

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

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

Volume LXXXVII

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Issue No. 11



*Let us come into His presence
with Thanksgiving;
Let us make a joyful noise to Him
with songs of praise!*

Happy Thanksgiving!

– Don & Pam Burke

Resolution Report for Annual Meeting

The following was presented by the Resolutions Committee (Matt Bolen, Terry Sharp, Michael Kelly) to the October annual Association meeting. The resolution was approved by the messenger body:

Second Corinthians 5:17-20 states, *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.*

Therefore, be it resolved:

That we stand united in our commitment to one another and to the Great Commission that we've received from God to faithfully proclaim the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as detailed in I Corinthians 15;

That we reaffirm our commitment to the uncompromising stand to preach without shame all biblical truths to all the world;

That we pray for our country and our country's leaders and that we vote for leaders who support biblical values;

That we continue unwavering support and protection of the nation of Israel;

That we always promote and protect the sanctity of life in that life begins at conception and is to be protected at all stages;

Moreover, that we are diligent to be sure that our words and our thoughts are acceptable to our Lord. That we redeem the time not only with those that are lost and without hope, but also with our

families to show them their value and worth;

That we think on things that are true and honest, on things that are just and pure, and on things that are lovely and of good report;

That we be thankful and let God's peace rule in our hearts. That we be diligent to make our calling and election sure;

That we read the many resolutions found within our Church Covenant which is based wholly on the Word of God, to remember how we should represent the body of Christ;

That we show our appreciation to Stony Point Missionary Baptist Church for their hospitality in hosting this meeting.

Annual BMA of MO Meeting

Don Burke, Clerk

Last month the 98th annual session of the Missouri Missionary Baptist Association met with Stony Point Baptist Church at Mineral Springs. Following a hearty welcome from Host Pastor Claude Evans, a congregational song and a morning devotional (also by Bro. Claude), Moderator Dan Wisely opened the business portion. The Enrollment Committee tallied 26 messengers representing 13 churches at the meeting.

Messengers heard reports from our various State Association departments as well as representatives from BMA Seminary, BMA Global Missions, Central Baptist College, Just the Crumbs disaster relief ministry and Baptist Publishing House.

Committeemen elected/re-elected included Jim Ainley to

• See *MEETING* page 3 •

Hillside Baptist Church Dedication

Kay Bylo

Sunday, November 2, 2025, Hillside Baptist Church celebrated the dedication of their ministry and building. Bro. Chuck Tedrow (the church planter) welcomed everyone. Then the congregation and guests lifted their voices to sing *Send the Light* led by Bro. K. Scott Roberts (New Testament Baptist Church choir director), accompanied by Sis. Joanie Tedrow.



Bro. Josh Wright, (pastor of New Testament Baptist Church, the sending church), Bro. Ben Kingston (Local and State Missions Director), and Bro. Larry Barker (Director of Church Planting, BMA Global) each praised the work that had been accomplished giving God the glory and challenged everyone present to pray that the work continues through the next steps to see souls saved and disciples made for the kingdom of God.

• See *DEDICATION* page 6 •

Minute Fund Status

Don Burke, Clerk

At the Annual Meeting the Enrollment Committee reported \$1,425 received from our churches in Minute Fund offerings. Although some additional offerings have since been received, bringing the total up to just under \$1,700, this is still a \$700 drop compared to last year – a year when, as reported at the meeting, we operated at a \$1,000 deficit. The Minute Fund's 2025-2026 beginning balance of \$2,000 simply cannot support this level of deficit spending beyond the coming year.

Please do not read this as anger or as chastisement – that is far from where my heart and my intentions are. I simply wish to share with our churches the Minute Fund's dire status. I know things are difficult for many churches, and I applaud many for doing all they can do. But of the 40 churches we have among our membership, approximately half have not sent in any offering this year.

• See *STATUS* page 5 •

State Missions

Dear BMAMO Churches,

Well, by the time you get this article it will be late November, and our celebrations of our glorious Lord's birth will be right around the corner. And then of course the Alive Conference will be at the end of December.

Truly exciting times! As part of those exciting times, a rare event happened yesterday, November 2nd. We celebrated the launching of Hillside Missionary Baptist Church in Union. There was a full house at 3:00 p.m. with Pastors Chuck Tedrow (senior pastor of the Union mission), Josh Wright (pastor at New Testament), Larry Barker (Director of Operations of North American Missions), John Dover (pastor at Friendship), Eddie Paul Oats (pastor at Berean), Jeff Moorman (youth pastor at Ozark Heights), Brad Banderman (youth pastor at Bethel) and myself. (If I missed anyone, my deepest apologies.) We also had very good representation of those respective churches in attendance.

It was a very upbeat service. Bro. Chuck shared highlight photos of the construction side of the building remodel. He also shared the most important part of the church plant, and that was the charter members' journey through the discipleship materials that Bro. Chuck is taking them through. He shared their approach to worship, which is a laid-back table-and-chair Bible study approach for the purpose of meaningful in-depth Bible study and growth.

Bro. Josh Wright shared from the Old Testament account of crossing the Jordan with Joshua and the priests. He shared that as the priests stepped out into the water, the water receded so others could step in. He commended those who have stepped out in faith in this mission point so that others could step in and partake in the work of the Lord.

Bro. Larry Barker shared the Ephesians 1:20-21 passage, *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.* Bro. Larry challenged us to pray for this work and (in my words) "to shoot for the moon" – to reclaim God's glory by replanting this church that was formerly Central and is now Hillside.

A memorable quote was "There is nothing inside the will of God that is outside His ability."

