

# BAPTIST TRUMPET

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## A Challenge That Benefits Generations to Come

By Holly Meriweather

The Natchez Trace Parkway covers three states and 450 low-speed miles. Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama share sections of this 50-mile-an-hour highway that is meant to be enjoyed by hiking, biking, camping and horseback riding. If you have ever driven the parkway, you've noticed the peacefulness of being the only one on the road.

That's what native Mississippian, cyclist and BMA Global President John David Smith will be doing May

8-12, but for a higher purpose. He says, "This challenge has long been a personal bucket list item. It's a big challenge, but it's not about me. The ride is called ChangeMaker Challenge 2023 in honor of our ChangeMakers with whom we partner globally by offering them church planting grants for new churches."

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

Your gift will establish a fund to support ChangeMaker missionaries for generations to come. To learn more or to give, scan the QR code in the graphic or go to [bmamissions.org/changemakerchallenge](http://bmamissions.org/changemakerchallenge).

The \$1 million dollars raised will be added to other available funds to create a managed investment account where projected growth will provide a new, recurring, annual income stream for BMA Global that we project could be \$200,000 of annual income within five years.

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

## MOVING with Ministers and Staff

This is only a news column, and the publishing of a person's availability should not be considered a recommendation by the Trumpet. To view previous listings from this column, visit our website at [www.BaptistTrumpet.com](http://www.BaptistTrumpet.com).



**Bryson Haden** has resigned as pastor of Springhill Baptist Church in Laurel, Miss. after two years of service and is available for pastoral service as the Lord leads. Contact him at (662) 251-0443 or [blhaden@gmail.com](mailto:blhaden@gmail.com).

**Weddington Baptist Church in Fayetteville** will have a deacon ordination on April 2 at 2:30 p.m.; Gene Fulcher, pastor.



## National Department Video Reports Available Online

In anticipation of the 2023 BMA National Meeting, the leaders of the various departments of the BMA have recorded in-depth video reports of their activity in 2022. Those can be found at [bmaamerica.org/2023-bma-department-annual-reports](http://bmaamerica.org/2023-bma-department-annual-reports). These reports are intended to give the churches of the BMA and the messengers attending the national meeting details that might not be available during the reports given at the meeting.

The BMA National Meeting will be held April 25-27 at Antioch Baptist Church in Conway. Details for the meeting can be found at [bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting](http://bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting), along with registration information for BMA Mission's Dinner on the Ground on Wednesday night.

## Seminary to Offer New Programs

The Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary is excited to announce the opening of two new academic programs: the Master of Arts in Disciple Making and the Certificate of Disciple Making. Both programs are designed to help those interested in fulfilling the Lord's Great Commission to make disciples.

For several years, BMA Seminary has emphasized evangelism and disciple making throughout its degree programs. However, these degrees typically focus on preparing men for positions of pastoral leadership. The seminary's new programs are designed to help professional and/or volunteers in ministry to prepare themselves for obeying Christ's Great Commission to make disciples.

Officially beginning in Fall 2023, the Certificate of Disciple Making will be available for men and women who are qualified to study at the undergraduate level. That means individuals with or without prior collegiate studies may complete the eight courses required for the certificate.

The Master of Arts in Disciple Making will be available to men and women qualified to study at the graduate level. That means individuals with a properly accredited bachelor's degree in any field of study may complete the 12 courses required for the degree. An undergraduate degree in religious or biblical studies is not required.

The new programs will focus on equipping students with what they need to grow spiritually and to make disciples who can also make disciples. Courses can be taken on campus and/or online or by a combination of both.

For more information, contact the seminary dean's office or visit the seminary's website, [bmats.edu](http://bmats.edu) under "Prospective Students."



## WMA Meeting

By Kelly Williams, Arkansas WMA President

The National WMA will meet on Wednesday, April 26 at Central Baptist College in the Cooper Complex, with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. and the meeting starting at 9 a.m. The CBC singers will begin singing at 8:45 a.m., so you will want to get there early! We, as Arkansas WMA, will be the hostesses for the meeting and we would love to have many of you ladies there. We will announce the winner of the National Project Challenge at the meeting.

National WMA President Charlotte Johnson shares, besides having a great speaker during the morning session and wonderful speakers in the afternoon breakout sessions, we will have a special guest speaker during the luncheon. We cannot post her name due to her security. She is "working" in a closed access nation. You do not want to miss this!

One **really** important detail is that you need to register for lunch by April 1 in order for us to let CBC know how many will be eating. You need to contact National WMA Treasurer Janet Widger at [jawidger@hughes.net](mailto:jawidger@hughes.net), via text at (314) 566-7794 or Facebook Messenger at "Janet Widger." If you are the wife of a pastor or missionary, your meal is free, but you must let Janet know you are coming! Please include your name and \$15 for the meal. Make checks payable to WMA of BMAA and send to P.O. Box 23, Salem, Mo. 65560.

Please don't delay. You will be **so** glad you came!

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## CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE PROFILE

### Central Baptist College

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President



### Baseball

• **North Little Rock, March 14** — CBC hosted the Pioneers of Crowley's Ridge (CRC) in a nine-inning contest at DeSalvo Memorial Stadium. CBC (11-11) pounded out 14 hits and ended the game early, beating CRC (4-10) 10-0 in eight innings.

• **Walnut Ridge, March 17** — Opening American Midwest Conference (AMC) play, CBC was at Shell Field for a doubleheader against the Eagles of Williams Baptist University. CBC (12-12, 1-1 AMC), split the first two games of the three-game series, falling in game one (0-10) before winning game two (17-4).

• **Walnut Ridge, March 18** — Looking to win their first AMC series of the season, CBC was at Shell Field for the rubber game against the Eagles of Williams Baptist. CBC (13-12, 2-1 AMC) took care of business, downing WBU (13-13, 1-2 AMC) 10-3 in the final game of the series.

• **Ozark, Mo., March 20** — Looking to salvage the final two games of their season series, CBC was at U.S. Baseball Stadium for a doubleheader against Baptist Bible College (BBC). CBC (13-14) saw their bats go quiet again, dropping both games to BBC (14-13) 7-6 and 4-1.

### Men's Golf

• **Maumelle, March 14** — Carrying a 13-shot lead into the final round of the CBC Invitational, CBC looked to capture their first tournament of the spring at the Country Club of Arkansas. CBC shot a final round 307 and held off a charge from Missouri Baptist, finishing with a 602 overall and a win by 4 strokes. The win is the second straight victory for CBC following their win at Evangel's Tournament to end the fall.

• **West Point, Miss., March 20** — Playing away from home for the first time this spring, CBC was on course at the Mossy Oak Golf Course in the first round of the Blue Mountain Spring Classic. CBC would open with a 316 to put them in sixth, 12 shots off the lead.

### Women's Golf

• **Maumelle, March 14** — Entering the day trailing by 8 shots, **Alyssa Hagewood** looked to make a charge for the win in the final round of the CBC Mustang Invitational at the Country Club of Arkansas. Hagewood closed with an 84 but it wasn't enough, and she ended up second in the tournament behind Kendra Harness of Williams Baptist.

