

BAPTIST TRUMPET

www.baptisttrumpet.com

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Volume 84

July 17, 2024 Little Rock, Arkansas

Number 39



SOAR 2024 Goes "All In"!

By Donny Parrish, Executive Director • Lifeword

SOAR 2024 was held at the Loews Arlington Hotel in Arlington, Texas, July 3-5, and enjoyed huge crowds, convicting worship times, discipleship equipping and

lots of fun. This 34th annual edition of SOAR, a uniquely BMA student conference, saw over 1,800 students and adults converge on Arlington for the new Loews Hotel's first-ever student event. The theme for the week was "All In!" and the focus was on becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ. Souls were saved, decisions for Christ were made and almost 500 students registered to work through "Follow," Lifeword's new discipleship portal.

Andy Comer, lead pastor at Antioch, Georgetown, Texas, was the speaker for SOAR'24. His messages were challenging and right on target with the students. The altar was filled after each session with students who were praying and adults who were counseling. God used Pastor Andy in an amazing way. One of the most memorable statements made by Andy was, "Stop spending time trying to figure out God's will! Pursue holiness! Through holiness, God will reveal His will to you."

Joe Costa, Lifeword's broadcast partner in Beirut, Lebanon, led as speaker for the annual SOAR Mission Service. He also did a great job in challenging the students

See SOAR, Page 2

In This Issue

Just the Crumbs Deploys to Texas (pg. 2)
Spotlight on Missions (pg. 4)
Swart Marks 50 Years in Ministry (pg. 5)
The Road to Health (pg. 3)
Youth Ministry Recovery Mode (pg. 2)

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.

Jared Richardson is the new pastor at Lakeside Baptist Church in Newport. He began serving on June 16.

Blackwell Baptist Church near Atkins is seeking a pastor. Contact Rodger Story at (501) 242-2584 for more information.



Arkansas 2024 Local Association Schedule

The BMA of Arkansas annual meeting is scheduled for Nov. 7-8 at Central Baptist College in Conway.

The following is a list of this year's fall annual Arkansas local association meetings. The list includes the name of the association, the date, time and location of the meeting, and the name of the moderator. Any changes to this list should be sent to Executive Editor Jeff Herring at editor@baptisttrumpet.com.

Mount Calvary, Sept. 5, 7 p.m.; West Race, Searcy; Keith Lewis, moderator.

BMA of the Ozarks, Sept. 6, 2 p.m. meeting; 6 p.m. dinner; worship to follow; Cornerstone, Lowell; Wes Hulvey, moderator.

North Arkansas, Sept. 7, 9:30 a.m.; Center Grove, Cord; Scott Small, moderator.

Mt. Vernon, Sept. 7, 10 a.m.; First, Caldwell; Marty Cantwell, moderator.

United, Sept. 14, 10 a.m.; Grace, Russellville; Roy Hill, moderator.

Central Arkansas, Sept. 19, 10 a.m.; Calvary, White Hall; Roy Tilley, moderator.

See MEETINGS, Page 5

A Lasting LEGACY



ARKANSAS
2024
LADIES
RETREAT

Arkansas Ladies' Retreat

By Kelly Williams • Arkansas WMA

The Arkansas WMA is hosting its annual ladies' retreat at Central Baptist College on Friday evening, Sept. 27 and Saturday, Sept. 28. Our theme for the retreat this year is "A Lasting Legacy," which is also the National WMA theme for the year.

Our keynote speaker is Sabrina Clayton, and we know she will be a great blessing to all of us. Angela Wisely and friends will lead our worship again this year.

Friday will begin with snacks and registration starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Cooper Complex main hallway. Our Friday evening activity will be learning about leaving a legacy for our family through scrapbooking. All supplies will be provided, but we need each lady to bring 10-12 of your family photos from any Christmas. We will have paper, stickers, etc., following the theme of Christmas for you to add to your scrapbook pages. Jessica Marker from Texas will be leading this workshop. Hotel information will

See RETREAT, Page 5



Arkansas Galilean Wilderness Adventures

By Dan Williams, Galilean Promoter

I would like to extend a special invitation to all young men (even if you do not have a Galilean ministry in your church), ages 9-18, to fellowship with the Arkansas Galileans at the Arkansas Galilean Summer Camp, which will be held at Ponca Bible Camp in the beautiful Upper Buffalo River Wilderness area Aug. 2-4. It will assist us in planning if you will email or text the approximate number you will be bringing to dwilltwelve@gmail.com or (501) 336-4586. However, pre-registration is not required.

Registration will begin at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 2. The \$60 registration fee per person is due when registering at camp. Checks should be made payable to Arkansas State Galileans.

Our theme for 2024 is "Walking with the Spirit," with Gal. 5:25 as the key verse and the sub-themes are "Born of the Spirit" (John 3:5-8), "Comforted by the Spirit" (John 14:16; Acts 7:55) and "Guided by the

See PONCA, Page 2



CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE PROFILE

Central Baptist College

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(501) 329-6872 • (800) 205-6872 • www.cbc.edu
Twitter: @CentBaptCollege and @tkimbrow

Terry Kimbrow
President

08 SEPTEMBER 2024

CBC DAY

08 SEPTEMBER 2024



CBC Day Registration Open

We could not do what God has called us to do without your faithful love and consistent generosity as we carry out our mission of transforming lives through education that integrates faith and academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment. Thank you for walking and partnering with us this year and in previous years.

As our fiscal year of 2023-2024 ends, we are very humbled and grateful for your financial support. Donations from churches were the highest in the last seven years, with a 15.3% increase in church donations. Not only do you demonstrate a heart of support to us through finances, you have allowed us to personally share with your church, leadership, Sunday School class and youth ministry concerning the Lord's faithfulness and goodness in all He is doing in the lives of students, alumni, faculty, staff and administration. From your genuine commitment to His ministry through the college, it is evident that you understand the dire importance of providing, teaching and demonstrating a Christian worldview in this generation of college-age students.

CBC Day 2024 has been set for Sunday, Sept. 8. Please register at cbc.edu/cbcdays and help us reach our goal of 150 churches participating in this year's CBC Day. A registered church will have the option to share an informational video during any service, through social media or on your website. You may also request that a representative from the college to personally come and share with the congregation or group. To better fit your schedule, we are available to share on a Sunday night or during a mid-week service. We would also be honored to share at BMA of Ark. events such as WMA and Brotherhood meetings.