One of the notable things when Bro. Chuck spoke was God's ever-present provision. Whenever Bro. Chuck saw a need, the Lord provided.

In closing, please pray for this mission as if you were a part of it, because truly we are. As associational Baptists, we do more together than we do apart. If you have a pocket of giving for missions, I know they would put it to good use.



MISIÓN BAUTISTA BELÉN (Bethlehem Mission)

Serving Hispanic Families • St. Louis Metro East

Juan Fernandez

pastorjuanfernandez@gmail.com • (618) 581-8056

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Praises

We are praising and giving thanks to God our heavenly Father for you and your precious family and church family members who have reached out to us with birthday wishes! We are celebrating birthdays from September to December, especially in December when we celebrate Jesus' birthday.

- For the privilege of sharing a message from Nehemiah 8 to our home church family Lindsay Lane on the first Sunday of the month.
- Blessed beyond measure for your kind expressions for pastor appreciation. Thank you, we enjoyed each one of your presents.
- Visited our church family in Bourbon, Missouri. Safe travels and wonderful time of fellowship with Bro. Paul Dunn, his wife and the wonderful families in their congregation.
- New contacts in Florissant. We now

have two new outreach groups running with these new contacts. Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursday at Lindsay Lane, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., and Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m.

- Plans continue for official services opening for prayer meeting on Wednesday 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Lindsay Lane, and weekly family gatherings on Sunday 11:00 to 1:00 p.m.
- We are also on a good path for our outreach in Chesterfield on Sunday evenings. We are praying the Lord to bring another family to our existing home church. We are praying for a new place for worship. We have been in contact with an existing ministry. Unfortunately it is not possible to utilize their space because of liability issues. Please continue praying for a new place to gather on Sunday evening. We are looking into a YMCA facility that

• See BELÉN page 8 •

Financial Report BMA Of Missouri Missions October 2025

<u>Checking Account:</u>	
Balance Sept. 30	\$ 44,940.58
<u>Income:</u>	
Missions	\$ 2,373.18
RLF Insurance Reimb	<u>4,549.45</u>
Total Income	\$ <u>6,922.63</u>
Total Available	\$ 51,863.21
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Director, salary/bonus	\$ 450.00
Secretary, salary/bonus	200.00
Juan Fernandez, support	2,333.33
Bro. Mutual Insurance	22,747.23
BMA Missionary Care	5,000.00
BMA Charlie Costa	3,000.00
BMA Just the Crumbs	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ <u>(34,730.56)</u>
Balance Oct. 31	\$ 17,132.65
<u>BMAMS Revolving Loan Investment:</u>	
Balance Sept. 30	\$ 123,073.10
Interest	<u>1,166.28</u>
Balance Oct. 31	\$ <u>124,239.38</u>
Total in All Accounts Oct. 31	\$ 141,372.03

If you have any questions about the mission, please reach out to Bro. Chuck or Bro. Josh Wright, and I know they will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

May the Lord richly bless you.

Bro. Ben

BMA / MO Loan Program - Interest Distribution

Interest Earned 10/1/2024 to 9/30/2025

Checking - Commercial Bank.....	\$ 54.76
Mt. Zion / Poplar Bluff Loan.....	591.46
CDs - Commercial Bank.....	2,812.52
CDs - Midland States Bank.....	3,763.32
MM - Edwards Jones.....	<u>1,447.95</u>
Total Interest Income.....	\$ 8,670.01

Paid Out 10/14/2025

Lock Box Midland States Bank.....	\$ 35.00
Trustee Lunch.....	99.03
BMAMO Missions - Insurance.....	4,549.45
Gift - Camp Garwood.....	2,989.90
Gift - MMB Paper.....	<u>996.63</u>
Total Paid Out.....	\$ 8,670.01

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• *From MEETING page 1* •

Publications Committee (term ending 2028), Jason Taylor to Encampment (2030), Jason Wieners to Alive (2029), and Brian Meade to Special Missions (2032). The Resolutions Committee (Matt Bolen, Terry Sharp, Michael Kelly) and Enrollment Committee (Melvin Meade, Lee Miller and Joe McElroy) were reappointed to serve again in the coming year.

The Association's officers for the coming year are Matt Bolen – Moderator; Claude Evans – Assistant Moderator; Don Burke – Clerk; Jason Wieners – Assistant Clerk.

The Association voted to continue support to Juan Fernandez for his Hispanic work in the greater St. Louis area, plus to continue support to Bro. Chuck Tedrow in Union, Missouri. We also approved one-time offerings to Missionary Care Fund (BMA Global), \$5,000; Charles Costa Ministry, \$3,000; Just the Crumbs Ministries, \$1,000.



Bro. Larry Barker from BMA Global Missions gave an encouraging annual message on Biblical Hope.

Be sure to mark your calendars for these coming meetings scheduled for 2026: Missions Symposium and Mid-Year Meeting on May 15-16 to be held at Bethel, Lonedell, and the Annual Meeting on October 10 with Bethel, Sikeston.

Stop and Smell the Coffee Brewing – Part 2

Editorial – Don Burke

Last month in part one of this editorial we pondered the first two key factors of God's prescription for spiritual restoration (2 Chronicles 7:12ff): (1) The "if" factor, pointing out that the go/no-go decision of spiritual restoration rests squarely on our shoulders. That isn't to say that we can orchestrate revival of our own initiative or power, but rather that without our decision to proceed with the way God has provided it is dead before it gets started; and (2) Our humility is essential. Without such plowing of the heart it is pointless to attempt to sow the seeds of the other factors.

As we further ponder this passage, we find it continues by giving two more directives in this prescription for spiritual restoration. The first of these is itself a two-parter – "Pray and seek my face." While this expression is made up of two parts, those parts seem to work together as two elements of the same effort.