• **West Point, Miss., March 20** — Teeing off for their first road spring tournament, CBC was at



## Student Ministry Matters

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## Are You a Claire or a Claude?

We have two dogs in our house. Claire is a Double Doodle — half labradoodle and half golden doodle. Claude is a Havapoo — half havanese and half poodle. Why do I mention these two furry freeloaders? I guess I can't really call them that since they work with my wife in her counseling office, but they can be a pain in the neck. Weather permitting, my evenings usually include a walk with these two goofballs. Claire walks with purpose. She looks ahead and sees all that is around her. She sees the birds and squirrels. She understands my commands, and we quickly navigate turns and changes in our path. Claude is a different character. He usually has his nose down sniffing everything. He misses out on most of the things ahead of us, and I'm constantly urging him to rejoin us.

In ministry, we need leaders and servants more like Claire. Claire has a clear purpose as we walk. She works with and for me. Because she doesn't spend her entire time with her face at the ground sniffing, she knows what's happening. Let's just say that Claude doesn't share some of those same qualities. Claire's good qualities are the ones I want to highlight:

• **Good ministry leaders are purposeful.** What is your purpose? The Bible makes it clear for believers that we are to be Great Commandment (Matt. 22:36-40) and Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) believers. We are to love God, love others and make disciples. That purpose gives us direction in all that do and how we serve. It shapes our decisions and choices in ministry.

• **Good ministry leaders are cooperative.** Just like Claire, we are to work with our ministry partners. This includes other pastors, Sunday School teachers, deacons, volunteers and, in student ministry, it also means parents. If we are constantly pulling in the opposite direction like Claude, not as much is accomplished. It is all about finding the direction that God is leading and joining Him as He moves.

• **Good ministry leaders don't get lost in the details.** The key word here is "lost." Claude loves to just sniff what is right in front of him. He doesn't look around that much but gets stuck only in the here and now. While we need leaders that are concerned about the details, we need men and women who look ahead and remember that the details in front of them are a part of a larger picture and mission. The old saying "Can't see the forest for the trees" is what I referring to here. Claude would stay in one spot sniffing that one thing and miss out on the journey of the walk if I let him.

While most of us probably don't want to be compared to a dog, I wouldn't mind being more like Claire where it counts (and being able to sleep 13 hours a day wouldn't hurt either). As we serve Christ and lead His people, let us be mindful of what we need to do and be.

the Old Waverly Golf Club for the first round of the Blue Mountain Spring Classic. **Alyssa Hagewood** finished with low score shooting an opening round 88 to put her in a tie for 17<sup>th</sup>. **Abby Kirby** would shoot a 106 in round one and **Laney Crutchfield** shot a 109.

### Track & Field

• **Conway, March 18** — Running for the second straight weekend, CBC was at the Stephens Track Complex for the Richard Martin Invitational hosted by the University of Central Arkansas. Six athletes took to the track over the past two

days with mixed results for both the men and the women. **Ally Swaim** posted times in the 100-meter dash and the 100-meter hurdles, earning 9 points on the day and placing eighth in the 100-meters with a time of 12.92 while finishing second in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 15.01. **Ashleigh Gross-Mitchell** recorded a time of 13.80 in the 100-meters, a 28.85 in the 200-meters and a distance of 4.95 meters in the long jump, a new personal best for her. **Mackenzie Milligan** competed in the 1500-meter race and posted a time of 7:00.50. **Isa**

See SPORTS, Page 3

## CBC Fine Arts Spring Events

The Central Baptist College Fine Arts Department is proud to present their upcoming spring events:

• **"Beauty and the Beast" (April 14 & 15)** — Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" is a musical based on the classic Disney animated fairytale from the 1990s. Like the movie, the musical centers on a curious and intelligent young woman named Belle (Ashleigh Daugherty), who lives with her father, Maurice (Mike Woodrum), in a poor provincial village in France in the mid 1700s. The village is home to a host of characters, including a vain, arrogant man named Gaston (Julian Lilley) and his sidekick Lefou (Cassie Hager). The story includes an enchanted castle with a greedy prince (Bryson Chambers) and the monstrous Beast (Caleb Allen).

This show is special to Director Lauren Hager who shared, "Beauty and the Beast" was the last show I took part in during high school. During that show, I had the pleasure of playing the role of Belle." Assistant Professor of Fine Arts Suzanne Banister will serve as the vocal director. Interim Director of Bands Donna Bradley will lead the students in the orchestra. Abby Shourd will serve as choreographer. Tim Morris will serve as set designer and artist. Anna Battenfield, freshman music education major, will serve as stage manager.

Production of "Beauty and the Beast" began in the fall when the cast list was released. Students have been rehearsing weekly since January, working incredibly hard to bring this show to life. Students and directors would be grateful if you would join us Friday, April 14 at 7 p.m. or Saturday, April 15 at 2 p.m. in the Burgess Auditorium on CBC's campus. Tickets are \$10 per adult and \$5 for children 15 and under. Tickets may be reserved at [cbc.edu/finearts](http://cbc.edu/finearts).

• **Mini Tour to Lufkin, Texas (April 22-23)** — The CBC Fine Arts department will be taking a mini tour to visit Kelty's First Baptist Church in Lufkin, Texas on April 22 and 23. This includes the band, choir, chamber and singers.

• **Spring Concert (April 27)** — The Spring Concert is scheduled for Thursday, April 27 at 7 p.m. This concert will include the Worship Choir, Chamber Choir, Women's Chorus, Singers, Handbells and Band.



## CBC Hires New PACE Enrollment Coordinator

Central Baptist College is pleased to announce the addition of PACE Enrollment Coordinator Kayleigh Smith. Smith is a 2016 graduate of CBC with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Education from William Woods University in Fulton, Mo. She has professional experience in marketing and recruitment. She is excited to be back at her alma mater and is ready "to build relationships with the community and boost PACE enrollment."

Some of those areas will include Business Partnerships and Military outreach. Smith is a member of Antioch Baptist Church in Conway. She and husband, Ryan, also a 2016 graduate, have one son, Kelley James.





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## DISTRICT CALENDAR

**Mt. Vernon WMA**, April 1, 10 a.m.; Harmony, West Helena.

**United District WMA**, April 1; Hattiesville, Hattiesville.

**Jonesboro District WMA**, April 4; 5:30 p.m., meal; 6:30 p.m., meeting; Prospect, Jonesboro.

**Central Ark. Brotherhood**, April 10; 6:30 p.m.; Landmark, England.

**Southwest District WMA**, April 11; 10 a.m.; program-Chandra Barnett; Spring Lake Baptist, Texarkana

**Jonesboro District Brotherhood**, April 11; Immanuel, Jonesboro.

**Southwest District Brotherhood**, April 11; meal, 6 p.m., program, 7 p.m.; Ed Phillips, pastor.

**Greenbrier District WMA**, April 13; 10 a.m.; lunch to follow; Immanuel, Greenbrier.

**Central Ark. WMA**, April 15; Landmark, England.

**Mt. Vernon Youth in Harvest**, April 17, 6:30 p.m.; Bethel, Forrest City.

**Jonesboro District Brotherhood**, May 9; Prospect, Jonesboro.

**Mt. Vernon District Mtg.**, June 5, 6:30 p.m.; First, Caldwell.

## SPORTS

(Continued From Page 2)

**iah Stiger** recorded his second-best jump ever in the long jump, placing fifth with a distance of 6.14 meters, and **Jadon Price** trailed right behind him in sixth place with a jump of 5.55 meters.

