

# BAPTIST TRUMPET

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## BMAA National Meeting Information

By Allan Eakin, Associate Editor

The 75<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the BMA of America is set for April 16-18 at the Chateau on the Lake Resort in Branson, Mo. We have gathered the following information to help the messengers from BMA churches attending the

meeting be better informed.

The meeting schedule will follow the new experimental format approved in the 2022 National Meeting in Springfield, Mo. A copy of that schedule is included in this edition of the *Baptist Trumpet*. (See page 8.)

The registration of church messengers can be accomplished one of two ways:

- **Online** — Online registration can be completed by going to the BMA of America website ([bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting](http://bmaamerica.org/nationalmeeting)) and selecting the “Register” link. From there, a church can enter relevant information and, if they choose to do so, donate to the National Meeting and Minute Fund. If preferred, a church can send a check with her messengers to the meeting.

- **At the Meeting** — In person registration can be completed by visiting the registration table, give your church name, the number of messengers, the number of visitors and any offering for the National Meeting and Minute Fund.

At the meeting, the registration table will be open at various times all three days of the meeting. On Tuesday, April 16, the registration table will be open 1-2 p.m., 5-6 p.m.

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### 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).

**Central Baptist College** is accepting applications for an executive vice president. (See page 8 for more information.)

**Fairview Baptist Church in Blytheville** is in search of a pastor. For more information, contact Rodney Cooper at (870) 278-1797 or [cooperr@manilaschools.org](mailto:cooperr@manilaschools.org).

and 30 minutes following the 7:30 p.m. business session. On Wednesday, April 17, the registration table will be open 8:30-9:30 a.m., 2:30-3:30 p.m., 6:30-7:30 p.m. and 30 minutes following the 7:30 business session. On Thursday, April 18, the registration table will be open for a final time 8-8:30 a.m.

The annual Reports and Recommendations Booklet is not yet available but will be available online for the 2024 meeting. This document will include the report and recommendations from every department of the BMAA, recommendations from the Coordinating Council and a list of petitionary churches. We will update our National Meeting page at [BaptistTrumpet.com/BMAA2024](http://BaptistTrumpet.com/BMAA2024) to provide the link as soon as it becomes available.

The schedule for the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the BMAA includes several worship and growth opportunities. Those opportunities include a worship concert by Point of Grace, the President’s Address by BMA of America President Dr. Clif Johnson, a message from Kirk Shelton and a message from James Schoenrock.

Other meetings and services include the National Women’s Missionary Auxiliary meeting, the BMAA Brotherhood meeting and the Pastor’s Conference, all on Wednesday, April 17 at 9 a.m. The Legacy Missionary Service and Missionary Commissioning Service will occur at 3 p.m. the same day.

BMA Departmental Reports

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## PRAYER FOR OUR ASSOCIATION



### Prayer for Our Association (Part 3)

By Ben Kingston, Pastor • Bethel Baptist Church, Lonedell, Mo.

*Executive Editor’s Note: This is the third in a series of six articles focused on “Prayer for Our Association.” (See the March 6 & 13 issues for the first two articles.) The Baptist Trumpet is partnering with Healthy Church Solutions and inviting your church to intentionally set aside time to pray for our association before the national meeting. See more details at the end of this article.*

I received my Bible degree at Central Baptist College and originally served as the youth and music director at Bethel for eight years. After that, God directed me to Temple Baptist Church in Jonesboro for two years. I was called back to Bethel in December 1997, and we’ve here at Bethel ever since.

Prayer has been, is and, hopefully, forever will be a major part of my personal relationship with Christ. It has grown to become foundational in my ministry at Bethel to the point that I’m almost in tears writing this article because of the tender, almost indescribable raw emotion that comes from

See PRAYER, Page 4

## The BMA of America Coordinating Council Report

The BMAA Coordinating Council is recommending the following changes to our Statement of Principles of Cooperation. These changes are in response to the mandate given to the Coordinating Council in the 2021 annual meeting to “determine a more efficient and effective plan to carry out the annual meetings of the Baptist Missionary Association of America.” These changes will create more flexibility for the annual meeting schedule, allow the Nominating Committee to present nominees for all committee and board positions and eliminate the annual call for department and agency directors.

We also recommend the BMA America Financial Services, per their request, return back to a nine-member board of directors. This will help reduce operating expenses, while still maintaining enough safety to have a “multitude of counselors” oversight.

Then, we recommend the Coordinating Council provide an orientation annually for the chairman of our boards and agencies. The orientation will be led by the Coordinating Council chairman and Executive director of the BMA America Financial services to provide resources, information and training.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

— Richard W. Smith, Chairman of the Coordinating Council

**Recommended Changes to the Statement of Principles of Cooperation**

Strikethroughs indicate removal of current wording.

**Bold** indicates recommended changes in wording.

See CC REPORT, Page 4







Terry Kimbrow  
President



## CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE PROFILE

### Central Baptist College

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## CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Alumni News and Updates

The Central Baptist College Alumni office wants to hear from you! If you read social media, you will see or have seen our posts asking alumni of the college to update their contact information. If you haven't done so already, please visit [cbc.edu/alumniinformationupdate](http://cbc.edu/alumniinformationupdate).

Are you looking for a way to give back to CBC? Legacy Leaders was created to help alumni and friends of CBC give back. Legacy Leaders is a monthly sustainable giving program geared to Sustain, Restore and Connect Alumni and Friends of Central Baptist College. Your donation has a big impact on the future of the college and in the lives of our students. For more information, visit [cbc.edu/legacyleaders](http://cbc.edu/legacyleaders).

Do you have a child, grandchild or even friends with kids? Consider joining our Mustangs in the Making program. As children enter your family, we want to welcome them into ours as well. We want to pay special attention to our "Future Mustangs" and help them build a love for CBC early. Children enrolled in the Mustangs in the Making Legacy Program will receive gifts from CBC on milestone birthdays. To enroll, please visit [cbc.edu/makingmustangs](http://cbc.edu/makingmustangs).

Looking for a gift that builds a legacy? Then consider the Legacy Walk at Central Baptist College. Each brick is \$100 and can be personalized to honor a graduate, a teacher or someone special. Each brick sale goes back into the alumni fund, which supports the Kenneth Brown Endowed Scholarship. Honor someone special and create a lasting memorial. For more information, visit [cbc.edu/legacybricks](http://cbc.edu/legacybricks).

Are you a current member of the Alumni Association? Single memberships are \$35 and a membership for a couple is \$50. The Alumni Association helps support the Kenneth Brown Endowed Scholarship through membership dues, sponsors the Student Alumni Association and builds relationships with current students through events like Exam Treats during the semester. Complete your membership application today at [cbc.edu/alumniassociation](http://cbc.edu/alumniassociation).

For more information on any of these alumni programs and services, contact Alumni and Digital Communications Coordinator Mallory Guyton at (501) 205-8875 or [mguyton@cbc.edu](mailto:mguyton@cbc.edu).