Prayer – such an easy-to-understand concept: the simple exercise of opening our heart and sharing it with God. So why is something so easy to grasp often so difficult to really do? Some of us are just naturally not big talkers. For some it may involve a level of closeness and even vulnerability that makes them uneasy. For others, I dare think it requires a level of personal awareness that they are not used to – somewhat akin to the uneasiness of gazing long and hard into a mirror. So instead of opening up, we undertake prayer as if we were ordering a cheeseburger and soda at the drive-thru – just speak towards some unknown box hoping that someone alive is on the other side as we list what all we want and how we want it, and then drive off hoping that our order will be handed to us as we continue to move along our way.

But in the particular context of 2Chronicles 7, the tone seems to be one of returning to God. Sometimes that return to speak with Him is after a long dry spell of forsaking Him and His will. Sometimes, however, it is to return even though we feel we've never left. We still go through all the routines of Christianity, but we do so absent-mindedly, without genuinely engaging with Him. We make the effort to pray towards Him, but without actually talking with Him. True prayer involves engaging.

So, we realize that we have been a little (or a lot) lacking in the area of engaging prayer, and we endeavor to re-engage – but what do we engage on? Sometimes we are like the boy who finally gets up the nerve to call a girl he's sweet on, only to have her answer and he suddenly realizes he doesn't know what to talk about. Well, fortunately God has given us a little help on that matter – we are to pray, and seek His face. As we stray from God, whether it be in big ways or in small, it comes when we pursue after our own thoughts and feelings. As we return, it involves changing our focus from what we want to searching out His thoughts and feelings – His will.

This is another one that is so simple in theory, but difficult in practice. For many of us, most of our praying is an ongoing list of things we need and things we want. And while sharing those with God isn't necessarily wrong, it shouldn't be the lion's share of our prayers, and certainly shouldn't be our number one priority. Prayer should first and foremost be an effort to seek out God's desires and to align our hearts to match His.

But praying and seeking the face of God is but one side of a two-sided coin. The flip side of that coin is found in the final factor in spiritual restoration: "Turn from their wicked ways."

It is important in understanding what this says to first understand what it does not say. God does not direct us to just acknowledge our wrong (although that is a part of it). For years my doctor has warned me that my blood-sugar numbers have been causing some borderline concern, but hey, I'm from the South and love my sweet tea! I would readily acknowledge that this drink of the gods wasn't especially good for me – all while pouring myself another tall glass of the golden goodness. But this summer test results showed that my numbers were more than just borderline and we were now into serious territory – which meant that no longer could I just acknowledge that this sugary goodness was bad, but I had to abandon it all together.

Sometimes in the ongoing process of our spiritual sanctification God reveals a lingering sin to us. As we struggle with this revelation, we hopefully get to the point of surrendering to the fact that this "pet sin" is wrong. But while that may be an achievement in itself, that is not the ultimate end result. Sin that is simply acknowledged doesn't mean that it is not still cherished in our hearts. Until we have both acknowledged and abandoned the sin – as it were, leaving it in our rearview mirror – we have not fulfilled all that is required for our spiritual restoration. Naturally, turning from our sin doesn't mean we are no longer tempted – and in fact, it at times brings even more temptation. But it does mean that in spite of temptations and maybe even some residual internal yearnings we set our heart to leave it in the dust.

As an old preacher once said, there are two types of people, those who when they recognize sin turn and run away from it, and those who crawl away hoping the sin will catch up with them. Those who truly turn from their sin don't make provision for temptation to catch up with them.

If my people who are called by my name,

- *humble themselves...*,
- *pray and seek my face...*,
- *turn from their wicked ways...*,

...then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. God is waiting to do His part, when we are willing to do ours.

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▪ Updates from Our Churches ▪

Kewanee, New Madrid

Happy fall from Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church! October was Pastor Appreciation month. On the 12th we celebrated our pastor (Bro. Dan Wisely) and his wife (Pam). In the morning service we had a video from the KMBC kids to Bro. Dan and Pam. In the evening service we had a program where we shared our love and appreciation for them through heartfelt messages and music. Afterward, we had a fellowship meal and lots of cake!! We are so blessed to have Bro. Dan and Pam leading and serving our church for the past 15 years and hopefully continuing until the Lord comes back!

On October 19th (Lifeword Sunday), we celebrated Lifeword in our evening services. We began outside with a circle of prayer for Lifeword Ministries and then had a time of fellowship with a bonfire, hot dog roast, chips, sodas, s'mores and deep-fried Oreos! The Lord provided a beautiful cool fall evening, perfect for a bonfire with lawn chairs, jackets and blankets!!

Also, on October 19th in the afternoon, our Kewanee WMA had their annual Make, Bake & Take Auction. This is our biggest fundraiser to raise money for our projects we support throughout the year. We had a great group of ladies able to attend. We love our auctioneer, Donna Higerson. She does a wonderful job every year!!

Kewanee hosted our

SEMO District WMA meeting on October 21st. After enjoying a taco dinner, the ladies had the installation of the newly elected officers for the coming year.

On October 26th, KMBC hosted a chili luncheon fundraiser after morning services to support Caitie Cox's mission trip to El Salvador next year. We are so proud of Caitie and appreciate her faithfulness to work on our mission fields. Please be in prayer throughout the year for her and the group that will be traveling with her.

On October 31st, our youth committee, along with volunteers, represented KMBC at our local elementary school trunk or treat. They were able to share treats, gospel tracts, and the love of Jesus to approximately 800-900 students. What a blessing to be able to reach that number of children in one morning. God is so good!