• **St. Louis, Mo., March 20** — For the second consecutive week, **Ally Swaim** and **Ashleigh Gross-Mitchell** were chosen by the AMC as the women's track and field athletes of the week. This is the first time in CBC's brief track and field history that the Mustangs have swept both awards in consecutive weeks.

criticism, a leader must not just be pointing the way, but leading the way. Bill suggested all of us should take the Diotrefes test (see III John 9). Do I seek to be first? Do I submit to biblical truth? Do I criticize other good leaders? Do I humbly submit to spiritual authority? Do my actions match my words? Do I have a good testimony? It is not that hard, but it also is not easy. The number one rule would be to stay calm and not to overreact.

Receiving constructive criticism requires a position of confident humility. You are confident that God placed you in the position you hold. That reality also keeps you humble because you understand that your role is God-given. It really is not about you or me and, when we forget why we have been placed in a leadership role that undermines the whole purpose for why He placed us there. God has placed you where you are, with the people He has given you to lead them in a way that His purposes can be fulfilled for His kingdom and for His people.



## The Importance of Fellowship

The foremost aspect of a church is worship. The Heavenly Father and His Son Jesus are worthy of praise and, when the church gathers, that should be the focus. Added to that is evangelism. The Lord does not expect worship only from His churches — He also expects service. That is why our Master, in the Great Commission, directed His church to evangelize, making disciples. That commission also contains a directive to teach those new disciples. By definition, a disciple is a learner.

Still, there is another aspect — and it is an important one — fellowship. The early church knew how much that meant and, as a result, they met together often. I was just thinking about how much fellowship has been an integral part of the five churches I have been privileged to pastor. Here are some thoughts:

• **Fellowship is a biblical concept.** Fellowship is a means by which loneliness is taken away and relationships are built. Consider what God did for Adam. He saw that the man was alone and lonely. From the side of Adam, God made a woman. Eve was Adam's bride, companion, helper and friend. There is no one in a church who doesn't need fellowship — friendship and companionship. A paramount truth is that people need the Lord, but they also need other people.

• **Fellowship enhances relationships.** One of the most difficult aspects of acclimating as a new church member is getting to know other members. It is hard to get acquainted with that individual who sits across the sanctuary and who is gone immediately after the benediction. It is difficult to nurture relationships when such situations exist. Fellowship activities enable people to get to know each other and to build relationships — many of which last for decades.

• **Fellowship is not limited to "eating meetings."** In every church I have pastored, there was a concerted effort to see that members and potential members had fellowship. Jesus fellowshiped with the apostles. After His resurrection, He even had a fish dinner awaiting them when they had come up empty from fishing.

I encourage men of the church to get together — fishing, building, canoeing or golfing. Some may say that is not fellowship. No, it's not an "eating meeting," but it is a time to get to know one another better, to express burdens and to pray for one another. I must emphasize, though, that every fellowship ought to include Christ.

Ladies have enjoyed similar times of fellowship. They get better acquainted through outings, retreats and Bible studies.

Youth need fellowship, too! I am not referring to entertainment — but for fellowships that help them together in their spiritual growth. One of the great times for youth is the BMAA's SOAR. Hundreds of teens from across the country assemble for a spiritual conference each summer. Church camps at the various campgrounds available to our churches are also beneficial to young people because they associate with other young believers in Christ-centered environments.

• **Fellowship is essential to your church's health.** A church whose members do not know each other is an unhealthy church. Fellowship meals certainly are good, but fellowship is much more than food. It is a friendly smile, a firm handshake, a gentle hug — all conveying Christian friendship. Fellowship builds friendships. Churches that have strong fellowship are usually growing churches. Churches that are prone to being cliques are not usually experiencing much growth. I believe the early church benefited from worship, discipleship and fellowship. Our churches today would do well to follow their example.

*"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts (worship.) They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts (fellowship,) praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people (relationship.) And the Lord added to their number daily (growth) those who were being saved (evangelism)" (Acts 2:46-47 NIV).*

## Constructive Criticism

"Everybody makes mistakes, but no one likes to be corrected!" These words in *God-Initiated Leadership* by Bill Elliff certainly speak truth to most of us, if not all of us. Proverbs 9:9 (HCSB) says, "Instruct a wise man, and he will be wiser still; teach

a righteous man, and he will learn more." Are you open to the advice of others? Are you willing to be a life-long learner who is always looking for better ideas and wisdom from others? Maybe the greater challenge is the hesitation (hopefully we are hesitant) to confront others when needed. Confrontation is never easy. If it is easy for you than the problem is probably with you and not them.

In giving good godly advice, here are some metrics to keep in mind. Use empathy where you learn to read the room and the situation as you are led by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. Be able to also read yourself through good self-awareness. Develop social skills that enable others to read your friendliness and your motives that you genuinely do care about them. As you focus on conflict management, confrontation or constructive criticism, you must prepare to read the tension as it arises. Now is the time for decision-making, where you add up all of the "reads" mentioned so you can read the situation in order to present a solution.

Are you open to others speaking into your life? Bill continued, "Reproof is one of God's greatest tools to lead leaders." Do you look forward to input from others? That does not mean you will always follow the advice, but do you give it a fair hearing? This is from a post by a friend on social media: "In Scripture, David says that being rebuked by a godly person is a kindness." Notice the reference says a "godly" person because you do need to consider the source, and you should not receive advice or criticism from just anyone. Why would you accept criticism from someone you would never go to for advice?

The post continued, "Nobody really likes criticism, but everybody can benefit from it when it is given wisely and taken humbly." There is great wisdom in making sure the advice or criticism is wise. Wisdom is not knowledge, rather it is the use of knowledge at the right time. A.W. Tozer said he would not pay attention to anyone who did not pay attention to God. That is great

advice. The key here is receiving it humbly. Bill Elliff stated, "Has your humility paved the way for others around you to be able to help you? Do your colleagues know that you are humble enough to be approachable when they observe things that need correction?"

The social media post continued, "David suggested what to do when facing criticism from the godly: Don't refuse it, consider it a kindness and keep quiet — don't fight back. Putting these suggestions into practice will help you control how you react to criticism, making it productive rather than destructive." Unfortunately, and all too often, we shoot the messenger and have an unwillingness to address any kernel of truth there might be in their message. In II Samuel 19:5-7, King David's response to Joab's open rebuke is recorded as he was willing to hear it, apply it and act upon it.

Proverbs 22:17 makes this principle clear, "Listen closely, pay attention to the words of the wise, and apply your mind to my knowledge." The first step to true wisdom requires listening daily to God's Word, which demands the price of time and effort. It comes to those who seek it, search for it and settle for nothing less. In *Secrets of the Secret Place* by Bob Sorge he said, "To receive a fresh word from God, I must prove myself a faithful steward of the last word He gave me." God speaks to us primarily through His Word, but also through the Holy Spirit, a multitude of counselors and circumstances.