If you have any questions, please personally contact Director of Church Relations Duffy Guyton at dgyton@cbc.edu or (501) 269-6784. May we continue to encourage each other to live out Gal. 6:9 (ESV) to "...not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

Just the Crumbs Deploys to Texas

By Mike Angus, Director of Communications • JTC Disaster Relief

Just the Crumbs/BMA disaster relief has deployed to Channelview, Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl. Our team started serving meals on Friday, July 12, and are serving 1,000+ plates a day. As always, we covet your prayers and support as we serve the people affected in this area.

We are located at 1100 Dell Dale St., Channelview, Texas 77530 if you would like to volunteer and serve or if you would like to ship supplies. If you want to help, you can donate via PayPal or Venmo or mail to 10 Wagon Trail, Sumrall, Miss. 39482. Pray for us and this community. For questions on how to help, contact me at (228) 669-1108.

SOAR

(Continued From Page 1)

to go all in as a disciple of Jesus. After the invitation, the students were introduced to the need for a new studio for Joe and his team in Beirut. The students responded by giving an offering of over \$11,000 for the project. What a blessing! The annual Midnight Meeting, led by BMA Global Director of Short-term Missions Angela Rice, saw over 400 students attend to get more details about taking a summer mission trip.

Breakout sessions were divided by gender and grade. The SOAR Breakout team members introduced students to the characteristics of a true disciple, then took them through the process of using Lifeword's new app, Follow – an interactive, video-based tool that walks users through the basics of discipleship using easy to understand terminology and life applications. Students were taught how to go Follow, then use the app to disciple other students. Again, over 500 kids registered to be involved.

Late-night hours were spent in the SOAR Village for a time of fun and relationships. Kudos to Daniel Springs Executive Director Jason Prewitt for leading this time of fellowship. It was top shelf.

God has used SOAR for 34 years to inspire and challenge the next generation to commit, serve, worship and live for Jesus. It is a uniquely BMA event! It's the largest gathering of BMA Baptists in the world! Thank you, BMA churches, for bringing your students.

We will return to the Loews Arlington Hotel July 2-4, 2025 for SOAR 2025. Mark your calendars now and make plans to join us next year!

PONCA

(Continued From Page 1)

"Spirit" (Rom. 8:6-7; John 14:26)." The three sub-themes will be the focus for each meeting — "Born of the Spirit" (spring meeting), "Comforted by the Spirit" (summer meeting) and "Guided by the Spirit" (fall meeting). Ryan Anderson, college pastor at Antioch Baptist Church in Conway, will be our speaker. Activities will include color guard/devotionals, Galilean step work, worship and praise services, Bible quizzes, delicious meals, in-camp recreation and Buffalo River adventures.

A program that includes a schedule and items needed for camp is posted on the Galilean website at galileans.com. We're looking forward to seeing you at camp!



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Recovery Mode

The summer months are easily some of the busiest in youth ministry. Camps, conferences and mission trips dominate our schedules. In addition, we seek to take advantage of the extra time in our students' lives to build relationships. It can be a lot.

Now don't get me wrong, I am not complaining. There is nothing like hopping on a church van and heading to SOAR with a great group of students. These extra moments with students during the summer months help carry the relationships through the busyness of the school year.

However, let me warn you who work with students. There is a cost for the extra time with your students. It can impact your relationship with your spouse or your children. If you have other responsibilities at your church, this extra time can also impact those areas. And, if we aren't careful, it can impact our resolve to march forward into the school year.

During the last two decades, I have been a runner, martial artist and cyclist. I love the challenge of those physical activities. After a hard workout, there is a need for recovery. It is impossible to avoid and is needed even more as I have gotten older. The same can be said about ministry. After a season of physically, spiritually and emotionally demanding periods, we must shift to recovery mode. I know this isn't always possible for some who work with students because of bi-vocational statuses, but we still need to figure out a way to recover from the summer months so we will be ready for the school year. If that is the case, what are some of the things we can do to recover?

• **Invest in your spiritual well-being.** In the busyness of the summer months, we can neglect personal time in the Word and with the Father. Those of us in student ministry are doers. We have to get our students to camp. We are even expected to come home with the same students we left with. (My pastor tells me just to make sure I come home with the same number. If it is the same students, that is even better.) We plan parties and mission opportunities. We do so much, but that can sometimes come with neglecting our most important responsibility — growing in our relationship with Jesus. Evaluate your time in the Word. Plan to go to a conference for your well-being. Ultimately, we just need to be intentional in this area.

• **Plan some intentional time with your family.** This may be a weekend trip, a full vacation or just a few extra days at the house with them. If you're married, your spouse and children need your presence. They need to know they are important, especially as you gear up for the fall months of youth group and expected activity.

• **Find something that recharges you.** I love my family, but having a family outing with them doesn't recharge me. I wouldn't trade any extra time I spent and spend with them, but for me to recharge, I need some time alone. For you, it may be a hobby you enjoy or some other diversion. Whatever it takes, find that thing and give it some time.

You may have to cram all of this in just a couple of days during August, but it is still important to make that investment. Your family and ministry will be blessed by your choice to invest in yourself. Don't think of it as selfishness, but switching to recovery mode so you can get back out there and do even more for the Kingdom.

Join the conversation in our Facebook group (facebook.com/groups/StudentMinistryMattersCommunity) and let us know what you do when you seek to recover from the hard moments of ministry.



HEALTHY CHURCH SOLUTIONS

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LARRY BARKER, By Larry Barker, Regional Coordinator
For Europe and North America • BMA Global

healthychurchpodcast.com • healthychurchsolutions.org



The Road to Health

A prescription without a diagnosis is referred to in medicine as malpractice. If you can prove negligence, it is very possible that criminal charges could be filed and a lawsuit won.

In church health, proper diagnosis is also crucial. There are principles to consider on your road to recovery and revival. The proper pathway to the right prescription must be preceded by the correct diagnosis. You must determine and establish biblical priorities, directed by a Holy Spirit-led pace, and see His church from God's perspective. One principle to greatly consider in this process is to always think slower not faster (see Psalm 27:14).