Until next month, keep praying!!!

*Dan Wisely, Pastor
Debbie Nowell, Reporter*

Lindsay Lane, Florissant

Greetings once again from Lindsay Lane.

Pastor Brian had a "staycation" last month. We're glad he's rested and on fire! Welcome back! We're so thankful for him. His father, Bro. Albert, has had another procedure done and is doing well as of this writing.

Sis. Thelma Cornett was able to be with us once again on this first Sunday in November after having an infec-

tion in her eye. She still covets our prayers.

Our ladies' outing to Kimmswick was cancelled due to inclement weather. We thank God for the much needed and appreciated rain.

We congratulate Bro. and Sis. McClain in celebrating 73 years of wedded bliss! We recently observed the Lord's Supper. Due to the recent heavy rains our annual washer tournament was cancelled. Our annual chili cook-off was held on the 2nd. Sis. Jeanette Anthony was 3rd place, with Sis. Mia Parrish coming in at 2nd and Sis. Emily Berger coming in at 1st! We will be having our Saints Alive lunch on the 11th with our church-wide Thanksgiving lunch the 23rd.

Please pray for us here in the Florissant area and beyond. Also we ask that you pray for our young families and the kiddos that are being bombarded with things of the world! May God bless and keep you.

*Brian Meade, Pastor
Kathy Chapman, Reporter*

Bethel, Sikeston

Happy Thanksgiving from Bethel, Sikeston. We have a lot to be thankful for. Not just on Thanksgiving, but every day we should count our blessings!

God has blessed us with many visitors that are becoming regulars. Our prayer is that they would feel led to become members one day.

On the 12th we were blessed to have Bro. Charles Costa, missionary to Leba-

non, join us for our morning service and give us an update on his ministry on that field. It is always uplifting to learn about what is happening with their ministry in another country and to hear that souls are being saved!

Our Wednesday night Bible study is on our spiritual gifts. God gives each of us a spiritual gift to use to honor and glorify him and edify the church. This has been a very inspiring study.

Sis. Helen Beardsley is still teaching the discipleship class on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. You are welcome to come join us. You don't have to be a member of our church to attend.

We honored our pastor and his wife with a pastor appreciation gift and with cards, cake and ice cream after the evening service. We are very appreciative of Bro. Billy and Sis. Donna for the love they show to all of us and for the messages that God leads Bro. Billy to preach straight from the Word.

During one of our church services we had a special prayer service as we have had so many prayer needs lately. Our country, our president and all leaders need our prayers!

Hope everyone has a blessed Thanksgiving with your families! God bless all of you!

*Billy Davis, Pastor
Joan Wood, Reporter*

Lower Doe Run, Ellington

Greetings! We are experiencing another beautiful fall

at the Webb Creek side of Clearwater Lake.

We are so glad to report a fantastic two months at Lower Doe Run Baptist Church. We cannot report new visitors or new members, but one family continues to be faithful every Sunday. They participate in the choir and song service, take part in Sunday school and the lunch fellowship in the afternoon. They drive a distance from Van Buren. And we love them.

We enjoyed the State Association at Stony Point Baptist Church, the sweet fellowship and good reports: good news from Gary O'Neal from the Seminary; Mike Angus from BMA disaster relief Just The Crumbs; Charles Costa, mission coordinator from the Middle East; Larry Barker, BMA Global; and our own Missouri department leaders, including the MMB Editor, Camp Garwood, Mission Director, Brotherhood and WMA.

The church hosted nearly 40 people from the community at our fall festival hayride. The church showed extra appreciation for our pastor of 12 years and his 80th birthday.

Bro. Johnny Beardsley, Jr., preached on the 20th while we were out for the weekend. The church observed the Lord's Supper one Sunday afternoon.

We continue to pray for those who are declining in their health, those in the nursing home and especially for those serving faithfully through difficulties. We are seeing the signs and watching for Lord's coming at any time.

Until we meet,
*Melvin Meade, Pastor
Carolyn Meade, Reporter*

Stony Point, Mineral Point
Greetings from Stony Point Baptist Church.

Oct. 4th one of our long-time members, Sis. Bonnie Bourbon, went to be with the Lord. She will be missed. She was our chicken and dumpling lady, but more than that,

~ Upcoming Events ~

Washington County WMA and Brotherhood – Nov. 14; Stony Point, Mineral Point

Celebration 2025 (worship celebration for adults) – Nov. 18-20; Chateau on the Lake, Branson

Alive Youth Conference – Dec. 29-31; DoubleTree, Chesterfield

CBC Homecoming – Jan. 16-17

World Missions Day – Feb. 23; "The Gospel Changes Everything"

CBC Scholarship Gala – March 6; "Anchored in Faith;" Antioch, Conway, AR

MO State WMA and Brotherhood Annual Meeting – March 7, Stony Point, Mineral Point

BMAA National Meeting – April 21-22; Antioch, Conway, AR

Send event info to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

she was a wonderful lady and great alto singer.

Oct. 11 the BMA of Missouri met with Stony Point Baptist Church. Oct. 12 we had Pastor Appreciation Day by giving Bro. Claude a monetary gift to show our love and appreciation for him and his wife.

The same day was our Harvest Fun Day. All services were outside. Music was by 4Given (Emily family). Some of the men grilled. We brought our lawn chairs and had a wonderful and enjoyable day worshiping the Lord outdoors. Oct. 31 was trunk or treat. We served hot dogs, chili, candy and other treats, and gave out gospel tracts. It was well attended by the community and other areas.

On the same day, Oct. 31, Sis. Kaylea Ruble gave birth to a baby boy. Mother and baby Kolter are doing fine. Congratulations to Kaylea, Trent, sister Kenzlea and brother Bennett.