### Follow the Alumni Association on Social Media

For current information from the Alumni Office and to connect with other CBC alums, follow the Central Baptist College Alumni social media pages:

- [facebook.com/CentralBaptistAlumni](https://facebook.com/CentralBaptistAlumni)
- [twitter.com/CBCAlumni](https://twitter.com/CBCAlumni)
- [instagram.com/cbcalumni](https://instagram.com/cbcalumni)



## Sports News

By Erik Holth

### Women's Golf

#### • Melbourne, March 12 —

Entering the day in second place, CBC looked to move into the lead on the final day of the Lyon Spring Invitational. The Mustangs closed with a final round 370 to maintain in second place, finishing 39 shots off the title. Individually, **Alyssa Hagewood** finished with a top-five finish, capturing fourth place with a final round 84 to shoot a 172, 11 strokes off the individual win. **Abby Kirby** finished in a tie for seventh after closing with a 97 to finish at 187, **Laney Crutchfield** shot another 94 to finish in 10<sup>th</sup> with a 188, and **Thaylia Ramirez** closed with a final round 95 to shoot a 196.

### Men's Golf

#### • Melbourne, March 12 —

Carrying a six shot lead into the final round of the Lyon Spring Invitational, CBC was on the course at the Cooper's Hawk Golf Club for the final round. CBC improved by one shot, finishing with a 301 to shoot a 603, 17 shots ahead of Briar Cliff for their second title this season. Individually, **Suraprat Pareepart** shot a final round 74 to finish at 146, four shots ahead of second place to win his first individual title. **Kitsakon Jairak** closed with a 73 to shoot a 153 and finish in a tie for fourth with **Emmanuel LaBeur**, who shot a final round 76. **Jakub Slapal** shot a final round 77 to shoot a 155 and finish in a tie for seventh.

### Softball

#### • Pine Bluff, March 12 —

Playing a Division I school for the second straight season, CBC took on the Golden Lions of the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff (UAPB) at the Torii Hunter Softball Complex. CBC (10-12) failed to score in either game, mustering only four hits in the doubleheader, falling 3-0 and 7-0 to UAPB (8-11).

### Baseball

#### • Columbia, Mo., March 15 —

Opening American Midwest Conference (AMC) play on the road, CBC was at Rock Bridge High School for a doubleheader against the Owls of William Woods (WWU). CBC (16-7, 1-1 AMC) split the twin bill, taking game one 7-1 before dropping a 1-0 loss to WWU (12-13-1, 1-1 AMC) in game two. **Gram Middleton** and **Jackson Pope** combined to make history in game one, throwing the seventh no-hitter in program history. It was the third combined no-hitter and the second no-hitter on the road against WWU. CBC lost



Dan Carson  
Director

## Student Ministry Matters

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## Signs of a Healthy Student Ministry

## Healthy Student Ministry: The Worker and Their Lead Pastor

Most student ministry workers are not the lead pastors in their churches. They serve in a different role. They serve the families, churches and students of their local congregations as they work under the leadership of another. That is not always an easy task. Student ministry workers are often creative and full of ideas. They want to see those ideas implemented as soon as possible and may not understand a "no" or "not now." That tension can be hard, but it is an area we must walk in. For the sake of the church, our ministry health and our relationship with our lead pastor, it is important that we do a handful of things:

• **Pray for your pastor.** That can be hard, especially if you feel slighted by your leader. However, we need to lift our pastors up before the Lord every day. Pray for a greater understanding of his role and responsibilities. Pray for his family. Pray for greater connection as you serve your church as a team. That is important, whether you are full-time, part-time or simply a volunteer.

• **Meet with your pastor regularly.** Student ministry workers must communicate what is happening in the student ministry, as well as have a clear understanding of the direction of the church. That can only happen when communication is open and consistent with the pastor. A former lead pastor of mine simply wanted to be informed of the good, bad and ugly. He was happy to support me, but didn't want to be surprised. Communication is key.

• **Do everything you can to support your pastor's ministry.** Be his biggest cheerleader. Seek to help him fulfill how God is leading. Don't speak ill of your pastor. You may disagree with him, but it is better to get out of the way than to impede the ministry of the church. If you feel it is necessary to disagree with him, make sure it is done in private.

• **Look for ways to connect with your pastor.** Find out their interests. Learn more about their past. A genuine connection with your pastor translates to a more unified ministry and a healthier student ministry.

If a student ministry worker wants to experience a healthier ministry, it is important that they spend the energy to build a relationship with their lead pastor. It is easier at some times than others. However, it is always worth the investment.

Join the conversation in our Student Ministry Matters Community Facebook Group, and let us know how you invest in your relationship with your pastor.

the previous no-hitter, 1-0, in extra innings back on March 2, 2018.

• **Fulton, Mo., March 16 —** After splitting the doubleheader yesterday, CBC was at Owl Field for the final game of their three game AMC series with WWU. CBC (17-7, 2-1 AMC) got behind 3-0 and clawed their way back, scoring all their runs in the 5<sup>th</sup>

through 8<sup>th</sup> innings, winning 13-10 over WWU (12-14-1, 1-2 AMC). **Austin Teal** had a huge day with five hits, four runs scored and five RBIs. He became the 13<sup>th</sup> player in program history with five hits in a game and scored four runs for the third time in his career with his 5 RBI game being the second of his career.





## HEALTHY CHURCH SOLUTIONS

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## Reports from the Churches

**Antioch East, Magnolia** added two by baptism; Ron Owen, pastor.

**Cathedral, Jonesboro** gained one by baptism and one by letter; Ken Beaver, pastor.

**Providence, Hope** reports one by baptism; Casey Curtis, pastor.

and effective. Spiritual growth needs to be pictured as a farm and not a factory that requires a lot of personal touches and nuances. You are better able to practice Eph. 4:15 by speaking the truth in love up close and personal. This also provides a space and mechanism where the confession of sin (James 5:16) and individualized prayer can be carried out.

The small circle opens the door for accountability not just to be aspirational but to become an actual value. The goal is not information (knowing facts or being able to do well at Bible trivia) but rather for life transformation to occur in the disciple's life. Building strong relationships takes time, and you need to slow down because it cannot be forced. The goal is to discover that transparent space where you and the person you are discipling can find a table for two. Enjoy fellowship together and speak into one another's lives. It can easily take six months before someone feels safe enough to be completely open and transparent.

All three circles are important to a disciple's spiritual journey. The large circle represents corporate worship and is the common ground where people know one another in a casual way. The middle circle is your small groups, where you can clarify your values and expectations for spiritual growth. This is where the group begins building close relationships. The small circle is the one-on-one discipleship where you see the Jesus to Peter, and the Paul to Timothy conversations taking place. This is where the most customization can occur as a coach, mentor and disciple-maker builds a strong, confidential relationship of trust and attachment.