The proper priority is God's glory — without that awareness, you may find yourself dispensing the wrong medicine. If you go too fast or too slow, you might be guilty of administering the wrong dosage. Without the proper perspective (Psalm 73:16-17), you can easily prescribe a medication you are allergic to, which can cause you to shut down due to shock. Sam Rainer suggests the following questions in these areas:

- **Priorities** — How do you determine what is most urgent?
- **Pace** — How fast can you lead change?
- **Perspective** — Are the church's expectations properly aligned?

Let's talk priority first. A healthy church necessitates leaders with healthy souls. In *Replenish*, Lance Witt stated, "We have neglected the fact that a pastor's greatest leadership tool is a healthy soul." Frustration will dominate if you lead while emotionally empty and spiritually dry. If this describes you and you continue to neglect your soul, you run the risk of being destructive in your ministry instead of productive. You may be okay 85-90% of the time, but an-

ger issues will surface, impatience will become overwhelming and an unhealthy desire to micromanage magnifies insecurities.

Depth is more important than width, and Psalm 1 is a constant reminder of the value of deep spiritual roots. The priority is a healthy soul, and that requires refusing to disregard the importance of prayer. All too often, prayer has become an afterthought and has been relegated ridiculously low on the priority list. Wisdom is desperately needed, and James 1 tells us when you lack wisdom, ask God. Prayer is seeking God's wisdom and surrendering to His agenda. Bill Elliff shared in our ReCharge Conference that God can do more in 5 minutes of prayer than in 50 years of our effort and energy. How true that is!

The value of all the leadership books in the world pales in comparison to the power of prayer. It has been estimated that 75% of the messes leaders get into are caused by not inviting others into the process. How much worse is that for spiritual leaders who have not sought God's agenda through fervent prayer? You cannot overestimate the importance of listening to God. What does God desire to accomplish in your life and your ministry? Discern it, execute it and then crucify it (offer it back to Him). Do not give away God's voice in your life. Who is the loudest voice in your life?

Priorities are determined by God's Word and God's voice. Once discerned, it is time to focus on the pace of implementing His plan. There are two things to remember about how fast you move forward. John Maxwell says that if you think you are leading and no one is following, you are only out taking a walk. Second, you must lead out front, but you might become a martyr if you get too far out front. Execution is the key after determining the most urgent item God is focusing you on.

The time has come to move from transformational to transactional because implementation separates leaders from dreamers.

Consider working out a Vision, Plan and Timeline (VPT) to enable you to move the action required from your head and heart to your hands and feet. Contact me if you would like a copy of how to develop a VPT.

Robby Gallaty simplifies this process in *Rediscovering Discipleship* by utilizing the KISS paradigm, which does not stand for what you may be thinking. If you are considering changing your programs, consider this: What do you need to **Keep**? What do you need to **Increase**? What do you need to **Start**? What do you need to **Stop**? Every program and ministry must be brought to the table. Nothing is off-limits.

Antoine de Saint-Exupery stated, "Perfection is achieved, not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is nothing left to take away." Gallaty said this about this quote, "This kind of evaluation is very difficult because it removes what you want and reveals what God wants."

In *The Church Revitalization Checklist*, Sam Rainer helps you to evaluate some items you may need to stop doing and some things you need to start. "Nostalgia is more prevalent than devotion." Does your church discuss its history more than the Bible? Are you worshipping the past and traditions more than worshipping Jesus and obeying His commands?

The priority is ensuring you and your church have an upward and outward perspective. Without it, your perspective will be inward and downward before long. When Isaiah looked upward and saw the Lord sitting on His throne in Heaven, it immediately caused him to look outward. When the Lord asked, "Whom shall I send?" Isaiah responded, "Here am I, send me!"

Perspective asks if your church's expectations are properly aligned with God's call to make disciples who make disciples. Are your church's expectations focused not only on serving your community but also on how you will effectively share the gospel?

The road to health begins with proper diagnosis by discerning the one priority God is leading you to focus on in the next six months. If you discern an important God-directed change every six months, in two years, you will have led your church to become spiritually healthy in four major areas. Discern, execute and remain surrendered to His plan. The reality is that resistance to change is one of the largest hurdles in leadership.

Just Thinking...

By Dr. Tom Mitchell

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Jesus and Joy

I was just thinking about how many are dealing with various emotions regarding some of our present-day circumstances. Many people are dealing with sadness, hurt, disappointment and discouragement. For so many Americans, there is a lack of joy. I am certain that such is not limited to our nation. In this article, I hope to encourage any reader who may be dealing with similar emotions.

Anticipating Joy

Joy, rejoice, joyful and rejoicing are mentioned 430 times in the Bible. I have concluded that God wants His people to have joy, be joyful and rejoice because of His grace and goodness.

Here is a rather good definition of joy for believers: joy is a feeling of good pleasure and happiness dependent on who Jesus is rather than who we are or what is occurring around us. Consider the words of the psalmist: "But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love our name may rejoice in you" (Psalm 5:11 NIV).

Despite the sin of humankind that has existed since Adam, causing heartache and despair, God anticipated the time when a Redeemer would bring salvation from sin and joy to believers. Isaiah wrote: "In that day they will say, 'Surely this is our God; we trusted him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation'" (Isa. 25:9).

That anticipated joy did not come immediately. It didn't come for centuries after Isaiah wrote. Still, Israel looked for a Messiah (the Anointed One) who would surely bring joy amid suffering, sickness and sin.

Knowing Jesus Brings Joy

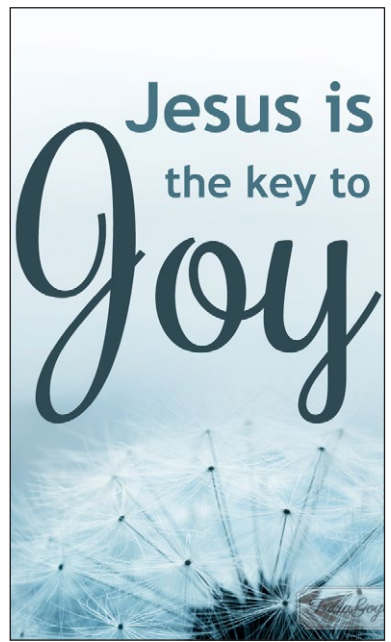
When Jesus was born, there was much rejoicing — Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the angels and, later, the Magi. But 33 years later, when Jesus died on that cross, there was no joy among the angels, the apostles or the Lord's church. They were despondent. However, when Jesus arose from the dead, they joyfully shared the good news of salvation with everyone they could. Knowing Jesus as Savior brings joy!