Are you living in a posture of humility where others know you are open, accessible and ready to receive godly criticism? Paul told Timothy to keep a close watch on himself and on his teaching. That requires a willingness for the regular, consistent self-examination of your affections, attitudes and actions. In I Tim. 4:15, he told Timothy to be committed and immersed in these practices. Bill said, "The phrase is literally "be in them." You might describe someone as being really "into" their work or they are really "into" sports. Why are you supposed to be so "immersed?" So that others will see your progress and improvement.

Are those closest to you and around you able to see your improvement, growth and humility in becoming more and more like Christ? In this area of humbly receiving advice and constructive

**INCLINE YOUR EAR AND HEAR THE WORDS OF THE WISE—APPLY YOUR MIND TO MY KNOWLEDGE—**  
— PROVERBS 22:17

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## Field Notes: Insider Advice On Five Mission Issues

The mission specialists at Brotherhood Mutual not only help ministries navigate global evangelism, but they also have experience serving in the field. Gabe Brown is the assistant vice president for special markets at Brotherhood Mutual. His heart for missions has taken him to Africa and Central America. Derek Gard is an international program manager for special markets at Brotherhood Mutual. He served as a missionary for several years in the Dominican Republic. Their experience is a helpful tool for ministries to lean on as they seek to spread the gospel. They reveal five issues and how ministries can respond to protect their people and organizations, furthering mission work for decades to come:

- **Communicate the reality of risk.** Before sending employees or volunteers out to the mission field, it's important to communicate the reality of the risk. "People are willing to go, so be fully transparent about the situation on the ground," said Brown. Ministry leaders often understand the totality of the risk, but a ministry can run into trouble if they don't fully convey those risks to their employees and volunteers. "If a ministry minimizes the reality of the risk when communicating with workers, there could be a lawsuit, especially if something bad happens," added Brown. Volunteer travelers or ministry workers could sue your ministry claiming negligence. Brown advises ministries to give an accurate picture of the risk and accommodations when recruiting volunteers.

- **Watch out for surprise liability.** Providing financial support to an organization in a foreign country could lead to what's known as vicarious liability. For example, supporting a school can create liability if a teacher is accused of something improper. "Even if you're only sending money, but you're the primary source of funding, you could be

held responsible for whatever goes on there," said Gard. Counseling activities, leadership issues, accusations of misconduct and many more issues can derail ministry efforts. As a leader, you'll want to make sure your insurance carries over to long-term foreign operations. Even if your organization or people are innocent, there are still costs and complexities associated with navigating the legal system in a foreign country.

- **Be prepared for accidents.** The risk of getting injured increases the longer a worker is in the field. Without appropriate care, even minor injuries from a fall or cut can become life-threatening, requiring medical evacuation or hospitalization. "The risk ministries take by not adding accident insurance is that their mission worker, and possibly their ministry, will need to raise funds to offset the costs, and on top of that, your ministry could face a lawsuit claiming negligence for failing to adequately care for the worker," said Brown. If the mission worker is an employee, you could be facing a workers' comp or employers liability lawsuit, too. Accident insurance helps cover medical expenses like hospital bills, emergency room treatment, medical or surgical treatment and more.

- **Protect against abuse.** Your domestic child protection guidelines apply to long-term foreign operations, too. Whenever a ministry is working with children or youth in a foreign country, there is a risk of a claim of abuse. And if the worker is arrested, it only complicates the situation. Make sure any long-term operations involving children or youth have a child protection plan in place. The plan should include requirements for training and supervision, background screening and reporting incidents of abuse. To protect the ministry and defend innocent workers, it's important to make sure your liability coverage ex-

## Revivals

**Landmark, England, April 2-5;** Sun. 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. 7 p.m.; Jim Moss, evangelist; David Inzer, pastor.

**Fellowship, Walnut Ridge, April 16-18;** Sun. 5:30 p.m.; Mon.-Tue. 6:30 p.m.; Danny Bradley, evangelist; John Durham, pastor.

**Charity, Ward, April 16-19;** Sun. 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. 7 p.m.; Martin Jameson, evangelist; Keith Lewis, pastor.

**Milligan Ridge, Manila, April 17-21;** 7 p.m. nightly; Mike Colvin, pastor.

**Faustina, Hampton, May 15-17;** 7 p.m. nightly; Terry Greenwood, evangelist; Gene Boyette, pastor.

**Union, Rosston, May 29-31;** 7 p.m. nightly; Jim Moss, evangelist; Joe Brown, pastor.

**Fourth St., West Helena, Oct. 1-4;** Sun. 5 p.m., Mon.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Michael Hight, evangelist; Lance Madden, pastor.

tends internationally and provides coverage for sexual acts liability. "This is when occurrence-based coverage is really important," said Gard. Occurrence-based policies are designed to provide coverage long after an event, as long as an alleged incident took place while the policy was in effect.

- **Protect your people and your mission.** A recent study by Missio Nexus and Brotherhood Mutual found that 63% of mission volunteers and workers will go anywhere, regardless of the risk, but they also want to know there is a plan in place to protect them. One way to provide protection is through insurance. Having insurance coverage specifically designed for long-term international missions protects your people and organization from the financial impact caused by injuries, lawsuits, property damage and more. "When developing our unique Global Mission Protection program, we saw that ministries were getting foreign liability insurance from commercial carriers that didn't understand the specific risks of Christian ministries. We found a way to help ministries extend their domestic coverage with Brotherhood Mutual to protect against risks in foreign countries," said Brown. He recommends that ministries seriously consider additional coverages like kidnap and ransom, workers' comp and medical evacuation coverage for any worker serving overseas. "The coverage is typically inexpensive and protects workers against financial hardship. Providing care through coverage also protects organizations against liability," added Brown.

While ministries with a Brotherhood Mutual policy may already have some international liability coverage for short-term trips, speak with your agent to make sure all your foreign activities are covered, especially any long-term efforts.



## Leave it to Cleaver

**By Dr. Tony Cleaver**  
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## Psalm 73: "A Psalm of Asaph"

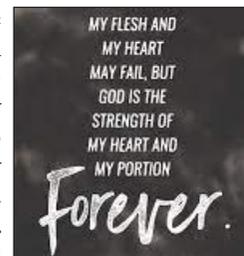
How can one understand his or her own life with its many vicissitudes and processes? What can one do to "get through" life with some responsibility to God, self, family and community? Many times, we disdain the wisdom of the ages given to us by the sages of old. Now we would rather rely on algorithms and artificial intelligence. To find the answers to life's questions we ask Siri or Alexa. Sagacity in this psalm (and the other Scriptures) is blatantly ignored. This psalm provides us a good life map of how to get on with a good life that is pleasing to God and appropriate for us.

Asaph began this psalm with confidence in God, then he quickly moved to the place of his feet slipping (v. 2). He looked at the wicked and saw their prosperity. He noted they are not troubled like those who put their trust in God. Their actions are never called to account and, moreover, those around them look up to them as examples. He went on to say the wicked have increased wealth and, from that position, they despise God (vs. 3-12).

His question (verse 13) is age-old from the hearts of those who follow the narrow way of righteousness. Did I do all the "God stuff" in vain? Has my life been wasted as I lived a life of godliness? (vs. 13-16) How often do you and I come to this place in our journey? We see good things happening to bad people and bad things happening to good people. It seems our lives are out of control, spinning in a downward, negative spiral.