Consider adding the customization (small circle) mechanism and element of a table for two where the disciple-maker can speak more directly into the challenges, difficulties and questions the one being disciplined is experiencing. This can be done over a cup of coffee, a meal or even an event where you can spend quality time together to speak into their life. "Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful" (Prov. 27:5-6).

## Just Thinking...

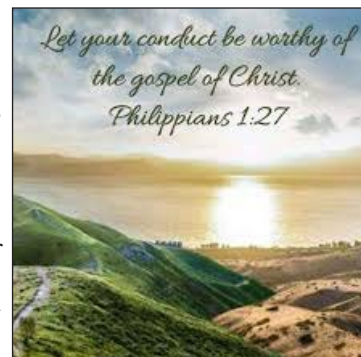
By Dr. Tom Mitchell

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## The Believer's Wrestling Match

I was just thinking about a good friend of mine with the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame. He has promoted wrestling in high schools, colleges and universities across our state. It reminded me of when, in coaching classes at SAU, we had to learn to wrestle. Believe me, it's not an easy sport. This caused me to think of what the apostle Paul was inspired to write about the subject — especially for all believers.



### Wrestling in the Battle of Good and Evil

We must remember that our battles, as followers of Christ, are spiritual and emotional, not physical. Paul came from a strict Jewish background in which he persecuted Christians. When he was saved on the road to Damascus, he found himself facing a different enemy with a huge army. Of course, I refer to Satan and his demons.

If anyone tells you that you will have it easy because you are saved, do not believe them. They don't know what they are talking about. Every believer who finds himself in the battle for truth will wrestle often.

Paul wrote to the Roman believers, "So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?" (Rom. 7:21-24 NIV).

Can you identify with Paul? Certainly! When you were lost in sin, Satan had it pretty easy. That is because of the sin nature every human possesses. Doing evil came naturally. We lied, hated, insulted, robbed, cursed and committed many more types of sin. Most of the time, we felt no remorse. But then came the Holy Spirit, who convicted us of our sins, convinced us we needed salvation, then comforted us when we trusted in Christ. Satan hated that!

The Holy Spirit became our constant companion, inward spiritual Counselor and Referee in our daily and weekly wrestling matches. Again, those matches are spiritual, and our opponent is unseen. Sometimes our opponent is self. We know we should not curse, but we go ahead. We know we should avoid the hatred of both former friends and enemies, but we still do so. We know we should do good, but we end up doing evil. Such are the wrestling matches of believers.

### Wrestling Evil Requires Taking a Stand for Good

Paul wrote to the Ephesians about how this wrestling match we find ourselves in is not easy. He emphasized that believers must be strong in the Lord and His mighty power. One of the most important aspects of sports is preparation — practice. Every believer in Christ must not rely on his head knowledge of life but should be equipped by preparing through learning from God's Word. In fact, without the Word of God, we will fail in our wrestling matches.

Paul wrote, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand" (Eph. 6:12-13 NIV).

### Good Advice

God has preserved His Word so we might know how to live. He inspired Paul, who experienced the pressures of life just like we do. He admitted that he wrestled with doing the right thing when tempted to do the wrong thing. He advised: "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Phil. 1:27).

## Customized Discipleship

Customization is defined as "a modification made to something to suit a particular individual or task." Much of our discipleship process and pathway is designed to be an almost "one size fits all." It is understandable because of our strong faith in knowing the power of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. There are

times, however, for a distinct and particular application of the Word of God into an individual's life. This is not modifying the Word of God because it is settled in

Heaven forever, but instead, it is the application of unchanging truth to where the believer is in their spiritual journey.

In Bible hermeneutics, the first step in understanding the Scriptures is observation. This involves accumulating as much raw data as possible on the passage by answering five "W" questions — Who, What, When, Where and Why? As you study the text, make sure to take copious amounts of notes. The second step is **the interpretation phase, which involves discovering the meaning of the passage. It is important here to note** that any Scripture passage can have only one meaning but many potential applications. That is why knowing the history of the passage is so critical, along with the cultural and literary barriers that come with the territory. One rule of thumb is always to take Scripture as literally as possible.

Then, there is the application of the Scripture, where customization becomes a reality. What is that passage to you, and how do you apply it to your life? A great rule of thumb here is to always distinguish between descriptive and prescriptive passages and not to misapply Scriptures by trying to make them fit where they do not. Application, though, is grossly overlooked because the focus of discipleship is not knowledge but obedience to what God is showing you and teaching you. The examples of over-taught and under-exercised are too plentiful to mention, but here are a couple of statistics that reinforce this issue:

Christians say they believe in the power of prayer, yet the average focused prayer time is two minutes a day. Church members stress the

importance of tithes and offerings, and only 2.4% willingly give back to the Lord. Discipleship is spoken of as a core value, but only 1% of all believers say they have ever been involved in an intentional discipling relationship. Something must be done about this, and my friend Steve McCoy (Small Circle Discipleship)

stated that "God uses leaders to move predicaments to solutions." He tells us that a part of the solution would be to add the small circle to the two primary circles we rely on for spiritual growth.

The large circle is the worship gathering. It is important and has its place, but this is a common space where most relationships are very casual and can be somewhat shallow. Preaching the Word is crucial to the spiritual health of the church family and is not to be forsaken. A large group does not guarantee that worship occurs.

The other circle is the middle circle, representing your small group ministry. It also has an important purpose and place. Now, you are able to clarify the expectations of living out your biblical values with sound teaching and interaction. This space is more personal, and close relationships are built.

The small circle is one-on-one discipleship, and this space enables you to customize the Scriptures to the disciple's needs and be able to practice confidentiality. Even if you do not consistently have a one-on-one discipleship system in place, there needs to be a space for these one-on-one conversations to occur. Please notice the difference that a one-on-one conversation had in the lives of the woman at the well, Nicodemus and Peter when Jesus asked him if he loved Him. Remember that what you teach must be modeled, and who you teach needs to be coached. This space enables you to mentor and customize the Bible to their life.

The one-on-one model is vital to being able to dig deeper into issues where the disciple is struggling. You can zero in on what they need and how you can help them. Customization enables you to make a better diagnosis to make the prescription more personalized





## CC REPORT

(Continued From Page 1)

### Article VII — Officers Section 3

B. Department of Lifeword Media Ministries: **Annually, When necessary**, this association shall elect an executive director of Lifeword Media Ministries...

C. Department of Missions: **Annually, When necessary**, this association shall elect a president of missions...

D. Baptist Publishing House: **Annually, When necessary**, this association shall elect an executive director of the Baptist Publishing House...

E. BMA America Financial Services Agency: **Annually, When necessary**, this association shall elect an executive director of BMA America Financial Services

F. Moral Action Agency: **Annually, When necessary**, this association shall elect an executive director of the Moral Action Agency...