In Acts 8:26-40, we find the account of a meeting between Phillip and an Ethiopian official. After Phillip shared the Good News of Christ with that man, the official came to know Christ personally, and immediately followed Him in baptism. "When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Phillip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing" (Acts 8:39). Indeed, knowing Jesus brings joy!

Despite Circumstances, Be Joyful

Every believer should claim the Lord's promise that He will never leave nor forsake us. It is by faith we believe, and it should be by faith that we walk. Circumstances may be good one day and bad the next, but Jesus' love for His believers never falters. We must trust in the One whom we have not seen but believe that He provides for and protects us. That should give inexpressible joy. "Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him, now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:8-9).

That anticipated joy I mentioned earlier has been a part of God's plan for believers — He expects us to have joy and to show joy. "Rejoice always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thess. 5:16-17).





By Executive Editor
Jeff Herring

Journey
with
Jeff

God is Always Faithful

Over the last month, I have had the opportunity and privilege to see God show Himself to be faithful in several ways. Here is a summary of how God has worked:

As summer began, I was part of a mission team from our high school student ministry (Antioch, Conway) that went to Oklahoma City to work with Grace Harbor Church June 6-10. We were able to come alongside the church for some outreach and community events while encouraging and fellowshiping with church members. We even had the unique opportunity to attend a worship service with Afghan Christians with a ministry in the area. God was faithful in providing the right people at the right time to be used for His honor and glory as we sought to make His name known.

BMA Church Camp was next, June 17-20. I have been attending this church camp pretty much all my life. My dad was one of the pastors who started the camp in 1978. I have had the privilege of serving as the camp director for over 20 years. I love church camp. There is something special about being able to separate from the ordinary, everyday things of life and focus on spending time and hearing from God. Each year, I challenge every camper, both young and old, to remember that they are not at camp by accident and that God has something He wants to teach them during their time at camp. This year, God was faithful to work in the lives of so many people, and 38 made professions of faith!

I was also honored to be able to serve as a sponsor for Antioch's SOAR 2024 group with our students from July 2-5. God used the many hours of work and effort put forth in planning and preparing for the conference so that everyone in attendance would be challenged to be "All In" for Him. Andy Comer brought some great messages that resonated with both students and adults. Joe Costa's reminder that our attitude should be "none of me, all of You" as we serve the Lord was a challenge for everyone. I was able to talk to a few in our group who made specific commitments as to how they would be "all in" for God as they returned home. God was faithful to allow some amazing opportunities to intentionally invest in the lives of our students throughout the trip.



Along with teaching Sunday School and serving as a volunteer for our high school ministry, trips like this allow me to continue being faithful to the calling God placed in my heart on Nov. 7, 1993, when I surrendered to ministry with a call to work with students. Even though my current "career" ministry position as executive editor of the *Trumpet* does not facilitate working with students directly, God has been faithful to provide these opportunities for service. I am grateful to Him, and my prayer is to continue to be faithful to His calling on my life.

Special Emphasis Update

God has also been faithful by providing the needs for the ministry of the *Baptist Trumpet*. Although our time of promotion is in March and April each year, we count all Special Emphasis offerings received through the end of our fiscal year (Aug. 31) toward our goal. If you want to know more about why we are raising these funds, visit BaptistTrumpet.com/SE2024. As you see below, we are very close to meeting our goal. We are thankful for every church and individual who has given toward our Special Emphasis this year, and we look forward to seeing how God will continue to bless this ministry as we seek to serve Him.

2024 Special Emphasis • Goal — \$30,000

Previously Reported (June 12)	\$23,712.20
Moki Lowe	\$500.00
Pleasant Valley, Greenbrier	\$500.00
College View, Magnolia	\$5,000.00
Total	\$29,712.20

Spotlight On Missions

Send offerings to BMA Missions
P.O. Box 878 • Conway, AR 72033-0878 • 501.455.4977 • www.bmamissions.org

Joshua & Meagan Phiri • Zambia

We are filled with joy and gratitude to share some blessed news and updates about our ministry!

• **Upcoming Leadership Training** — By God's grace, we will be hosting an intensive leadership training program July 18-22. This training will gather leaders from our local ministry and our Zimbabwe ministry. We aim to equip our leaders with the spiritual and practical tools they need to serve their communities faithfully. We are thrilled to announce that Pastor John Smith and Joseph Tartaglia from Majestic View Church in Colorado will teach during this training. We are excited to see how the Lord will work through this training to strengthen our ministry and His kingdom.

• **Women's Training Program** — During the same period, we will also hold a special training program for women. This program is designed to empower women in our community and Zimbabwe with leadership skills, spiritual growth and practical tools to positively impact their families and communities. Debra Smith and Brooke Tartaglia, both from Majestic View Church, Colorado, will lead this initiative. We believe investing in women as key agents of change aligns with God's plan for their lives, and we are enthusiastic about the transformative potential of this initiative.

• **Planting Wells of Hope and Harvesting Faith** — We are incredibly thankful for the continued donations that are enabling us to install more water wells in the villages. Access to clean water is a fundamental need, and these wells are a testimony to God's provision. They are transforming lives by providing reliable water sources for drinking, farming and daily activities. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this vital cause. Your generosity is an inspiration of hope and love in Christ, the Living Water.

With access to clean water, communities can grow their own food and improve their overall quality of life. This improvement enables us to share the good news of the gospel more effectively. People who struggle to find enough food cannot fully comprehend the love of God. However, when their immediate physical needs are met, they are more open to hearing about the eternal hope and love Jesus offers. Humanitarian help is crucial, but

it is a means to an end — sharing the message of our glorious Savior.

In every drop of clean water provided, we see an opportunity to share Christ's love in a tangible way. Thank you for being part of this mission, for your prayers and your unwavering support. Together, we are bringing both physical and spiritual refreshment to those in need.

