrow was inaugurated as the ninth president of Central Baptist College in 2004 and has faithfully served for 21 years, making him the longest-standing president in CBC's history.

During his time here, President Kimbrow has overseen and led in the construction of the Ratliff Bell Tower, Watkins Academic Building, Story Library, and Dickson Hall. He also oversaw the completion of the Judy Gabbard Science Center, saw a dramatic increase in the number of academic offerings at the four-year level, led in the addition of the teacher education program, and developed a plan to offer free counseling services for all students.

On March 11, 2024, President Kimbrow announced his plans to retire in May 2025. The Board of Trustees has appointed Dr. Jeremy Langley to the position of Executive Vice President. President Kimbrow is working alongside Dr. Langley who will become interim president on May 27.

We encourage everyone who can to come support and thank President Kimbrow at his retirement celebration!

The celebration will begin at 4:00 p.m. with a formal program in the Burgess Auditorium. At 5:00 p.m., Uncle Tim's Food Truck and Catering will cater a fish fry on the library lawn. CBC's Dining Services, under the direction of Chef Billie Rodriguez, will provide dessert.

To RSVP, please visit cbc.edu/events. For more information on the celebration, contact Director of Public Relations Jessica Faulkner by email at jfaulkner@cbc.edu.

We also encourage anyone who has been impacted by President Kimbrow's ministry to write a letter or card thanking him for his years of service. If you would like to write a letter or card, please mail it to Peggy Pillow, Central Baptist College, 1501 College Ave, Conway, AR 72034.


Join us for a retirement celebration
honoring

Terry Kimbrow

for his 31 years of service to Central Baptist College

May 9, 2025 • 4:00 pm • Burgess Auditorium

Central Baptist College, 1501 College Ave, Conway, AR 72034
To RSVP, visit cbc.edu/events



EIM VBS CURRICULUM

Evangelistic International Ministries is excited to announce the release of its 2025 VBS curriculum! This year we invite you to experience, "Good News on the Ranch." Enjoy a week full of down-home fun as we mosey through the gospel along the Good News Trail. Each evening, our ranch-hands will introduce important aspects of God's plan for salvation. Available in both KJV and ESV translations, the curriculum is designed to both create and grow a foundation for each student's understanding of the gospel. You and your students will leave our ranch ready to share the Good News!



Please visit www.eimworldwide.org to preview and download the curriculum. Our previous VBS curriculum, The

Good News Cruise, is also available on our website. For questions, feel free to text Michelle Rawls at 870-461-1517 or email michellerawlsrn@gmail.com.

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.

Bro. Aaron Maxwell, a 46-year veteran pastor/missionary, has returned to Missouri and is available for pastoring and pulpit supply. He can be reached at (870) 834-0100. (0425)

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.

Deaths

Lisa Gail Smith Hudson, 58, of Dorsey, MS, went home to be with the Lord on March 9 after a long battle with leukemia. She was born in Poplar Bluff, MO, to the late Arthur Smith (BMA pastor) and his wife Shirlene. Lisa was an accomplished musician who used her talents to praise the Lord through song and was a former president of the WMA of the BMAA. Her survivors include her husband Matt (pastor of Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Fulton, MS), her children Kala and Jonathan, her mother Shirlene Smith, her brother Dr. John David Smith (President of BMA Global Missions), and her sister Rhonda Tilly.

Paul Davis Heuermann, 74, of Conroe, TX, passed away March 16. In addition to pastoring several churches, Bro. Heuermann served as a BMA missionary in Ghana, West Africa, for 13 years, beginning in 1997.

State Brotherhood
RENEWAL RETREAT

APRIL 25 & 26, 2025

- 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 •
- Door prizes •

Activities include 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 - On Purpose

Loews Arlington Hotel in Arlington, TX

July 2nd-4th

Register your group today at soarconference.com!

Discounted tickets for area attractions will be available for booking on the website as soon as they're released – stay tuned!

If you have any questions, contact Donny Parrish (donny@lifeword.org).