G. Daniel Springs Baptist Camp: **Annually, When necessary**, this association shall elect a camp director of the Daniel Springs Baptist Camp...

### Section 4

All presiding, clerical, department and agency officers are elected by nomination and standing vote unless otherwise stated in this Statement of Principles of Cooperation. The election of presiding and clerical officers shall be during the **fifth finally scheduled** business session of the annual messenger meeting. ~~Department and agency officers making annual reports shall be elected immediately after their reports have been made to, and received by, the messenger body.~~ **When necessary, department and agency officers shall be nominated and voted upon immediately after the applicable department or agency's report has been made and received by the messenger body.**

### Article VIII — Coordinating Council

**Section 1.** The Coordinating Council shall consist of seven (7) members: the three (3) presiding officers, the immediate past president and three (3) elected from the floor on a staggered basis for three (3)-year terms and may succeed themselves one (1) time. The immediate past president shall serve as chairman. Four (4) members of the Coordinating Council shall constitute a quorum.

### Article XX — Nominating Committee

**Section 1** This association shall elect a Nominating Committee consisting of seven (7) members, four (4) of whom shall constitute a quorum. In annual session, the association president and vice-presidents shall present nominees for the nominating committee, giving due consideration to representation from various regions of the association. **In annual session, presiding officers must also make allowance for nominations to be received from the floor.**

### Section 2

A. To present to the association as nominees the names of persons to serve on all other standing committees (except the Missions Advisory Committee), boards of trustees, **the Coordinating Council, as clerical officers**, and **on** any other committees ..."

### Article XXI — Meetings

Section 1. The regular meeting of the messengers of the churches shall convene on ~~Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday~~ following the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Sunday of April, at such place as the messengers may choose two (2) years in advance. The date and/or location of the meeting may be adjusted, if necessary, by vote of the messengers at least one (1) year in advance.

Section 2. ~~There will be six (6) sessions of the association. The initial session will convene Monday evening at 7:00 and is to be a worship service planned by the presiding officers. Included in this session will be the president's message and introduction of the theme. The second session will begin on Tuesday afternoon at 3:00. The third session will begin at 7:00 Tuesday evening and will include a worship service with the annual message. Business may be conducted at the discretion of the president. The fourth session will begin Wednesday morning at 8:30, and the fifth session will start Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. The sixth session will start Wednesday evening and will include the Missions Department report.~~

The association will include a minimum of three business sessions. The first session will include opportunities for general business and presentation of proposed amendments to the Statement of Principles of Cooperation and/or Doctrinal Statement. The second session will focus upon department and agency reports, including the election of directors. The third session will be available to address continuing or pending business if necessary.

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## PRAYER

(Continued From Page 1)

knowing what my prayer life was and what it is now. Here is my story of how God used one of the Healthy Church Solutions prayer initiatives to help strengthen my prayer life and the prayer life of the whole church:

Like all preachers, I certainly had utmost respect for prayer, but I was also a better talker than a participant. Looking back now, I wasn't aware of the hypocrite I had become. I would preach about prayer and push prayer, but I shallowly pursued the Lover of My Soul in prayer. But God, in His kindness set me up with a great opportunity to have His audience.

Seemingly out of the blue, Larry Barker, with BMA Global and the director of Healthy Church Solutions, called me and asked what I thought about doing a prayer retreat with a few men. The vision was to come together in a small enough group that we could be poured into, then turn around and pour into others. The hope was to see a great movement of God through prayer in Missouri. So, two years ago, other area pastors and I participated in this prayer retreat led by Bro Larry.

Going into the retreat, I thought I was in a good place, and I was tempted to look at the experience as just another thing I should do because I'm a pastor. But the Holy Spirit made it very clear to me that this was going to be a life-changing experience.

Larry spoke with us for about 45 minutes, unpacking the acronym PRAY (Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield). P stands for "praise" and, after he

spoke with us about what it looks like to truly humble ourselves and praise the Lord, he dismissed us for an hour to go be alone and just praise the Father. Right away, the Lord made it very clear to me that I had pushed Him to the side. He revealed to me that I had been operating my ministry and my prayer life on autopilot. God also revealed to me that He was not going to stand for it any longer. I did some real business with God during that first hour. I praised Him, but I also began to experience grief that leads to repentance.

The second session of the retreat was on repentance and, boy, did I repent! I repented of relegating my quiet time with God to a state of such poor intimacy. I'd been guilty of condensing my prayer time to a quick few minutes. I'd been guilty of doing the very thing I accuse my people of, which is just coming to church and checking it off a list of things to do. God took me to task — He was right and I was wrong.

The next day, Larry taught for another 45 minutes about the "A" in PRAY — "asking." I spent an hour alone, seeking God and asking Him what He wanted me to ask of Him. Adrian Rogers teaches us in the Kingdom Authority lesson, "every prayer that originates from the throne room of God will be answered" and "we will never be over what's under us, until we get under what is over us." I began to ask, believing in the power of being in God's presence, in the right

posture that came out of praising and repenting.

The last letter "Y," stands for "yield." Larry spent another 45 minutes talking to us about what it means to yield to God and sent us off alone again to seek God's will for an hour. To yield, we must submit to whatever outcome God wants, and be in agreement with anything He's shown us during prayer.

In a nutshell, that was my experience at the retreat and praying in this way, but what happened afterward was even more life-changing! An event we were all experiencing around that time was COVID. It was significant in all our lives and in our churches. We needed to hear from God, and we had a way to actively do that, through prayer. Other significant things happened in my life that I won't go into in this article, but trust me when I tell you, I desperately needed to seek God every day of my life. This desperation for God, and prayer like this, changed my preaching. It changed my ministry. I can tell you we have had our best years following that retreat than we have ever had in the past 20 years. It had to start with me and my intimacy with God.

God continues to grow my prayer life, and prayer time with others has also deepened. I pray with my wife every morning, and God has prompted us to add prayers for every child within our church. We name them by name, and every week, every member within our

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## Baptist Trumpet

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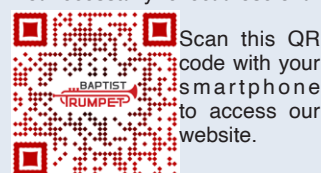
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## MEETING

(Continued From Page 1)

will be given on Thursday, April 18 beginning at 8:30 a.m. In addition, Nominating Committee recommendations for each board or committee will be presented, along with other business the churches may desire to present.

As more information becomes available, we will publish share it as soon as possible and add it to our national meeting page at BaptistTrumpet.com/BMAA2024.



Ronnie Johnson is available for pulpit supply as the Lord leads. He has been pastoring churches for 21 years. Contact him at (870) 659-7774 or his wife, Barbara at (870) 659-7274.

Garner Baptist Church in Garner is seeking a full-time or bivocational pastor. For more information, call (501) 726-3741 or (501) 658-4014.



“...Everything We Need...”