• **Land Purchase and Building Projects** — Praise the Lord! We are overjoyed to announce that we have finally been able to purchase land in the village! This has been a long-awaited milestone, and after a five-year wait, we are eager to break ground as quickly as possible. Our current rental home is on the market, so time is of the essence.

To move forward with our building projects, we have several immediate needs: \$3,500 for a well (to ensure we have a reliable water source on our new property.), \$15,000 to build a temporary home (we need to quickly construct a temporary home to move into before our current house is sold) and \$5,000 for a security fence (to protect our property and ensure the safety of our community.)

• **How You Can Help** — Your

support is crucial as we embark on these new projects. Every donation, no matter the size, will have a profound impact and help us achieve these goals. If you feel led to contribute, please visit our donation page (tiny.cc/ZambianaPhiri) or contact us directly for more information.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. Together, we are making a difference and spreading the love of Christ to those in need. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity and faithfulness.

If you are reading this and are not currently part of our financial team, would you consider supporting us monthly? We would also be so grateful if you know anyone who would like to hear about our work and would be interested in joining our team. Please reach out at joshuameaganzambia@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.

If you would like to give via check, make checks payable to BMA Global ChangeMaker, write "For Joshua Phiri" on the memo line and mail the check to P.O. Box 878, Conway, Ark. 72033. If you would like to give online, go to the BMA online giving page and donate to Joshua Phiri. All gifts are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your support!
(joshuameaganzambia@gmail.com)

Baptist Trumpet

(USPS 043-720)

(ISSN 0888-9074)

Published by the Baptist Missionary Association of Arkansas; sponsoring Missions, Benevolence and Christian Education.

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Subscription Rate: \$39.00 per year (87¢ per issue)
Church Plan Subscribers: \$36.00 per year (80¢ per issue)

Published weekly except for the week of New Year's and one week in April, May, July, September, November and December. Periodical postage paid at Little Rock, Arkansas. Editorial offices at 10712 Interstate 30, Little Rock, Arkansas 72209. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the *Baptist Trumpet*, P.O. Box 192208, Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-2208.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the churches of the BMA.



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“S” is for Servant-hearted

As we continue to examine our middle name — MISSIONARY — using an acrostic, we move to S is for Servant-hearted. In the two previous articles (see the June 26, 2024 and July 10, 2024 issues), I suggested that “M” is for Motivated and “I” is for Impactful.

I guess you can call it the domino effect factor. The church serves the missionary, the missionary serves the people and the people serve others in their community. In other words, mission work starts with the church, not the missionary. The church being the starting place for mission work is music to many ears, but too often it’s just music with no substance. The servant-hearted church is the role model for the missionary. Let me put it in the form of a question: Do you want missionaries to serve in their fields as your church serves the missionaries? We, as missionaries, learn from you, as churches, how to be servant-hearted. Here are some things that should be part of every servant-hearted church:

• **Servant-hearted means being welcoming.** I learn from you. I mimic what I see. Proactive churches welcome missionaries and undergird them when they are off the field because of what they go through on the field. Missionaries need to feel their “go-to” safe place is the local churches — their sending church or other BMA churches. When they are on the field, they need to feel undergirded by the prayers of God’s people. When was the last time you had a day of prayer and fasting on behalf of missionaries working in adverse circumstances? I hope it was recent. In my 30 years on the mission field, one BMA pastor called me several times to check on my well-being when he hears about war or tension in the Middle East. Thankfully, I have had other missionary colleagues also call to check

if we were still alive. Maybe you can email a missionary today on behalf of your church to tell them you are thinking of them and praying for them. That shouldn’t be difficult in today’s world of technology and social media platforms.

• **Servant-hearted means being supportive.** Missionaries get brow-beaten by the world, circumstances, family challenges as they live in a foreign land and enemy attacks. The last thing a missionary needs is to feel he is a beggar. A pastor friend jokingly asks me whenever we meet, “Is this another begging trip?” I have never been to a church where I was not treated kindly and hospitably. I have been to BMA churches, where the whole church came and stood around me with hands on my shoulders and back to pray for support and protection. What a feeling! As amazing as that is, is that what I need? What happens after I leave that church? Am I forgotten? So many times, it feels like it.

Besides prayerful support, there is also financial support. “Duh,” you might say! Well, you would be surprised how difficult that is to come by. It is a fact that we have no joint strategy for missionary support, and that makes things haphazard. It forces missionaries to try to convince churches to give — often “fishing out of the same pond” with other missionaries because a church is wealthier than other churches. (I will address this in more detail in the next week’s article.) Take a look at your church’s mission giving. Does it say you are a servant-hearted church?

• **Servant-hearted means being interested and involved.** The church’s involvement in a missionary’s work often ends with financial support. Interest and involvement go further. Sending your pastor to visit a mission field significantly boosts

HOMECOMINGS

Bodcaw #1, Bodcaw, July 28; 10:30 a.m.- devotional (John Ed Dorman); 11 a.m. – message (James Ross); potluck to follow; Tim Vines, pastor.

Sand Springs, Damascus, Aug. 4; 9:30 a.m. singing, message by John Burleson; Gaylon King, pastor.

RETREAT (Continued From Page 1)

be forthcoming soon.

Saturday begins with registration (for those not attending Friday night) at 8:30 a.m. We will begin with worship at 9 a.m. Lunch will be served in the CBC cafeteria, and it will be delicious! We will have a silent auction during lunch with baskets, etc., filled with anything that can be used to make memories (legacy). Some suggestions are holiday baskets, camping, picnic, scrapbook, s’mores, baking, gardening, game night, reading, lake day, swimming, movie night, fun on the farm, etc. We need to be able to see what is in the basket so ladies know what they are bidding on. Afternoon sessions will be group discussions like last year about the theme — “A Lasting Legacy.”

Online registration will be available soon. Information on registering will be published in the *Baptist Trumpet* and the Arkansas WMA Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/arkansaswma.

Our retreat is one of the highlights of the year. Bring your entire ladies’ ministry and join us Sept. 27-28.

the morale of a missionary and his family. Bringing a group from a local church to help in a camp or activity will engender interest, memories and forever relationships with the missionary and the local people.