The "aha moment" and the "blinding flash of the obvious" came when Asaph entered the house of God (vs. 16-17). He came to understand God has set those who are arrogant regarding the things of God and the works of God in slippery places. They fall to ruin. God despises those kinds of people. They are swept away in terror (vs. 18-20).

He was ashamed of ever thinking like that. He came to understand there is a difference between those who believe, follow and commit to God and those who do not. The light is different from the dark. The godly are much, much different from the ungodly, and the Lord of Armies treats these two groups in a most different way (vs. 21-28). Listen to the destiny of the ungodly from v. 27 (CSB): "Those far from you will certainly perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you." Now listen to the destiny of the godly in v. 28 (CSB): "But as for me, God's presence is my good. I have made the Lord God my refuge, so I can tell about all you do."



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# Spotlight On Missions

Send offerings to BMA Missions • P.O. Box 878 • Conway, AR 72033-0878 • (501) 455.4977 • [www.bmamissions.org](http://www.bmamissions.org)



## Michael & Laura Beth Strong • Minneapolis, Minn.

We welcome you to celebrate what God did in February with us:

- We were able to launch two new corporate prayer meetings. We now have three corporate prayer meetings per week and hope to see a renewed desire for corporate prayer in the lives of our people.

- Some congregants are beginning to memorize the weekly verses.

- We were given keys to the church building and access to the calendar to book space on Feb. 2.

- We voted as a church to begin hosting a monthly concert event to use the skills we employ for the extreme tour to reach our part of Minneapolis with the gospel.

- We have been using birthdays and major events to bond with the congregants and grow unity.

- We launched a weekly newsletter based on the counsel of a BMA church planter.

- Laura Beth launched a new women's Bible study.

- We saw a few of our people push themselves to worship God through giving.

- Our people took part in their second workday and several events at the church, and we saw a hunger to help others increase.

- We created flyers and stickers to get the word out about the church.

Please pray for us in the following ways this month:

- We are asking God to open up doors to boldly proclaim the gospel and to begin new discovery Bible studies. Please ask God to lead us in this and open the doors to the hearts of people in our community.

- We need new partners to continue to minister the way we have been. Please pray that God will connect us with churches He wants to partner with us to continue and complete the work in this first church plant.

- Laura and our girls are all undergoing tests to see what is causing them to have the medical issues they have been experiencing. Laura is being tested to determine if her neuralgias and nerve issues are from MS, lupus and fibromyalgia. Felicity is being tested for rheumatological issues. Julianna is being tested for chest pain.

- Michael's grandmother passed away in early February. He was able to watch her funeral's livestream from Oak Park Baptist Church in Little Rock. He is thankful for your prayers and asks you to continue to pray for our family in Arkansas to be saved.

- We need people to help us serve the community. We need help with childcare ministry, worship, Bible studies and outreach. We are asking God to send people who are able to serve in these areas and to help us raise up volunteers internally.

- I am asking God to help me with connecting with current and future partners at the BMAA national meeting.

- God's hand is needed on Michael's studies as he prepares to take tests and graduate from the BMA Seminary with a master's degree this May.

Pray with us for God to provide the following items:

- **Sound system** — We need to purchase some key items for our sound system — amps for our speakers, speaker stands, microphones, cables and monitor speakers. This is the primary tool we will be using for our outreach during the summer. I believe we could get by with \$2,500 to start. Some of our events have been able to reach over 600 people. We can do this regularly with our own equipment.

- **Children's church teachers** — We have women interested in coming to the church, but their

program requires that childcare be in place during the service. We need teachers to assist Laura Beth each service and during Bible study groups.

- **A-frame signs** — We are looking to add two A-frame signs and raise the funds to print the signs that will inform the public of worship services, free food events, our music outreach, etc. We believe we could get the signs and prints we need for roughly \$500.

- **Funds for marketing materials** — We would like to create flyers/handouts/door hangers to share with neighbors when we do our surveys and prayer walks. We can get 500 prints on letter size paper for around \$160. We would like to print three different items each month for worship, women's Bible study and our outreach events. This is a monthly need of roughly \$500.

- **Funds for blessing local servants** — We would like to raise funds to provide meals for local teachers and public servants. If we could provide three groups monthly meals for 30-50 people per group, we would be able to fulfill our outreach plan in this area. Meals are currently around \$15 each at many of our restaurants. This is \$750 to feed 50 people. We need to do that up to three times a month. We are looking for partners who can adopt two or more of those servants for \$30 a month.

- **Transportation** — Most of our people use public transportation, and we are running into issues with getting some of our people to church and Bible studies. We are also looking to serve a local women's ministry that needs transportation to our services and studies for their women to attend. Please join us in asking God to raise up reliable transportation.

Thanks for your prayer and support.



## Mickeal & Sharon Quillman • Zambia

Mwauka Bwanji (Good Morning) from Zambia! God has been doing some miraculous things over the last couple of months. Most of the time, we are sharing about the work within the villages, but this month we wanted to share a little about the work within Livingstone itself. Our heart in ministry has always been to reach **all** of the people, everywhere, and now in Zambia, no matter where they may be found. Regional Co-ordinator for South America and Africa Johnmichael Poulin preached a sermon at the 2022 BMAA National meeting last year and challenged us to "take **all** of the Word, to **all** of the people, in **all** of the world."

I remember that sermon well as God spoke to Sharon and I in a powerful way. We began to seek out ways that we could do just that — take the gospel of Jesus Christ to **all** of the unreached areas of Zambia and not pass any opportunity that God put before us. Isaiah 55:11 says, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." So many times, we focus on the "not returning void" (which is a very exciting promise) but skip past the second half — it will accomplish what God pleases, and it will prosper where He sends it.

We were invited by the owner of a local lodge to come and bring the Word of God to his employees, so we did. We have been continuing our Bible study group at the White Rose Lodge with their employees since October 2022. Our intention was to reach the staff there because, due to their work hours, most of them never have the opportunity to attend a church service. Many people here in Livingstone are working 12-14 hours per day (or more), 6 or 7 days per week. We have been walking them through "The Story of Hope, Discovering the Provision in God's Plan." This is a chronological study of the Bible beginning with creation and ending with the believer's reward of eternity in Heaven with God. This is an excellent small group study for new believers or anyone wanting to discover more in God's Word. If you are not familiar with this study, contact Eliezer Semedo, the regional coordinator for Portuguese-speaking countries, at the BMAA Missions office in Conway. ([eli@bmaam.com](mailto:eli@bmaam.com)) He would love to share more about this study with you.

This group started with only four or five employees, but has now doubled in size. One of the men named Chanda, who works down the road as a "garden boy" taking care of all the property and grounds, heard about the study and asked to join. A woman that lives two houses down was walking to the store and heard me teaching (I must have been using my BMA pastor voice), and she stopped and asked if she could join in. The next week, she joined us and brought her daughter and her friend that lived down the road. Then again that week, a man rode up on his bicycle selling dried macaroni and stayed to listen. He is now a faithful member of our group. During our study, Godfrey, one of the workers at White Rose pointed out two men in the field across the road who had been stealing corn. Godfrey stood to get their attention to run them off and I asked him to wave them over. To everyone's surprise, they walked over and I asked them to sit.