II Peter 1:3

By Karen Mitchell

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UPCOMING  
EVENTS

**Easter Sunrise Service**, March 31, 8 a.m.; Breakfast to follow, everyone welcome; Banks, Banks.

**BMA of America Annual Mtg.**; April 16-18, 2024; Chateau on the Lake, Branson.

**Mo. State Brotherhood Retreat**; April 26-27; Camp Garwood.

**Gospel Singing**; May 19, 5 p.m., featuring The Representatives; Barney, Enola; Reagan Shearer, pastor.

**SOAR 2024**; July 3-5; Live! By Loews Convention Center; Arlington, Texas.

**Student Ministry Workers Retreat**; Sept. 14; Central Baptist College; Conway.

**Re:Charge Leaders Oasis**; Oct. 1-3; Calvary, Fayetteville.

**BMA of Arkansas Mtg.**; Nov. 7-8; Central Baptist College, Conway.

PRAYER


(Continued From Page 4)

church knows that their families and their children are being prayed for by their pastor and his wife.

Just a few weeks ago, two of our laypeople brought a prayer ministry to our church called Maximum Prayer Effort based on Acts 5. If you do a deep dive into the chapter, it was written when Peter was thrown into prison. They gave their maximum effort to prayer, and look what God did! I believe we are at such a time as this and that we will see things we've never seen before if we are faithful to pray — great numbers of people coming to Christ, disciples being discipled to maturity and people reaching reproduction in the kingdom work for God. I am reminded what S.M. Lockridge said, “The church of Jesus Christ advances on her knees.” May the Word richly bless you and your church as you seek the Lord in prayer!

2024 Prayer Guide

Order your copies of the Profile & Prayer Guide or download a FREE digital version TODAY!



2024 Profile And Prayer Guide

By Holly Meriweather

You asked and we listened! BMA Global is excited to offer you the 2024 Profile and Prayer Guide. This 68-page booklet features our international missionaries, American church planters, regional coordinators, ChangeMakers, locations, photos, ministry descriptions, praises and prayer requests. It is available on the BMA Global website for \$5 (price includes shipping).

You can download a free digital copy or order physical copies of the booklet at [bmaglobal.org](http://bmaglobal.org). Once there, click on the “2024 Prayer Guide” banner on the home page or click on “Our Missionaries” in the menu and choose “2024 Missionary Profile & Prayer Guide.” We hope this is a beneficial tool for you and your church, plus your personal prayer time, as you support God’s global mission.

If you have questions, contact Sidney Vines, Relationship Coordinator, at [sidney@bmaglobal.org](mailto:sidney@bmaglobal.org) or (870) 826-7757.

DISTRICT  
CALENDAR

**SW Dist. Brotherhood**; April 2, 6 p.m. meal; 7 p.m. program; First, Taylor.

**SW Dist. WMA**; April 2, 6 p.m. meal; 7 p.m. program; First, Taylor.

**Central Ark. Dist. Brotherhood**; April 8, 6:30 p.m.; Church at Willow Beach, No. Little Rock.

**Jonesboro Dist. Brotherhood**; April 9; Immanuel, Jonesboro.

**Central Ark. WMA**; April 13, 10 a.m.; Park Place, Bryant.

**Greenbrier Dist. Men’s Fellowship**; April 13, 8 a.m.; Bethlehem, Greenbrier.

**Mt. Calvary WMA**; April 13, 10 a.m.; Worden, Bald Knob.

**United District WMA**; April 13, 10 a.m.; Grace, Russellville.

**Mt. Vernon Youth In Harvest**; April 22, 6:30 p.m.; Rondo, Lexa.

**Jonesboro Dist. Brotherhood**; May 14; Prospect, Jonesboro.

**Mt. Vernon Dist. Brotherhood**; June 3, 6:30 p.m.; Grace, Wynne.

**United District WMA**; July 13, 10 a.m.; Hattieville, Hattieville

Details about the Call To Pray for Our Association

Here is the schedule leading up to April 16-18. Be on the lookout for specific ways to pray for our association in the upcoming weeks and start planning now how you will participate on the Sundays of April 7 and April 14.

- **March 27** — An article with specific ways to intentionally make prayer the heartbeat of your church and ministry.
- **April 3** — Specific ways to pray for our association this week.
- **April 10** — Specific ways to

See PRAYER, Page 8

Revivals

**Oakland Heights, White Hall**; March 24-27, 7 p.m.; Mark Eaton and Charles Attebery, evangelists; Wes Woolley, pastor.

**Milligan Ridge, Manila**; April 15-19, 7 p.m.; Steven Sanders, evangelist; Mike Colvin, pastor.

**Kingsland, Kingsland**; April 21-24, 6 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; Wade Totty, evangelist; Rick Bolin, pastor.

**Union, Rosston**; May 25-27, 7 p.m.; Jim Moss, evangelist; Joe Brown, pastor.



CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE

WE ARE  
HIRING

JOIN OUR TEAM!

CBC’S ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT DIVISION IS SEEKING TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

Director of Admissions

Personal Admissions Officer

TO APPLY, VISIT [CBC.EDU/JOBS](http://CBC.EDU/JOBS)

## To God Be All Glory

**Soli Deo Gloria** — to the glory of God alone. Not Sol **Meo** Gloria, meaning for our own glorification, but for God alone!

Starting with “*In the beginning God created...*” (Gen. 1:1 NIV), we are first exposed to God’s manifested glory. He spoke, and there was light, sky, seas, vegetation, the moon, sun, stars, sea and land creatures. On the sixth day, He made man in His own image. This verse, along with countless others, paints a beautiful picture of His handiwork we are blessed to see with our very own eyes. “*The heavens*



*declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the end of the world*” (Psalm 19:1-4).

His glory is His creation, His holiness, His perfection, His unfailing love, His justice, His mercy, His faithfulness, His miracles and, definitely equal to **all** of His grandeur and majesty, His plan of redemption. Even though countless people choose not to see or believe it, it is still on display and available for their benefit. They may deny His existence and think it is all happenstance, but the truth still stands — “*I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God*” (Isa. 44:6 NIV). He is God and God alone.

Remember, God’s glory belongs to Him and Him alone. The world today gives undeserved honor and glory to celebrities in sports and entertainment arenas. They spend hundreds of dollars to see such people in person, to get their autographs and praise them for their abilities. They idolize people who are worldly and ungodly. This should not be so. While particularly referring to the Israelites and their open idolatry, God’s words can apply directly to us: “*...How can I let myself be defamed? I will not yield my glory to another*” (Isa. 48:11). It can’t get any plainer than that, can it?

“O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made. I see the stars; I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed. Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee How great thou art, how great thou art!”

“How Great Thou Art” is a favorite song of mine. Although Stuart Khine, a British minister, is responsible for most of the version we have today, the original text came in 1885 from Carl Boberg, a Swedish preacher. Being caught in a violent storm one day, he observed lighting strikes and heard roaring thunder, after which the sun came out and brought calmness to a dark and foreboding day. He then fell to his knees and thus inspired the words to this familiar song. It was many years later when our current version became popular by George Beverly Shea.