This interest and involvement will create accountability by the missionary to the local churches. I often tell churches, “Don’t believe reports and newsletters — go and see.” Not that missionaries are lying, but newsletters and reports cannot give a complete picture of the field and the need. Accountability is necessary in a world where missionaries can get lost in the crowd. If they have done well, no one knows. If they have done nothing, no one finds out.

Being servant-hearted has almost become a cliché. Look at it from a reverse angle: what if you were a missionary and I was a local pastor or a local congregation? Wouldn’t you want me to be servant-hearted toward you? That is why we need to put the shoe on the other foot. (Chuckcosta58@gmail.com)

Swart Marks 50 Years of Ministry

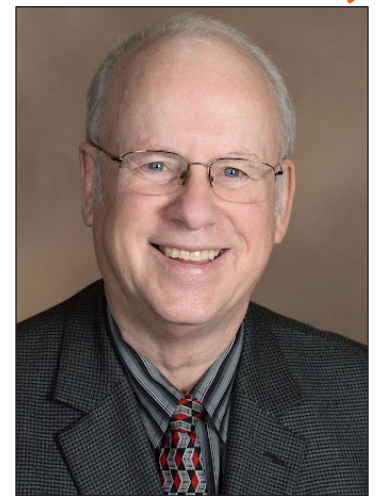
Jeff Swart recently celebrated the 50-year-anniversary of the day he surrendered to God’s call to ministry. He surrendered to the call of ministry on July 15, 1974, his 21st birthday, at Sagamount Church Camp in Joplin, Mo.

Jeff earned a Master of Arts in Professional Counseling from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va. and a Master of Religious Education from the Baptist Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas.

During these 50 years of ministry, Bro. Swart pastored Mt. Zion, Garland, Kan.; Grace, Bryant; Heritage, Nevada, Mo. (missionary/church planter); Craft, Jacksonville, Texas; Calvary Baptist, Mesquite, Texas; First, Red Oak, Texas and First, Galena, Kan.

He also served as associate pastor at Highland Park Baptist in Independence, Kan. and Antioch, Conway; dean of Students at Jacksonville College in Jacksonville, Texas; a Bible teacher in 10 Bible institutes, colleges and seminaries around the world; a church planter/missionary, the assistant director of Foreign Missions for BMA of America Missions (now BMA Global) and as president of the BMA of America (2019-2021). He currently serves as the senior adult pastor at Antioch, Conway.

Bro. Swart is also a writer. During his time serving at BMAA Missions, He wrote *The Church Planting Model*, a step-by-step model for planting churches through personal evangelism and discipleship. This



model is presently being used in more than 50 countries of the world and has been translated into more than a dozen languages.

God has allowed him to preach/teach more than 12,000 times in 19 states and 30 countries. He is a part of a men’s discipleship program, MD5, and has loved the opportunity to teach and mentor other men.

Bro. Jeff’s proudest accomplishment, other than receiving Christ as his Savior, is the fact that he and his wife, Debbie have been married over 51 years and he is Dad to 3 great kids and Papa to 10 grandchildren.

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” is Jeff’s life theme song and his favorite Scripture is Acts 20:24 (NIV): “*However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me — the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.*”

MEETINGS (Continued From Page 1)

South Arkansas, TBD.

Clark, Sept. 24, 7 p.m.; First, Gurdon; Randall Murphy, moderator.

Columbia, Sept. 29, 5 p.m.; Antioch East, Magnolia; Danny Bullock, moderator.

Union, Oct. 6, 3:30 p.m. meeting; 6 p.m. worship service; Bluff Springs, Rosston; Lane Garner, moderator.

Jonesboro, Oct. 12, 10 a.m.; Center Hill, Jonesboro; Chad White, moderator.

Greenbrier, Oct. 13, 3:30 p.m. Missionary Committee; 4 p.m. general session; 6 p.m. message; New Home, Quitman; J.D. Courtney, moderator.

Harmony, Oct. 13, 6 p.m.; Hillcrest, Texarkana; Mike Silvey, moderator.

Judson, Oct. 19, 10 a.m.; Pine Crest, Fordyce; Mike Goodwin, moderator.

Arkansas Prairie, Oct. 25-26, Fri. 7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.; First, St.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

Central Ark. WMA; July 20; Landmark, England.

Greenbrier Dist. Men’s Fellowship; July 20, 8 a.m.; Sand Springs, Damascus.

Jonesboro Dist. Brotherhood; Aug. 13; Herman, Bono.

Mt. Vernon Dist. Youth In Harvest; Aug. 19, 6:30 p.m.; Fourth St., West Helena.

Mt. Vernon Dist. Brotherhood; Sept. 8, 6:30 p.m.; Harmony, West Helena.



Friendship, Greenbrier; Aug. 3; 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; *Summer Beach Party.*

Charles; Aaron Maxwell, moderator.

Howard, Oct. 26, 9 a.m.; Immanuel, Nashville; Chuck Reel, moderator.



The Election, an Assassination Attempt and the End of the World

Spoiler alert—this article wasn't written to say the results of the upcoming election or the recent assassination attempt on Donald Trump is a sign we're approaching the end of the age or are in the end times. Instead, I'm saying the opposite.

Empires have risen and fallen, superpower nations have fallen, politicians have been corrupted, tyrants have risen and trampled on their citizens, taxes have become unbearable, economies have crumpled, wars have raged and societies have sunk into the depths of perversions throughout history. This has always been part of the reality of the world and will continue to the end. I have been sitting on this article for a while and thought the week following an assassination attempt on a former president and current presidential candidate was as good a time as any to write it.

As we look out at our world (the craziness, the evil, the sin, the injustice, the difficulties and all that's bad), we must realize that not all things are end-time things. I can say this because the Bible gives specific events that will happen at the end of the age. We're not left to our own devices and creativity, but it is spelled out in the Word.

On the flip side of this, Jesus said there would be end-time-looking events that would occur, but we should realize they do not mean it is the end. Then, after clarifying that, Jesus gave a list of the specific things that would happen and, I believe, even the order in which they would happen. We find these words of Jesus in Matthew 24. They're familiar, but be sure to pay attention to the verse highlighted in bold: *Jesus answered: 'Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, "I am the Messiah," and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and*

rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains' (Matt. 24:4-8 NIV).