Our WMA meets once a month and twice a week for

chair aerobics and fellowship. Our men's Brotherhood meets twice a month. We would love to have anyone come and join us.

Nov. 2 we took a special offering for Lifeword Sunday. Our Pastor has been preaching wonderful messages on "The God of Various Bible Men." These have been very enlightening and encouraging.

Nov. 14 the Washington County WMA and Brotherhood will meet with Stony Point at 7:00 p.m. We invite all to come even though you may not have a WMA. Nov. 23 we will have an auction with proceeds going to Just the Crumbs ministry.

Happy Thanksgiving to all. Have a blessed day thanking God for all our blessings

*Claude Evans, Pastor
Ruth Gibson, Reporter*

Oak Hill, Alton

HELLO to all from Oak Hill! Thank the Lord Bro. Tom Foster Sr. has been able to come to church and wor-

ship the Lord with us. He has been having back problems. Sis. Margaret Grammer is home. She had been in the nursing home having physical therapy. She had to have surgery on her hip that she broke when she fell. We always are happy to see all of our brothers and sisters in Christ back home and worshipping the Lord with us again.

This month has five Sundays, and that means we will have our fifth Sunday dinner on the 30th. If you are in our area on that day, we would want you to come and eat with us.

As far as I know, we do not have any plans for Thanksgiving. We would like to wish everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving!

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*

*The one who offers
thanksgiving
as his sacrifice glorifies me.*

• From STATUS page 1 •

Our annual Minute Book is a tremendous tool that we just cannot afford to allow to disappear. Not only is it a handy reminder of the decisions made and officers elected as our great Association meets from time to time, it is a helpful historical resource for future research and for future generations to reflect back on our work. It also provides a general measure of our churches' growth and our impact upon our world. But the only way we can maintain this helpful tool is through adequate funding.

So, if your church is struggling and has done all it can – again, my appreciation to you for that. If your church has already given but has additional funds available, please consider whether you can give more to help cover those who cannot. And if your church is among the half who have not sent in any offering, please consider whether you are able to do so – and ideally, to add the annual Minute Fund offering to your church's normal budget.

The sad reality is that, short of a significant increase in Minute Fund income soon, in the coming year we will be faced with the decision of whether to discontinue printing of our annual minutes altogether. I don't think this is a decision any of us wants to be faced with.

Missionary Care Needs Some Care

Dr. Jonathan Montgomery, Director of Missionary Care

This year has been one of the busiest and most fruitful years for BMA Global's Missionary Care ministry. We have hosted numerous activities to encourage and support our missionaries, and we have one main goal: to care for those who serve. But right now, this ministry itself needs some care.

This ministry depends entirely on financial support to provide counseling, coaching, conferences, and connection opportunities for missionaries and their families around the world. After an incredible year of activity and ministry, our funds are running low, and we need your help to continue providing the encouragement and support our missionaries depend on.

This year alone, we hosted several events:

- We celebrated 75 years of BMA Global missions by hosting reunions for former missionaries and their families, which were joyful times of reconnecting and remembering God's faithfulness through the years.
- Our North American church planters attended this year's ReCharge Leadership Retreat, where our care team hosted a special luncheon for them and their families. As church planting grows across the U.S., we're walking alongside these planters just as we do our international teams.
- We also held our second beach retreat for college-aged missionary kids, helping them



navigate the transition from the field to life in the States. This time together deepened relationships and strengthened their faith as they adjust to new surroundings.

- The highlight of 2025 was our Regional Care Conference in Turkey for missionaries serving in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Partnering with Bethel Baptist Church in Fulton, Mississippi, we provided a refreshing week of worship, fellowship, and encouragement, including a memorable visit to ancient Ephesus.

Along with hosting these ministry events, our care team has continued offering counseling and coaching, "providing care for every missionary, at every stage, with every need." Even apart from gatherings, Missionary Care remains a constant source of support for those who serve with BMA Global.

While 2025 has been a high point in care and encouragement, 2026 may look different for one key reason: our financial support is low.

Missionary Care raises its own funds to provide these services and events for missionaries in the States and around the world. The many opportunities God gave us in 2025 stretched our budget beyond what was available, especially with unplanned expenses for the Turkey Conference. Still, every moment of encouragement and renewal that came from it was worth the investment.

We want to do more in 2026: host care conferences in other regions, deepen our involvement with missionary kids, and continue encouraging our veteran missionaries ... but we simply can't without increased giving.

I've been meeting with pastors and individuals to share these needs, and we're thankful for new donors who've added us to their monthly budgets. As a new pastor, my speaking schedule is limited, but I'm always glad to meet with pastors and missions committees over coffee or a weekday meal. Reach me at jonathan@bmaglobal.org.

Missionary Care continues to make a real difference in the lives of those serving through the BMA. With your prayers, encouragement, and financial support, we can keep strengthening and sustaining our missionary families for years to come.

Special Update

Mickeal and Sharon Quillman

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We wanted to take a moment to share a few updates from Zambia and from our family.

Please keep Sharon in your prayers. She is currently on a plane returning to the United States due to a family emergency, while I remain on the field here in Zambia. This will be the longest time we've been apart in over 30 years of marriage, and we truly appreciate your prayers during this season.

While Sharon is in the States, if your church, Sunday school, ladies' ministry, WMA, or other group would like for her to share an update about the work in Zambia, please reach out to her here.