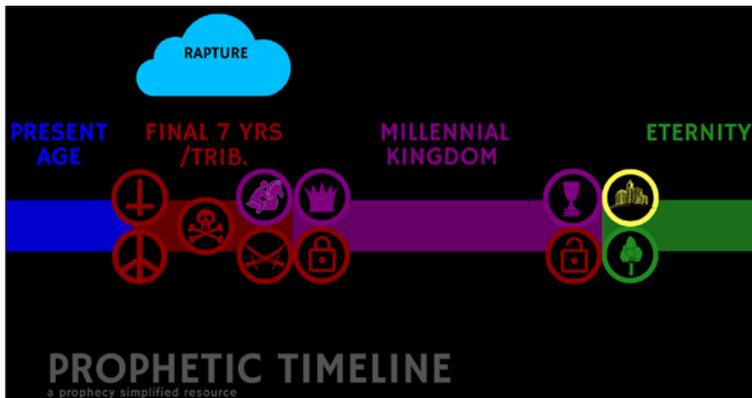
One of the first things we have told everyone we are teaching here is we want them to have a Bible in their own language that they can read. I do not want them to just take my word that what I'm saying is true but read what God's Word says about it. So, we gave everyone a Bible, a pencil and a notepad to aid in their weekly and daily studies. As the two "maize thieves" sat down, I handed each of them a Bible, pencil and notepad. For the rest of the study, I was receiving strange looks from the regulars, and I could tell the two men were also uncomfortable.

After we had finished our study, everyone began to leave, and I was quickly pulled to the side and was informed of what the issue was — these two men would just take the things we gave them, and we would not see them again. My friends in the group did not want to see Sharon and I being taken advantage of but we quickly used this as a teachable moment and told them to just pray for these two men. The following week as we were preparing to pray and begin our study, Sharon looked over to see a man on the other side of the fence listening. As she beckoned him over, we realized

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**BMAA Meeting • April 25-27**  
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## The End-Times Big Picture

In this second year of “Stand Firm & Live Epic” articles, I want to backtrack and provide some foundational articles for understanding the events of the last days. I began with examining the different views, but now I’d like to put those together and zoom out to see the big picture of the end times.

Every prophecy teacher has a timeline, and I’m not any different. With my timeline, I have tried to boil it down to only a few events. The idea is, if we know these events, then we know the ebb and flow of not only the last days, but even the events throughout this age. My simplified timeline is posted above. From our study of the views, this timeline is futuristic, premillennial and “some point-in-the-final-seven-years” rapture view.

First, notice that there are four different colors of the timeline. It’s divided into this current age, the final seven years of this age, the Millennial Kingdom and the New Heavens and New Earth. Though we’re told a lot in Scripture about the end of the age, we know for sure from Daniel 9 that there is a final seven years. These final seven years are often referred to as the tribulation and start with the Antichrist in power to make or strengthen an agreement with Israel. This agreement promises peace for Israel for seven years (Daniel 9). These kick-off events are symbolized by the upside-down cross, which represents the Antichrist and the peace sign, which represents the agreement. That agreement starts the final seven years.

Not pictured are some events that lead into the final seven years. First, the Antichrist has a rise to power. This rise is portrayed in Daniel 7 and 8. Revelation 17 also shows some of this rise. We also have the “beginning of birth pains” found in Matt. 24:1-14. These events likely happen before the final seven years and carry over into the first half of the final seven years. Another event leading into the final seven years is the rise and rule of Mys-

tery Babylon. This entity rises with the Antichrist, but eventually, the Antichrist turns against this entity. Mystery Babylon is talked about in Revelation 17 and 18.

Next, in the middle of the final seven years is the abomination that leads to desolation. In the timeline, it’s depicted as the skull and crossbones. This is the moment where the Antichrist sets himself or an image of himself up in the temple. He also turns against Israel at that time. This ushers in the “Time of Jacob’s Trouble” or “Great Tribulation,” which is a three-and-half-year campaign of the Antichrist against Jews (Jer. 30:4-9, Dan. 12:1-2, Matt. 24:15-21, II Thess. 2:4). This campaign culminates in the Battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16:12-14, 16; 19:11-16, 19-21). This battle is depicted in the timeline as the crossed swords.

At the end of the Antichrist’s campaign against Israel, Jesus returns with the army of Heaven, the resurrected and raptured saints. This is represented on the timeline by the rider on the horse. This is the return of Jesus. Before this physical return, there has been the resurrection, rapture and gathering of us believers. Due to the different views or theories, it’s depicted in the timeline with the cloud covering the whole final seven years. The possible timings of the resurrection, rapture and gathering can be at the start of the final seven years, the middle, before God’s wrath or at the end.

When Jesus returns and defeats the Antichrist, a new age is ushered in. In this new age, Jesus will physically rule on earth. We will be there in our perfect, glorified bodies. There will also be survivors from the tribulation who have finite bodies. We will coexist with them and their children. Satan is bound and locked up at the start of this 1,000-year reign of Christ (Rev. 20:1-6). In the timeline, the crown represents the start of the Millennial Kingdom, and the lock represents Satan being locked up.



## The Gospel Spreads from Liberia To Surrounding Countries

By Heather Harrison

In 2003, the brutal Liberian Civil War ended after raging for 14 years. 2003 was also the year Lifeword Media Ministry began there. Pastor Abraham Cheyee, along with some of the Krahn language speaking pastors, began visiting towns and villages as the refugees were returning home to rebuild their town and villages. They saw many come to know Christ and were able to provide comfort for them through the gospel. The people were in great need and were hungry for hope.

Since that time, the media ministry has grown and seen many lives transformed. In addition to Pastor Cheyee’s ministry to the Krahn speakers, Taweh Sheriff has been ministering to those who speak the Vai language along the Liberia Sierra Leone border. Another ministry in Liberia is the Liberian English program, led by

This physical kingdom continues for 1,000 years, at which time, according to Revelation 20, Satan is let loose. He then causes a rebellion. In this rebellion, he leads an attack on Jesus and His people. This is much like the end of this current age. Again, Jesus wins, and Satan is thrown into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:7-10). This is represented in the timeline with the lock that is unlocked and the trophy for Jesus’ win.

Following this final defeat of Satan, the earth and heavens are made new. The Earth becomes a return to Eden (Rev. 21-22), and the amazing city of Revelation 21, the New Jerusalem, comes down. In this time, God the Father comes and dwells with us. We, like Adam and Eve, can walk with Him in the cool of the day.

This is very simplified, but if we can get these events and their flow in our minds, we can have a solid foundation for the events that will come. And as you can see for us believers, it isn’t the end, but the start of so much more.

— Jake is the newest state missionary and would love to share about the work in Northwest Arkansas and encourage your church to stand firm. ([standfirmministries.com](http://standfirmministries.com))

Pastor Prince Jessie, which mainly ministers to the youth and other Liberians who cannot speak their own mother tongue. Drugs and alcohol have plagued the youth in Liberia, but Pastor Jessie uses the Media Ministry to reach them with the gospel.