You and I are made for God’s glory — “*...Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth — everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made*” (Isa. 43:6-7). He has provided us salvation through His son, Jesus; we have been adopted into His family. We have a personal relationship with Him. How do we respond to such great providence?

We respond by loving Him, praising Him and communicating with Him through prayer and Bible study. “*So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God*” (I Cor. 10:31).

God’s glory is so vast that there is no way to come even close to comprehending it, but we are indeed blessed to share a part of it.

We sang a song in my church recently entitled “Is He Worthy?” Is He? Everything we see, read and experience in our own limited way shouts out: Yes, He alone is worthy. What more do we need to know?

“*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord...*” (Psalm 150:6).





## Prophecy Fulfilled Before Our Eyes (Part 3)

While in Israel, as I saw evidence of the recent attacks and events on the ground and heard from experts living there, I felt three prophecies were unfolding before my eyes. As I have clarified in sharing about each of those, we must not forget the fact that Jews are back in the land is a huge fulfillment of prophecy, but other prophecies in Scripture foretell what will happen after Jews have returned.

The first of the three I saw unfolding was the move toward building a new temple and starting sacrifices again. Evidence of the next two prophecies unfolding was revealed in briefings with military leaders. One is the possible fulfillment of Daniel 8, which comes with the rise of Iran and an eventual war between Iran and Turkey, I wrote about that in my last article. The second to come from those briefings is the start of the fulfillment of Daniel 11.

Daniel 11 has the potential to give the most detailed information about the events of the Last Days, but it is the most difficult to work through. I have been trying to work through it over this past year, but I am far from feeling comfortable that I have figured it all out yet. It is clear that there will be two rival factions in the Middle East in those times — a northern and southern coalition of nations. This concept contrasts with the modern idea that there will be a one-world government. Biblical prophecy is clear that there will be a leader and regime that will impact and influence the world, but even as the Antichrist and his army gathers on the plains of Armageddon, nations will still have their identity — “...the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the

way for the kings from the East. Then I saw three impure spirits... they are demonic spirits that perform signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty... Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon” (Rev. 16:12-16 NIV).

This is just one passage that reveals that many nations keep their identity. Ezekiel 38 and Daniel 11 clarify this further by showing nations that give initial resistance against the Antichrist or remain neutral and indifferent during his invasion of Israel.

Daniel 11 tells of a king of the north (which the Bible provides a solid case to be the Antichrist) warring with the king of the south and especially warring with Egypt. Egypt is the only nation mentioned, but it is said to belong to the southern coalition — “At the time of the end the king of the South will engage him in battle, and the king of the North will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood. He will also invade the Beautiful Land (Israel). Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand. He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape” (Daniel 11:40-42).

This chapter in Daniel is tricky, just like Daniel 8. If you read that article (see March 13, 2024 issue of the *Baptist Trumpet*), I shared how the typical interpretation of it is that the first part of the prophecy deals with the past, while the second deals with the future. The same is true with Daniel 11. The common interpretation is that the first half

tells about when Alexander the Great's kingdom was divided and the ruler (king) of the Syrian or Seleucid Empire in the north — which encompassed the modern-day nations of Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, Armenia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan — warred with the ruler (king) of the Egyptian or Ptolemaic Empire in the south, which included the modern-day nations Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Israel and Jordan. Then in verse 21, the prophecy transitions to a future king of the north and south.

Along with the many other details given in Daniel 11, one thing we can know will happen in the last days is two coalitions will form. Knowing that this is coming someday, I was awestruck to see the lines already being drawn up in the Middle East. Col. Danny Tirza of the Israeli Defense Force presented about the deeper issues happening in the Middle East. He shared first how groups like Hamas and Hezbollah were just proxies fighting on behalf of Iran. Then he put up another map — the map of the Abraham Accords. The Abraham Accords are the latest in peace agreements involving Israel since they have become a state. Very few could talk with authority about these agreements like Col. Tirza can. He has been involved in each peace talk from the Oslo Accords beginning in 1993 to the Abraham Accords in 2020.

I've also viewed the different peace talks in Israel as repeats of the same conversation, and they are in a sense, but they also represent a progression of building peace and normalized relations between Israel and Arab nations. The first peace agreement with an Arab nation came in 1979, when Egypt and Israel agreed to peace and a normalization of relations. In 1994, the same finally followed with Jordan. So, until 2020, Israel and Jordan were the only Arab nations to view Israel as a legitimate nation. In 2020, through the Abraham Accords, this progressed greatly as the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco signed to normalize relations with Israel. In 2023, Saudi Arabia seemed on the edge of signing as well, and that was derailed by the Oct. 7 attacks.

The nations who have normalized relations with Israel in the past or signed the Abraham Accords are in the south. The Abraham Accords may or may not have anything to do with Daniel 11, but right now it is creating a coalition in the north and in the south.

— Jake is a 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))



## Master's Builders Go to Camp!

By Nelda Malone, Reporter

Our Master's Builders work for 2024 began on March 4 at StoneRidge Baptist Camp in Smithville. We all look forward to the opportunity to work at this camp and see our dear friends and camp hosts, Scott Small, his wife, Myrtie and their family. It has been three years since we were able to come and work at StoneRidge, and it was so good to see them!

As our two-week work period ended, if you were to drive up and look around the camp you would not see a new building that had been built or any other outward signs of our group being there. But at these camps, and some churches, the improvements and needed changes may be on the inside. That was the situation at StoneRidge Camp this year. There was a need for another handicap accessible shower and bathroom area, which would allow all campers to have the needed facilities to use while they were at the camp. This involved tearing out and moving old plumbing, which was quite a job for some of our men!

There was a need for a new dorm area for the young men and women who work at the camp during the summer, so walls had to be moved and access doors put in place to create this new dorm space. The canteen area needed to be enlarged to more than twice its current size, which involved moving a whole wall, (which the men managed to do without tearing it apart) and adding another serving window. A bathroom was also added to the canteen. In one of the large dorms, the men built two walls with access doors to divide one large room and make a hallway down the middle. A painted “facelift” was given to one of the outdoor pavilion areas, and lastly, a new GaGa pit was built for outside fun for the campers. Most of us old folks had never heard of a GaGa pit a few years ago, but that has certainly changed! We have built them at Daniel Springs Camp, Jacksonville College and at StoneRidge Camp. The kids and young adults love them! So, as you can see, there was much needed work to be done and it will be much appreciated by the ones who come to this camp each year. Last year alone, there were 115 professions of faith at StoneRidge! Praise God!

We do ask that you pray for our Master's Builders men. Most are in their 70s and 80s and the work is hard for them on some days. However, the Lord has been faithful to give them the strength for each job and health and safety while they work. Thank you, Lord!