Field Update – Prayers for Rain

We've now entered our hot and rainy season here in Zambia. Please join us in praying that God will send the rains to help end this severe drought. The planting season is beginning, and the community is busy preparing their fields in faith, trusting God to provide.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Bro. Claude and Aunt Bea Evans and Stony Point Missionary Baptist Church for sending umbrellas for our people – each one a beautiful reminder to pray in faith, trusting that God will send the rain in His perfect timing.

Ministry Highlights

During our recent furlough, we were blessed by Bro. Andy Hawkins and First Baptist Church of Buckner, AR, who provided solar audio Bibles. These were such a blessing – allowing many to hear the Word of God in their native tongue for the very first time.

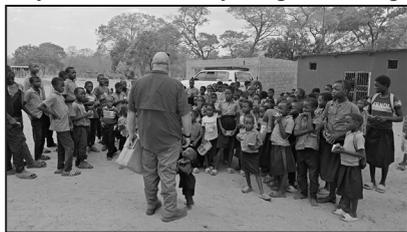
We were also able to distribute over 150 New Testament Bibles to the children at Chabantu Missionary Baptist Church. Seeing their excitement and gratitude reminded us once again how powerful and precious the Word of God truly is.

Thank You for Standing with Us

Sharon and I are continually humbled by the faithful prayers and financial support of so many of you. Because of your partnership, the Gospel continues to reach the unreached here in Zambia.

We love you all and thank God for your faithfulness in this mission.

In His service, Quill & Sharon
Your Missionaries to Zambia



Those Pesky Israelites!

Judy Wallace

I sat there shaking my head. My husband asked me what was wrong to which I responded, "It's those pesky Israelites!" I had been reading through Jeremiah and Ezekiel. Throughout both books the prophets would speak over and over again to the people about their idols. They had made idols of silver and gold. They had carved idols of wood. They had adopted the evil practices of surrounding cultures and performed them in and around the temple.

What was wrong with these people? Did they not realize they were God's chosen people, the apple of His eye? Were they not aware of the major miracles God had performed to free their ancestors from slavery in Egypt? They knew of the miracles of ten plagues and the most well-known: the crossing of the Red Sea on dry ground. These should have been enough to keep their focus on Him and worship Him only.

God not only oversaw their freedom but also provided for every physical need while they wandered in the wilderness. He sent bread and meat and provided fresh water. He had allowed them to gather spoil from the Egyptian people: silver, gold, jewelry, fine cloth, and tapestries. Later they used these things as offerings to build the tabernacle according to God's specifications. They could only give from what they had been given, and God made sure they were given much. How could they doubt, turn away

from God, then give His glory and honor to another?

I sit here shaking my head. What is wrong? It is pesky little ol' me! I couldn't believe these people with all of the blessings, provisions, and promises – along

with the displays of God's power and glory – would insist on doing things their way instead of His. But I do the same thing! He has made me His child by grace alone and freed me from the bondage of sin. I have seen miracles brought about by His power and mercy. He has supplied every need and given me exceedingly abundantly above all I could ask or think. (See Ephesians 3:20,21.) Anything I have to offer Him comes from Him. Any time, talent, treasure I might have are blessings He has given to use for Him. Do I obey Him wholeheartedly? Immediately? At all times? In all circumstances? Do I always give Him the glory or do I try to keep some for myself? Do I seek accolades and praise? Words of affirmation? Is my idol me? Is it desire for recognition?

If so, those pesky Israelites 'got nuttin on me!' Self-reliance, self-sufficiency, pride... nothing is more of a stench in the nostrils of God! There is no worse idol than self!

Response: This blog is for me. I'm being very transparent when I tell you God has taken me to the whipping post. I'm such a hard-head, He sent me the same message from four different sources over four different days in four very different situations. What was it? Luke 18:9-14.

As you read it, pray for me! How can I reach others if I don't humble myself before God and repent of my sin! God showed me clearly my attitude is much more that of a Pharisee than that of a humble tax collector. *God be merciful to me a sinner.*

• From DEDICATION page 1 •

Bro. Tedrow shared a PowerPoint depicting highlights of the work that has been accomplished to date with the many servants who have labored since February 2025.

Bro. Tedrow then recognized Bro. John Sumpter who has worked tirelessly by his side both in the building project and in the discipleship lessons and presented him with a gift of appreciation.



Alaina Wright, Bro. Tedrow's granddaughter, blessed the congregation with a violin solo, *Be Thou My Vision*. Bro. Tedrow called all of the pastors who were present to come forward to offer a prayer of dedication for the ministry and

building of Hillside Baptist Church.

Bro. Josh Wright led everyone in thanking Bro. Tedrow for all of his hard work and efforts in serving the Lord through the church plant. The congregation and guests then gave Bro. Tedrow a round of applause and standing ovation for all that has been completed through his efforts and direction for God's glory.

Bro. Wright closed the service in prayer, and a delicious dessert fellowship followed.



Enter His gates with thanksgiving,

and His courts with praise!

Give thanks to Him – bless His name!

The Gospel Changes Everything

John David Smith, President BMA Global

Every generation of believers must rediscover the power of the gospel. It is not simply a message to be preached but a force that transforms every part of life. When the gospel enters a heart, a home, or a community everything changes. This new series, *The Gospel Changes Everything*, highlight real-life stories and principles that remind us why we exist as BMA Global, to make disciples of all nations through the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel Changes Our Worship

In John 4, Jesus met a woman at a well whose life was marked by shame and isolation. Their conversation turned quickly from water to worship. Jesus declared, “The true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth.” The gospel begins here, it changes what we worship and whom we worship.

Before the gospel, our hearts chase after empty wells of self, success, or religion. But when we encounter Christ, worship becomes personal, not ceremonial. Around the world, BMA Global missionaries see this transformation daily, believers gathering under trees, in rented rooms, and sometimes in silence because worship has moved from a place to a Person.