The Lifeword producers, pastors and church planters are reaching more distant towns and villages where there are no churches. In a recent email, Pastor Abraham Cheyee, who is the coordinator of this area, shared Matt. 24:14 (ESV), which says, “*And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*” He reports many salvations and transformed lives, including the resolution of tribal conflicts that had been occurring for decades. As a result, the previously divided tribes are serving the Lord together and reaching other communities and Guinea.

Please join us in prayer for those who are spending their lives sharing the gospel in Liberia, the Ivory Coast, Guinea, Sierra Leone and surrounding areas. Please also pray for the people who have yet to hear the gospel, and for Lifeword to move into every area, community and people group with the only message of hope — the good news of Jesus Christ.

### Ministry Updates

We are excited to report that Lifeword Sunday 2022 raised over \$332,000! We had a total of 203 churches that participated, and we are grateful for the continuous support as we seek to share the gospel around the world with no borders!

We would love the opportunity to share with your church what God is doing through Lifeword. If you would like to schedule a team member to come for a visit, contact Jennifer Harrell at [jennifer@lifeword.org](mailto:jennifer@lifeword.org).

Lifeword’s discipleship project, FOLLOW, is moving forward. Join us in asking the Lord to lead in the technical details of this effort. We know many will be drawn to Christ through this digital discipleship tool.



## Ruby Poteet Passes Away

Ruby Poteet, 80 of Pine Bluff, passed away March 16. She was a member of Oakland Heights Baptist Church and was, for many years, very active in GMA and WMA on the national, state and local levels, including serving as Arkansas State GMA director. She was also a music enthusiast and loved playing the piano and organ, especially at church.

She also volunteered and served as a leader in several organizations, including: grand royal matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, grand worthy advisor of the Rainbow Girls, Christina Chapter 3 Amaranth, Highway 15 Volunteer Fire Department, Red Cross. Ruby also served as president of the Women’s Cattlemen’s Association, where she wrote articles for their magazine, and was secretary for Genealogy Club, Railroad Museum, Pine Bluff Historical Society, Quilters Guild, Master Gardens and many other organizations.

She worked at Raylees House of Music, Superior Drug Store and Simmons Bank before retiring from the Cotton Belt Credit Union in 2003.

Survivors include: her husband, Jerry Poteet, Sr.; two children, Scott Poteet (Jennifer) of Rison and Cherie Massey of Benton; three brothers, Charles Wessels of Monroe, La., Lloyd Wessels of Rogers and Bill Wessels (Cheryl) of Texas; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held March 21 in the chapel of Ralph Robinson & Son with Wes Woolley officiating. Interment will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery.



**Carolyn Sue Williams**, 77 of Greenbrier, passed away March 17. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Damascus.

**Rodney Loye Groves**, 74 of Magnolia, passed away March 15. He was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church.

**Gerald Thomason Roberson**, 82 of Kaplain, Lou., passed away March 9. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Magnolia.



**Missionaries**



**BMA OF ARKANSAS**  
**STATE MISSIONS**

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 Ruben Isturiz, Misión Ebenezer, West Little Rock; (501) 707-5388  
 Juan Carlos Posadas, Misión Creciendo en Cristo, NLR; (501) 712-8752  
 Johnny Shew, Faith Chapel, Flippin; (870) 421-1984  
 Clinton Morris, The Table, Springdale; (870) 316-1519  
 Bryan Clay, Faith Journey, Benton; (501) 522-0079  
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## Progress

Work continues to progress on Faith Chapel's building in Flippin. I told Johnny it was always a great day when you could exchange your shovel for a hammer. We are excited and thrilled that the Master's Builders will be coming in on April 3 to begin the framing.

## Help Needed

If you or a group from your church would like to come and work on this State Missions building, I know Bro. Eddie and the rest would welcome your help. Just contact Johnny for more details. Also, this project will be ongoing for several months so if you should have a youth group that would like to help out, they would be appreciated.

## Sunday Past

Michael Hight called Friday and since he was under the weather, asked if I could fill in this past Sunday. I told him it would be my privilege. Over the years I have come to love and appreciate First Baptist Church in Caldwell. They and their pastor are very mission minded. Please pray that Michael feels better soon.

## Souls Saved

I was blessed by a couple of messages from our missionaries that they had witnessed the salvation of souls this past week. Praise the Lord!

## From Our Missionaries

**Misión Creciendo en Cristo (Growing in Christ), North Little Rock:** Juan Carlos Posadas writes, "Yani came to the women's discipleship for the first time Wednesday night. During the meeting, Sayra noticed Yani's need and shared the gospel with her. God had prepared her for that moment, and she received Christ as her Lord and Savior. Yani is Consuelo's sister, and she had been sharing the Word with her for over a year. The sisters rejoiced during the meeting. They were able to observe how the gospel is shared, and they saw the power of God convicting the heart of an unbeliever. Let us pray for Yani and her spiritual growth. She is a single mother who struggles to educate and give her three-year-old daughter, Dulce María, a better future.

"The ladies of the church met Saturday to study about the Samaritan Woman. They had a good time studying the Word and took the opportunity to encour-

age Sayra, praying for her and her upcoming trip to Honduras. Sayra's main purpose for the trip is to share the gospel again with her father, Don Miguel, who is very ill. Let us pray for the conversion of Don Miguel, his recovery and that will God give wisdom to the doctors for a good diagnosis and treatment."

**Ebenezer, West Little Rock:** Ruben Isturiz writes, "If we want to have healthy churches, we must plant healthy churches. That is my challenge each week. My desire is that it is God adding and not us humanly adding, and that is why I ask for prayer each week — because His work is spiritual. God is answering in wonderful ways when I see the lives of those who attend Ebenezer.

"Sister Avelina attended this week (an answered prayer from last week). Please keep praying for her health. Eduar Hernandez confessed in the name of Christ in public this week (another answered

prayer). This is the Venezuelan family we have been ministering to. Eduar already has a job, he actively participates in the church, he gives and now he has made his decision for Christ. Please continue praying that his wife and children will do the same.

"Last Sunday, a couple and their son visited with thirst for God (another answered prayer). We have been asking you to pray for God to bring to Ebenezer people with a thirst for God, and He is answering. Keep doing it!

"God is good, and He answers prayer at the right time. Thank you for your support and your prayers. It is impossible to do God's work without you. You are God's instrument so we can continue sowing the Word of God. To God be the glory!"

**Faith Chapel, Flippin:** Johnny Shew writes, "Please keep us, the mission, our building project, my family and Flippin in your prayers. Thank you for the prayers you have already prayed, as well as future prayers. God is hearing them and answering!"

**The Table, Springdale:** Clinton Morris writes, "Drew and Kaley went to Temple Baptist Church in Jonesboro, our mother church. Drew got to preach and get familiar with our sending church. Andy Neal wanted the church to get to see and hear Drew, before the ordination service in April. He did a great job handling the Word of God before a crowd that was so much larger than he was used to.

"There were so many great meetings this week, along with several great moments of prayer over each other's burdens. I had several productive meetings this week to discuss the next church plant along with some amazing details that are still being prayed over. God is doing so much work.