Did you catch what Jesus said? He said you will see things such as deception, false Messiah, wars, rumors of wars, division, fighting, famines and earthquakes, but these things are not the end. Then, in the remainder of the passage, He walks through the events that are the end times.

These events include persecution, many turning away, the completion of the Great Commission and specific events occurring in Jerusalem. The Antichrist will commit an abomination in the temple. He will turn against Israel, and they will face the greatest tribulation they have ever faced. Someone will perform false miracles and deceive many. I will stop there, but Jesus continued with more details.

From Matthew 24, we see terrible events that will arise, especially wars. There will end time wars, but the Bible gives the locations and the parties involved. There are world events that have or will set the stage for specific end-time events. With the prominence of the United States as a chief superpower in the world, the direction of our nation impacts the world and plays a part in setting the stage.

Along with Jesus directly saying these types of events will occur but that doesn't mean it is the end, we also see other principles in Scripture. There are many verses about how God raises nations and allows them to be destroyed. All of Scripture tells us we're in a sinful world where evil will occur. Scripture also

UPCOMING EVENTS

146th Anniversary; July 28; 10 a.m.-Bible Study, 11 a.m.-Worship, Noon meal; 1:30 p.m. The Representatives concert; Russell, Russell; Randy Zinn, pastor.

Gospel Singing; July 30; 6 p.m.; Dalton Harper Bluegrass; Prospect, Jonesboro.

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

Gospel Singing; Sept. 21, 6 p.m.; featuring Measure of Grace; First, McNeil.

Ark. WMA Ladies Retreat; Sept. 27-28; Central Baptist College, Conway.

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

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

SOAR 2025; July 2-4, 2025; Live! By Loews Convention Center; Arlington, Texas.

BMA of America; April 22-24, 2025; Heritage, Waxahachie.

tells of an evil spiritual enemy that continually corrupts the world. In Romans 1, we're given the formula for a nation's demise due to turning from the one true God and diving deep into immorality.

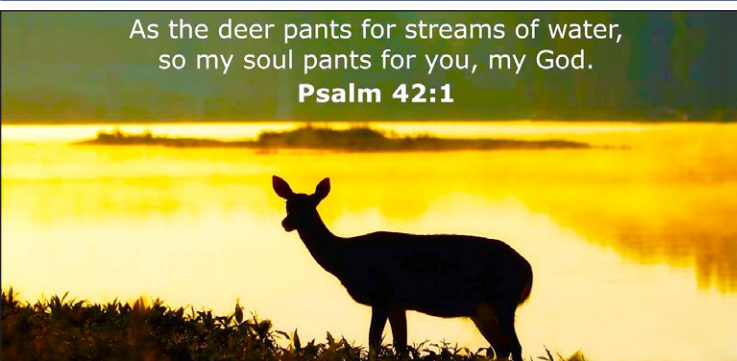
We must realize evil is happening all throughout history and mostly what we're witnessing in America is the continual result of sin and doesn't have to be the end of the age. Even if a president was to be assassinated does not mean it is the end times. It has happened before. Elections can be stolen due to sin, and it still not be the end times. I'm sure it happened in the early democracies and republics like Greece and Rome.

I can't imagine what is ahead for our nation leading up to this election and afterward. We all know there's no hope unless there is a major intervention of God. And by that, I believe the intervention would be revolutionizing us believers to walk with the Lord as the first followers of Jesus did.

I hope this article can come as a pause for us and remind us that the problem is sin, not politics. The corruption and division in our nation aren't necessarily end-time things, but God is turning us over to our sins. Since the problem is living apart from God, the answer begins on our knees, not a fiery political radio episode or even the results of an election.

— 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)

"...Everything We Need..."
II Peter 1:3
By Karen Mitchell
karenjoanmitchell@gmail.com • (501) 804-1480



As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.

Psalm 42:1

A Thirst for God

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God..." (Psalm 42:1-2 NIV).

When these words were written, the psalmist was expressing himself from the very depths of his soul. He was distressed, depressed and extremely disheartened. His enemies taunted him, asking, "Where is your God?" (Psalm 42:3). Because of them, he could no longer go to Jerusalem to worship. He lived during this time in the land of Jordan and was miles away from Jerusalem, but he remembered how he used to lead the multitude in a procession to the temple with shouts of joy and thanksgiving (Psalm 42:4); now, the opportunity was no more. He longed to be reconnected to God; he thirsted after Him.

The psalmist compared himself to a deer panting for streams of water. The word "pant" here does not describe a mere thirst or just wanting a simple sip of water. The Hebrew word implies "an intense experience." The deer was desperate. The need was urgent. He was in extreme thirst. The drink of water was vital to his well-being.

This writer was yearning for God, the living God. It wasn't just a wishful thought or hope for a one-time occurrence. It was far deeper than that. It was a thirst that could not be satisfied any other way. It was necessary for his spiritual health.

Have you ever had such a deep desire for God like that? Perhaps you have, and it gradually faded away. God wants us to hunger and thirst for Him.

How can we develop this deep yearning for God? Simply start by making time for Bible reading and study. A daily devotional book can be inspiring, but it can't replace reading God's Word. Maintaining a regular prayer life, being faithful to church services and being involved in various church ministries are just a few ways to experience a rich and rewarding life.

Here are a few questions to ask yourself to determine if you are spiritually dehydrated and desperately need revitalization:

- Are you bored reading your Bible and claim it is too hard to understand?
- Does it bother you to miss going to the house of God habitually?
- Do you enjoy being with other believers?
- Is participating in the Lord's Supper important to you?
- Do you stay home when a missionary speaks at your church because you aren't interested in missions?

Indifference equals spiritual dryness. It will eventually affect you, giving you a deep longing to reconnect with God or making you slide back even further. God created us to hunger and thirst after Him. Life will never be fulfilling if we don't seek Him with all our hearts. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled" (Matt. 5:6). "Being filled" is no small thing with God. What an encouragement to stay connected to Him.

In Psalm 42:5-11, the writer suddenly began challenging himself as to why he was so downcast. He admonished himself to put his hope in God as there is no trouble so great that God cannot see you through it.