Once a Wizard, Now a Witness

Akeem’s Story (Nigeria)

My name is Akeem Ayuba. I am 29 years old and from the Republic of Benin. For many years, I lived as a wizard, bound by the powers of darkness, until I encountered the gospel of Jesus Christ on January 2, 2021, at Word Alive Missionary Baptist Church in Ibadan, Nigeria, through Brother Joseph Eniowo. That day, my life was forever changed.

I lost my father when I was still a baby and my mother when I was only two years old. My grandmother raised me, but she was a witch and an idol worshipper. When I was six years old, she initiated me into the kingdom of Satan by commanding a local heathen pot (*igba-aye*) into my stomach. From then on, I believed I was invincible. I could disappear into thin air and even transform into a cobra to protect myself.

As I grew, I became a tool for older men in my community who used me for thuggery. I was introduced to smoking Indian hemp, alcohol, and many other vices. At just eight years old, I smuggled myself across the border into Nigeria and settled in a small town called Saki. My life continued in this dark path under the influence of demons.

Later, I moved to Ibadan where I learned metal construction work. But before I could finish my apprenticeship, my master died. I then decided to become an okada rider and later found work as a dispatch rider.

On January 1, 2021, my life nearly ended. I was drunk and tried to ride

home, believing my demonic powers would protect me and allow me to disappear if I had an accident. But those powers failed me. A car struck me at Elewure Bus Stop in Mokola around 4:30 p.m. I fell into a coma, and immediately I found myself in a place beyond this earth, surrounded by a great crowd moving quickly toward a destination I couldn’t see. Suddenly, I saw someone clothed in pure white. I believe it was Jesus Christ. He stopped me and told me to go back to life.

The next thing I remember was opening my eyes to people shouting, *O ti ji o!* (He is risen!) I was covered in blood, with injuries on my head, but at that moment I made the decision to give my life to Jesus Christ.

The following day, I was brought to Brother Joseph’s church. He shared the gospel with me, and I placed my faith in Christ alone for the gift of eternal life. That was the first miracle. The second miracle was the feeling that a heavy load had been lifted from my head. My body felt light, and my heart was filled with indescribable joy.

Since then, I have been baptized and now bear the name Brother Job Akeem. Today, I am no longer living for Satan. I am a new creature in Christ, and I am passionate about sharing the gospel with people in my neighborhood. Jesus took my broken, sinful life and gave me a new beginning, and for that I will praise Him forever.



Worship is where mission begins, because hearts captured by Jesus naturally overflow in praise.

The Gospel Changes Our Witness

After meeting Christ, the Samaritan woman could not stay silent. She ran to tell her community, “Come, see a man who told me all things that ever I did.” True encounter always leads to witness. When the gospel changes our hearts, it gives us a story to tell.

That same impulse drives our missionaries today. Across nearly 70 nations, local believers are carrying the message into new regions, languages, and cultures. From cities to remote villages, the good news moves through relationships, conversations, and acts of compassion. As we’ve learned through our global partnerships, the gospel’s greatest witness often comes through ordinary people who simply tell what Jesus has done for them.

Even when that witness carries risk, our theology of mission reminds us that faithfulness, not safety, is our measure of obedience. We continue to act wisely, but with the conviction that the world still needs to hear the gospel’s life-changing truth.

The Gospel Changes Our Work

When the people of Sychar came to see Jesus, He told His disciples, “Lift up your eyes... the fields are white for harvest.” The gospel not only changes hearts, it changes our work. Our mission is not about programs or numbers, it’s about people. It’s about walking with others until Christ is formed in them.

In Luke 24, we see Jesus walking the road to Emmaus with two confused followers. He listened, taught, and shared a meal, a reminder that lasting ministry is relational and patient. That’s how the gospel continues to advance through BMA Global today. We invest in disciple-makers, equip local leaders, and build relationships that outlast our presence.

Missions work is often slow and unseen, but that is exactly the way Jesus worked. The true measure of ministry is not speed or scale but faithfulness and fruit that remains.

The Gospel Unites Us in One Mission

From the well of Samaria to the ends of the earth, the story remains the same, when people meet Jesus, their lives and their communities are never the same. The gospel changes everything because it brings us together in worship, witness, and work.

As churches partner with BMA Global, we stand shoulder to shoulder with thousands of believers who share one mission and one message – Jesus saves. Whether in Arkansas or Africa, the Spirit continues to draw hearts to Himself.

May this new series remind us that the gospel is not only our message, it is our motivation. It changes how we see God, how we see others, and how we serve the world. And because Jesus still lives, the gospel will continue to change everything.

I Found Jesus in a Hotel Room

Hélaine’s Story (Dominican Republic)

I never imagined that cleaning hotel rooms would change my life. One day, as I was tidying up a guest’s room in Boca Chica, I noticed a small paper on the nightstand titled “The Most Important Question of Your Life.” I picked it up and began to read. As I read each word, something stirred in me a sense of conviction and curiosity.

The next time I saw the missionary couple staying there, I felt the need to confess. “I want to apologize,” I told them. “I took one of your papers and read it.” They smiled and said, “It’s okay. It was there for you.”

I told them my name is Hélène, and I couldn’t stop thinking about what I had read. “If this is true,” I said, “my mom needs to hear it, too.” Two days

later, they came to my house and met my mother, Francisca, and my four children. With Pablo translating, they explained everything clearly. That night, I gave my life to Jesus. Just a few days later, so did my mom.