"We also got to hear a glowing testimony from Gio about attending Beacon Baptist Church in Gravette. The amazing thing is that their new pastor, Ricky Williams, was the pastor of Drew and Kaley's church in Lowell. I stand in awe of how God is working. God closed a church in Lowell to allow that pastor to provide gospel-led pastoring to a family we got to see come to Christ. God is always in the details. It is such a beautiful picture of how the body of Christ can work."

**Faith Journey, Benton:** Bryan Clay writes, "Attendance was down

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**The Believers in Concert,** March 26; Sunday School – 10 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.; Potluck, noon; Concert, 1:30 p.m.; Russell, Russell.

**CBC Scholarship Gala,** March 28; Conway Expo Center, Conway.

**Pastor's R & R,** March 28-30; Stoneridge Baptist Camp, Smithville.

**BMA of America,** April 25-27; Antioch Baptist Church, Conway.

**Hot Dogs and Hot Rods Car Show,** June 3; benefits Water for Christ; Life-song, Greenbrier.

**National Galilean Camp,** June 23-26; Stoneridge Baptist Camp, Smithville.

**SOAR Student Conference,** July 3-5; Gaylord Texan Hotel, Grapevine, Texas.

**Arkansas Galilean Camp,** July 28-30; Ponca Bible Camp.

**Student Ministry Matters Retreat,** Sept. 16; Central Baptist College, Conway.

**BMA of Arkansas Meeting,** Nov. 2-3; Central Baptist College, Conway.

**Celebration 2023** (formerly the National Senior Adult Conference), Nov. 28-30; Chateau Resort; Branson.

**Arkansas Galilean Fall Fellowship,** Dec. 1-2; Camp Beaverfork, Conway.

## HOMECOMINGS

**Union, Rosston;** May 28, 10:30 a.m.; Jim Moss, message; lunch to follow; Joe Brown, pastor.

a little because of spring break. We had several families traveling out of town for some much-needed time away. Some of our church family also took advantage of Winter Jam, which is a Christian music concert that had several well-known artists, in North Little Rock on Sunday. It is always a great time to have our families get to spend time together with their loved ones while enjoying great fellowship and growing in Christ.

"We are getting back into the local adult care centers since they have come out of quarantine after their latest COVID closures. Please keep praying for these older people and the staff taking care of them. It is hard on them to be isolated for weeks at a time, and they are missing the chance to hear about God through our weekly Bible studies.

"Our men's Bible study is going great. We are seeing God work in these men's lives as they learn more about Jesus and how God wants them to be the leaders for their families. We have already heard some testimonies from their families on how these men are stepping up to lead prayer and showing their families, through their actions, how God is changing them from the inside out. Praise God for these men."

**Misión Gracia Soberana (Sovereign Grace), NWA:** Roberto Marcelletti writes, "I am very excited to send this brief report of what you are doing in the Northwest Arkansas. We are seeing how

## Opportunities For Service

**Beacon Baptist Church in Taylor** is seeking a bi-vocational youth minister. Interested applicants need to mail a resume to Attn: Youth Search Committee, P.O. Box 94, Taylor, Ark. 71861. Call Pastor Karry Easley for more information at (870) 299-2751. Please leave a message if there is no answer.

**Calvary Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas** is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Resumes may be sent to resumes@calvarybaptistarlington.org or Pastor Search Committee, Calvary Baptist Church, 2021 S. Davis, Arlington, Texas 76010 or Jay Juarez at (214) 762-9807.

**East Foothills Baptist Church in Lindale, Texas** is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Resumes, including references, may be e-mailed to eastfoothillsbc@gmail.com or mailed to Marilyn May, 13107 CR 431, Tyler, Texas 75706. For more information, contact Josh Richardson at (903) 316-3047.

**Meadowside Baptist Church** in Pittsburg, Kan. is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Contact Greg Hardister at (620) 704-6860.

**The Association of Baptist Students (ABS) at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, La.** is seeking an ABS Director. Send resumes and inquiries to Deryl Jones, 24205 Hwy. 371, Sarepta, La. 71071 or deryl54@yahoo.com. He can also be reached at (318) 423-8540.

people approach our small groups, and the Lord is opening their minds with the truth of His Word and growing in a commitment to Christ.

"Our Grace groups have had two new people join them — one in the Rogers group in our apartment and one in Springdale. With the conversations in our groups and the questions that the brothers ask in each meeting, we can see they are growing in maturity and changing their biblical worldview. I praise God since the five young people we have are very involved and want to learn how to make decisions that glorify God and that, in these times, it is very encouraging.

"We can see how God is changing hearts. Being a part of what God is doing in this area is a privilege and an honor since it is part of our mission to preach the gospel and show that gospel in our lives and relationships."

**Epic Life, Pea Ridge:** Jake McCandless writes, "It was another exciting week with Epic Life. We had our first profession of faith; and it was such an awesome story of someone for whom our entire group had prayed.

"As we're working each week, we sometimes wonder if we are getting anywhere. This week, Amanda and I had chances to sit down with others, and we were both encouraged that we are making a much larger impact than we realized.

"Continue to pray as the home we're purchasing comes before the zoning commission on April 4."

# Delivering Total Access Weekly

## Special Emphasis 2023

March & April

Goal: \$30,000

For equipment upgrades, software project & general fund

- Church News
- Missionary Reports
- BMA News
- Christian Community News
- Regular Articles on Student Ministry, Church Health & Christian Living
- 45 issues each year
- Premium website content
- E-Trumpet
- Printed Paper
- Church Plan
- Customer Portal

### SPOTLIGHT

(Continued From Page 5)

it was one of the men from the week before. He is now a faithful member of our group — he is one of the first to show up and he always has questions from the week's study. In fact, he has attended so regularly, that we traded his regular Bible to one of the more expensive study Bibles. The group joked with him that he "got a promotion."

We have not seen his friend, we are all praying for him, and Godfrey has said no more corn has been stolen. You see, God's provision is not just for those who are "good," but His provision is for all — even "corn thieves." In Matt. 9:12-13, we see Jesus being questioned about the same things, *"But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, they that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."* Please continue to pray for this group of young believers in Christ and for those that are listening and watching "beyond the fence" that we may continue to reach the unreached in Zambia.

Join us in praising God for the new believers who were recently baptized in Chibinga, the study group at White Rose and our transmission has been replaced on the 4x4.



**Flat Rock, Quitman** added three by letter, one by statement and two by baptism; Myles Evans, pastor.

**Laneburg, Prescott** gained one by baptism and two by letter; David Hampton, pastor.

**Old Hickory, Hattieville** welcomed one by baptism and one profession of faith; Blake Martin, pastor.

Please pray with us for Chanda as he shares the gospel with his family, Godfrey to be reconciled with his wife and family, Headman Raymond's son Andreas (epilepsy) and a baby boy in Chibinga with severe umbilical hernia and other medical issues. We also ask you to remember our needs for funding for our monthly support and the remaining balance for tires on the 4x4. Zikomo Kwambili (Thank you very much)!



### Bus for Sale

Emmaus Baptist in New Edinburg is selling their 2013 Ford E350 super-duty 15-passenger van with 81,000 miles. For more information, contact (870) 679-0350.

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March 28, 2023

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