A special thank you to Bro. Scott and Myrtie! They always take such good care of us while we work. Thank you, Lord, for their call to serve at StoneRidge Baptist Camp. We come away from StoneRidge with a renewed commitment to continue to serve the Lord, in whatever way He gives us the opportunity — this year, and in years to come. We begin each workday with a devotional time, prayer and a song — “The Family of God.” We all are so thankful to be a part of the “family.” Afterward, we head out determined, sometimes aching and stiff, but truly happy to be able to do whatever we can to serve our Lord.

Our next job is set for April 8-19 at Oak Ridge Baptist Church in Cassville, Mo. If you are in the area, come by and visit with us or come help for the day.

Follow us on Facebook — “Like” our page at “The Master's Builders” (arbor logo) and watch for daily updates with lots of pictures and information about work being done.

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







**State Missions**

**Missionaries**

Juan Carlos Posadas, Misión Creciendo en Cristo, NLR; (501) 712-8752  
 Ruben Isturiz, Misión Ebenezer, West Little Rock; (501) 707-5388  
 Johnny Shew, Faith Chapel, Flippin; (870) 421-1984  
 Bryan Clay, Faith Journey, Benton; (501) 522-0079  
 Roberto Marcelletti, Misión Gracia Soberana, NW Ark.; (936) 202-7988  
 Jake McCandless, Epic Life, Pea Ridge; (501) 472-9079  
 Michael Hight, El Faro #2 Hispanic Mission, Cabot/Jacksonville; (501) 326-0198

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## The Father, the Son And the Holy Spirit

The more I study the Word of God, I realize the less I know. I have always been intrigued by the correlation of God as father and the redeemed as children, giving us a way to try and understand our relationships with the trinity. And He said, *"A certain man had two sons"* (Luke 15:11). In this narrative, we clearly see that one son made a cogent decision to separate himself from the authority and security of the father, which was clearly not the father's perfect or desired will for his son but allowed him to leave in and through his permissive will. In fact, it appears that not a day went by that the father was not thinking about that son. It begs another question — if he knew he was coming back, why didn't he just wait until he was near to watch?

Many young men and women have rebelled against their parents, and foolishly left home. Outwardly, the parent seems to be saying good riddance, while groaning deep within for their child. In fact, God's grace and time would often find that child in the mire and coming home to find their parents with open arms. If we were truthful, many of us could have been that child. Not just the desire but the ability to return is a glorious example of man's free will. We serve a God of second, third, fourth, etc. chances.

We could also take the story of Joseph, when his brothers sold him into slavery. What a terrible thing to do, how could God let that happen? Well, one does not have to imagine or wonder as the whole scene is recorded in Holy Scripture. It was the sins of the brothers (God's permissive will) that landed Joseph in his predicament. If this was the end of the story, there would always remain an unanswered why. I believe that is why when we must suffer, we are left with the great big **why** that we immediately asked. Because we cannot see the end of the story and its desired effect on us and others. The old song says, "We will understand it better by and by." After all, we are to count it joy when we suffer for the Lord's sake. *"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing"* (James 1:2-4).

### From Our Missionaries

**Misión Creciendo en Cristo (Growing in Christ), North Little Rock:** Juan Carlos Posadas writes, "This was a week full of unusual events. Monday and Tuesday, I participated in the BMA of America Pastors' Roundtable, organized by BMA Global, Lifeword and BMA Financial. We spent time building relationships and collaborating on how we can fulfill God's mission together. It was a blessed meeting.



Misión Creciendo en Cristo (Growing in Christ), North Little Rock youth group preparing tamales for SOAR 2024 fundrasier.

"Tuesday afternoon, Sayra underwent more detailed examinations after her annual mammogram found calcifications. We thank God that the results were negative, but we had a couple of weeks of much uncertainty and prayer. That same Tuesday night, I had the opportunity to continue with the Bible Training Center for Pastors (BTCP) class I am teaching at the Bible Institute on Ecclesiastical Ministry — Administration and Education. It was

a good time to study spiritual gifts.

"Wednesday and Thursday, I received the first infusion of the year to treat neuropathy. Thank God, my body has responded very well to the treatment. The doctor has suggested giving more time between infusions, so the next one will be in five months, and the last will be six months later. When they apply the medication, my body reacts with high blood pressure and subsequent severe headaches for up to two days after the application, so I had a very bad time. Please pray that God will continue to work in my life and that my body will resist the side effects.

"The youth group was very active in raising funds to participate in SOAR 2024. With the help of some ladies from the church, they prepared delicious chicken tamales, Guatemalan style. Thursday, they began to prepare some ingredients they had bought on Monday, and Saturday starting at 6 a.m., they began to cook the tamales. At noon, they were already delivering the orders. They worked hard to cook about 350, sell them and distribute them. We thank God for the work done, the people who bought the tamales and the success of the fundraising.

"This Sunday, we study Rev. 4:1-11, where a window in Heaven opens to the Apostle John and he can witness heavenly worship. God spoke to us loud and clear about the type of worship we should do."

**Ebenezer, West Little Rock:** Ruben Isturiz writes, "Our attendance average was in the normal range this week. Thank God, we had no sick people this week. Neymar is in his treatment for cancer, so let's keep praying for him.

"The sisters had their first formal meeting after to electing their leadership. It was a blessing to see them gathered in my home. We try to make our activities revolve around the homes at Ebenezer. That allows us to be closer to the community. We also had our Discovery Bible Study (DBS) group in our home, and we started a group with new people. It was a blessing.

"Thursday, the tornado warnings went on and off after the meeting, and we asked the attendees not to

leave until after the warning was over. That allowed us to share with them until 10 p.m. I am thankful for what God continues to do in Ebenezer. There are weeks that have been difficult, but God, in His immense mercy, allows us to move forward.

"Keep us in your prayers, that God will introduce us to people that He wants us to share the good news. Pray that we keep our spirits up and, above all, that the glory be to Him."

**Faith Chapel, Flippin:** Johnny Shew writes, "I know I say this a lot, but what a great week we had at Faith Chapel! Even though the flu is still going around, and some of our members still have it, we had a good number and a wonderful time of worship.

"I am happy to report that our drywall hangers stayed until they finished! The finishers should be here soon. It looks like a building now, and we are so excited to be getting it finished and the plumbing and painting done, so we can get in there and put it to use for the Lord's glory! Praise God, we can't wait.

"We love you all, and we thank you all for your prayers and support. We are so grateful for you, and we thank God for you!"

**Faith Journey, Benton:** Bryan Clay writes, "We are lifting up praises from a great week at the mission. We had one of the ladies from one of the nursing facilities that we visit for weekly services ask Jesus into her heart and be saved. It was an amazing time of rejoicing and worship! God is working in the lives of the older generation just the same as He moves in young lives.