Since then, my home has become a place of hope and learning. We’ve grown close to the missionaries, and I’ve seen how God keeps bringing people into our lives. Another woman at the hotel even asked about what we were doing, and now she wants to hear more, too.

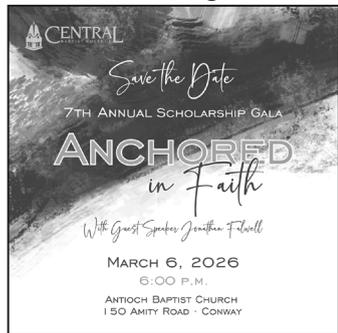
I used to feel like I was just surviving. Now, I know I’m truly living. Jesus found me in a hotel room, and now He’s changing my whole community.

The Gospel Changed Me.

Anchored in Faith – 7th Annual Scholarship Gala

Every spring, our community gathers to do something extraordinary: we invest in the lives of Central Baptist College students. On Friday, March 6, 2026, at Antioch Baptist Church in Conway, we will come together for CBC's 7th Annual Scholarship Gala. It will be an evening that pairs fellowship and inspiration with a very practical outcome: scholarships that open the door to a Christ-centered education.

The Scholarship Gala is CBC's premier annual fundraising event. Since 2019, friends



and partners like you have helped us raise nearly \$4 million for student scholarships. Behind that number are countless

individual stories of students who were able to enroll, persist, and graduate because a faithful community believed in them.

At CBC, we are committed to transforming lives through education that integrates Christian faith and academic excellence. Scholarships make that mission accessible. They bridge the gap for students who are called to prepare for ministry, service, and leadership but need financial support to make it possible.

Our theme this year, "Anchored in Faith," reflects both who we are and how we move forward. We are not immune to cultural headwinds or economic uncertainty, but our anchor holds. We trust God's provision, and we work together as faculty, staff, alumni, churches, and friends to equip students for lives of purpose.

We are honored to welcome Jonathan Falwell as our keynote speaker. The son of the late Rev. Jerry Falwell, Jonathan serves as senior pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church and Chancellor of Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia.



He brings a pastor's heart and a leader's perspective to the issues facing students and Christian higher education today. I look forward to his message and the encouragement it will bring to all of us who care deeply about the next generation.

The evening will feature dinner, fellowship, and an inspiring program centered on CBC's mission and vision. You'll hear directly from students whose lives have been changed by scholarship support and from partners who believe, like we do, that Christ-centered education is worth championing.

Your presence makes a difference. So does your partnership.

- Sponsorships begin at \$2,000.
- Single tickets are \$100 each.

To purchase tickets, secure a sponsorship, or make a donation, visit cbc.edu/gala. You may also contact Peggy Pillow at ppillow@cbc.edu or (501) 205-8834.

As we prepare for March 6, I'm grateful for the generosity you've shown and hopeful for what God will do through this year's Gala. Thank you for standing with CBC, for believing in our students, and for helping us remain anchored in faith.

ALIVE STUDENT CONFERENCE

December 29-31, 2025
DoubleTree, Chesterfield, MO

Speaker

Mike Strong
Church Planter and Pastor
North Minneapolis, MN



Registration

\$75 per Person
(\$85 after December 1 deadline)
\$60 New Church Discount
(churches attending Alive for the very first time)
Payable to Alive Ministries
c/o Jim Ainley • 10479 State Road P • Potosi, MO 63664

Hotel Reservations

\$77 per night (plus tax) per room (deadline November 28)
Contact: Almira Selimovic (636) 667-6646
or aselimovic@doubletreechesterfield.com

You can find schedule, registration forms and more details at bmmissouri.org/alive-student-conference/.

Deaths

Bonita "Bonnie" Ann Bourbon, 78, of Potosi passed away on October 4. She was a devoted member of Stony Point Baptist Church, where she served the Lord with her singing.

In everything by prayer and supplication

with thanksgiving let your requests

be made known to God.

• From BELÉN page 2 •

is five minutes driving distance from this Spanish community, although there is a church already gathering in this facility.

- Christmas giving tree. We are so blessed for the prayer and support from our home church Lindsay Lane for their participation this coming Christmas in this amazing plan to reach out with love and care for our families! We can't wait to celebrate together our Christmas program on December 21. Thank you, Jesus.
- We continue with our home Bible study on Wednesdays in Florissant and Kirkwood. A new door opened this past month with our friend Roberto. We are gathering tomorrow for our Bible study and fellowship with his fellow roommates.

Prayer

- Salvation for each one of our contacts. Every opportunity we get to spend time together the gospel can be shared in every situation.
- Wisdom and unity to accomplish God's plan for our service as we continue reaching out to non-believers with the gospel and believers for revival!
- For our Sunday family worship time in Florissant and Chesterfield. There is a new banner in the parking lot!



- For our prayer network. We have banners promoting prayer available for everyone who would like to join us in posting one of these in their yard.
- For this second Sunday of the month – birthdays celebration at 2:00 p.m. Potluck celebrating Eleanor's 7th birthday. And if you would like to share with us your birthday come and join us for this potluck.
- For Thanksgiving dinner celebration this coming Thursday with the English Club. We have so many reasons to be thankful! For God's Word, God's plan, God's people and the hope for a new beginning every day.
- Staying on mission. God's protection from discouragement, disease, doubts; that we are found faithful, fruitful and effective in the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

Don't hesitate to reach out to us if you would like to learn more about our timeline for 2026. This is the fifth year of this pioneer ministry outreach to our Spanish-speaking families in Missouri. May the Lord continue to be glorified and His people be raised and get together to become the spiritual community that we have envisioned since 2020. To God be the glory.

In His name,
Juan Fernandez (Acts 20:24)