"During this week's service, we played a fun little game of charades with teams, to show the value of communication in relationships with each other and with Christ. This led us into our lesson on prayer, and how crucial it is to growing and maintaining our relationship with our Savior. One of our men said he recently heard someone say that 'Prayer is me talking to God, and reading the Bible is God talking to me.' As Christians, we cannot neglect the truth that prayer and Scripture are both ways to strengthen and protect our relationship with our Heavenly Father.

"We had some returning guests this week, and we were encouraged that they said they would be joining us again next week."

**Misión Gracia Soberana (Sovereign Grace), NWA:** Roberto Marcelletti writes, "We had our first women's conference this week. My wife, Patty was the speaker, and the name of the conference was 'Immersed in God.' This began the women's ministry of Sovereign Grace in a public way. The women

who attended were very motivated and challenged to continue meeting and pray for their future meetings.

"We had a very good attendance Sunday, and the Lord gave us a precious time of worship where the gospel was exposed. I am very happy because, at the end of the service, two brothers spoke with me and want me to train them to serve in the church. This is an answer to our prayers that the Lord will make the brothers commit to their church."

**Epic Life, Pea Ridge:** Jake McCandless writes, "It was an incredible week though only two of our current four Connection Groups were able to meet. Sickness and the start of Spring Break kept two from meeting. It was incredible because we had two kids make professions of faith and ask to move forward to baptism. Both are newer kids to the group. One of them is the son of a coworker of one of our Connection Group coaches. Our Coach and host, Brian invited his coworker to the group, and that coworker and son have been coming since before Christmas. They had been out of church. The other was a neighborhood friend of one of the kids in our group and a student of Amanda's. They have been bringing their friend since the fall. His family isn't in church, and this seems to be his first experience with church.

"Our coaches have discussed with each other a concern about how we can keep salvation in front of group members. It is a concern, but each week we, the Connection Groups, work hard on hearing the Word and obeying it. Our study came to John 3 this week — 'You must be born again' and 'must be born of Spirit and water.' The application step was obviously salvation and baptism. This gave the perfect opportunity for these students to step up and make a profession of faith and move toward baptism. It was confirming that this simple approach to reading and obeying can capture the hearts of even children."

**El Faro #2 Hispanic Mission, Cabot/Jacksonville:** Michael Hight writes, "Thank you so much for your prayers and support. We made the trip to Phoenix and are back in Arkansas coordinating with doctors here to get the treatments started. This was a very beneficial trip, and it was made possible by your love and generosity. I still have a little time before we get everything in order, but for the first time in a year and a half, we have some answers we desperately needed.

"Please continue to pray for the Cabot mission. I am convinced that this obstacle will be overcome and that God has a definite plan for us here."



## CC REPORT

(Continued From Page 4)

### Article XIV BMA America Financial Services

Section 1. This association shall elect a BMA America Financial Services board of trustees consisting of fifteen (15) members, nine (9) **nine (9) members, five (5)** of whom shall constitute a quorum.

### Article VIII - Coordinating Council

Section 3. The duties of the council:

**E. Provide an annual chairman orientation for the chairman of departments and agencies at the annual BMAA meeting for resources, information, and training. The orientation will be led by the Coordinating Council chairman and the executive director of the BMA America Financial Services.**

## PRAYER

(Continued From Page 5)

pray for our association this week.

We ask every church in our association to commit to praying for our association. We invite you to devote a specific time of prayer during the morning worship services on April 7 and 14 (the two weekends before the meeting). If you are led to do more, other possibilities would be to organize a dedicated time of prayer (i.e., a special prayer service, all members commit to pray at the

same time every day, 24 hours of prayer, etc.) outside the morning service sometime during one or both of those weekends—whatever would work for your church.

However you choose to participate, we would love to know that you will choose to do so. Please email Heidi Sorrells with Healthy Church Solutions at [heidi@bmaglobal.org](mailto:heidi@bmaglobal.org) and let her know that you will join in and how you plan to participate. She can also provide you with additional resources for organizing your church's prayer times, if needed.



# CENTRAL

BAPTIST COLLEGE

*Invites applications for the following position*

## Executive Vice President

**Primary Responsibilities:** Day-to-day operation of the institution, including budgetary and personnel management.

### Qualifications:

- 1) Earned doctorate from a regionally accredited institution;
- 2) Administrative, organizational, planning and communication skills at the executive level; and
- 3) Active membership in a Baptist Missionary Association church.

## Deadline for Submission: May 31

To be considered for the position of Executive Vice President, interested candidates must send a cover letter, resume (including references), and a statement of faith as PDF attachments to Board Chair Kirk Shelton at [pastorkirk@icloud.com](mailto:pastorkirk@icloud.com). Electronic submissions only. Background check required.



# NO KING BUT CHRIST

BMA America National Meeting

April 16-18, 2024

Chateau On The Lake, Branson, MO



## 75<sup>th</sup> Annual National Meeting

### Tuesday Evening, April 16

1-2 p.m.	Registration Open	
3 p.m.	BMA Theological Seminary Board Meeting	Salzburg Room
3 p.m.	BMA Global Advisory Committee Meeting	Munich Room
5-6 p.m.	Registration Open	
6 p.m.	Concert & Worship	Point of Grace
6:45 p.m.	President's Address	President Dr. Clif Johnson
7:30 p.m.	Opening Business	
8 p.m.	Fellowship (Registration Open for 30 minutes following business)	

### Wednesday Morning, April 17

7 a.m.	New Pastors' Breakfast and Orientation	
8:15 a.m.	Publishing House Board of Directors Meeting	Salzburg Room
	Daniel Springs Baptist Camp Board of Directors Meeting	Munich Room
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Registration Open	
9 a.m.	WMA Meeting	
9:30 a.m.	Brotherhood Meeting	Salzburg Room
9-11 a.m.	Pastors' Conference	
10 a.m.	BMA Student Pastors' Meeting	Munich Room
Noon	WMA Sponsored Ladies' Luncheon	

### Wednesday Afternoon, April 17

1:30 p.m.	Service with Pastor Kirk Shelton	
2:30 p.m.	Break	
2:30-3:30 p.m.	Registration Open	
3-4 p.m.	Legacy Missionary Service & Missionary Commissioning	
4-5 p.m.	Business Session	
5-7 p.m.	BMA Theological Seminary Dinner	

### Wednesday Evening, April 17

6:30-7:30 p.m.	Registration Open	
7:30 p.m.	Worship and Annual Message	James Schoenrock
	(Registration will be open for 30 minutes following worship)	
8:45 p.m.	Business	

### Thursday Morning, April 18

8-8:30 a.m.	Registration Open	
8:30 a.m.	BMA of America Department Reports	
Noon	Close of National Meeting	



# BMA

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION AMERICA

**BMAA Meeting • April 16-18 • Branson, Mo.**  
**For the latest information,**  
**visit [BaptistTrumpet.com/BMAA2024](http://BaptistTrumpet.com/BMAA2024)**