When we feel turmoil deep inside our souls and think maybe God has, indeed, forgotten us, we should also change the course of our thinking and say, "There is hope." God will always show Himself faithful on our behalf.

"You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water" (Psalm 63:1). May this be our constant prayer.



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Life in the Blood

“And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people. For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul. Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood” (Lev. 17:10-12).

Blood is the well-known fluid pumped by the heart all through the bodies of animals and humans. In this blood is the very essence of life, for without it, such life could not exist. The Bible has much to say about blood, and rightly so, for the very foundation of Christianity is centered in it. The word occurs over 400 times in the Bible, especially frequently in Leviticus, which deals with Hebrew worship and the way to holiness.

Blood contains the vital principle or essence of animals and humans. *“Flesh with the life thereof which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat” (Gen. 9:4).* Because of the sacredness of life, that energy which only God can give, the Israelites were restricted from eating the blood, or even the flesh from which the blood had not been carefully removed. That prohibition is at the basis of the Jewish usage, referred to as “Kosher,” which prevents the orthodox Jew from buying or eating meat that has not been slaughtered and drained of blood under the supervision of a rabbi.

Leviticus speaks of the blood nearly 100 times. The word is used often in chapter 17. In various offerings, except for the meal offering of chapter 2, the blood was to be sprinkled upon the altar, indicating the substitution of the victim’s blood for that of the sinner. The holy God demands holiness in mankind; therefore, *“the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23).* However, “God is love,” so, in His infinite wisdom, He has provided an escape for the sinner. God was pleased to accept the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in place of ours, but only on condition of our belief in Him. *“Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many...” (Heb. 9:28).* That could take place only once, so the Old Testament offerings were provided, not to take away sin but to point forward to the supreme sacrifice upon Calvary. The death of Christ was necessary to redeem fallen man, for *“...without the shedding of blood is no remission” (Heb. 9:22).*

Just as our blood is the substance of the physical body, the shed blood of Christ is the substance of the soul. We can sing with assurance that there is “Power in the Blood.”

From Our Missionaries

Misión Creciendo en Cristo (Growing in Christ), North Little Rock: Juan Carlos Posadas writes, “Sayra underwent surgery Monday. She has spent the week recovering and being cared for by the sisters and children of the church. They have brought her food, fruit and flowers and their visits have made the discomfort and pain less difficult for her. We are happy because we hope Sayra can greatly improve her quality of life with this operation. Please pray for her speedy recovery.”

“Our last event as part of our anniversary celebration was a piano concert. Johnny Hachem played the piano masterfully and shared his testimony with those in attendance. It was a time of good music,

and we learned a little about the Lebanese culture. Since music is a means of communication without cultural or language barriers, we enjoyed a harmonious and moving message. Several people from the community visited us. We hope they visit us again.

“This Sunday, we resumed the series of studies in Revelation. This time, we studied the vision of the little book based on chapter 10, exhorting the congregation to share the message of redemption our Lord has entrusted to us.”

Ebenezer, West Little Rock: Ruben Isturiz writes, “Last Sunday, we had a good time in our Celebration Service; for summer, we had a good attendance. Generally, our attendance is up and down in summer, with people going on vacation

and others coming back. We had an inspiring time and finished a series of sermons based on James.

“On Sunday, we had a coordinated schedule with the American church. We had a picnic after our church time. Our relationship with our mother church has always been excellent and, although they have objectives and goals that are different from ours, we sometimes work together. Every time we get to work together as one church of the Lord Jesus Christ, we do it with enthusiasm. This weekend, we saw a variety of cultures enjoying the fellowship.

“Keep praying for us. God answers prayers in His perfect timing. In the past, I have asked you to pray for couples in Ebenezer who live together and are not married. I pray they will all get married and build families that glorify God. Only God’s Spirit can bring conviction. Last week, I was approached by a couple with marriage plans for September. Pray all will go well, and this marriage will take place. Thank you for praying and supporting us. To God be the glory!”

Faith Chapel, Flippin: Johnny Shew writes, “We had another great week at Faith Chapel! Thank You, Lord, for the rain! Beryl gave us 4.6” overnight.

“We had an extremely busy but productive week. We had to make a round trip to Little Rock to take Mom and Karen to their eye doctor appointments. There are some concerns with each of them, and we would appreciate



Misión Gracia Soberana (Sovereign Grace), NWA joins with Cornerstone Baptist Church for Mission Day on July 14.

your prayers. But he is a very good doctor and Christian, so that helps. It makes a difference to me when you know your doctor knows the Great Physician.

“We got a lot done on the new building. The air conditioning is running, praise God! It sure makes a difference in working conditions. All our lights and suspended ceilings are installed. We talked to a flooring contractor and decided to have our concrete floors polished and stained. He can start the first week in August. Due to personnel issues, the plumber has been delayed. Hopefully, he will get to us this week, and we can get some water running. We think we are still on track to be in the main part of the building by late summer. We can hardly wait! Then we will get back to work on the classrooms, office and kitchen — my vote is for the kitchen first!

“Thank you again for your prayers and support. We couldn’t do this without them both.”

Faith Journey, Benton: Bryan Clay writes, “Faith Journey has had a busy week! This week, we visited several different locations to find a meeting place for worship on Sunday mornings. We have worship and Bible studies every Sunday night at The Cabin 3H in Benton, which is a blessing, but we also need to establish a Sunday morning meeting space. Please continue to pray for God’s guidance in this direction.

“We followed up our spiritual gifts survey that we completed at last week’s meeting by reviewing the results of each person’s survey. This week, I spent time graphing the results and enjoyed seeing where our people’s strengths shine. This week, we shared all these results as a group and discussed each spiritual gift and how it is used for God’s glory. This survey is not designed to tell you your spiritual gifts, but it is an inventory showing your strengths and weaknesses in each of God’s gifted areas.”

Misión Gracia Soberana (Sovereign Grace), NWA: Roberto Marcelletti writes, “This has been a

fantastic week, and the glory of God was manifested in a very special way. I was able to continue the training work with Franklin to join the leaders of our church, plus we were able to visit the Pereira family and pray for them. They are newcomers to the area and need guidance.

“On Sunday, the whole congregation celebrated the mission day at Cornerstone Baptist Church, our mother church, and we were also accompanied by Mike Hight, who helped with the translation. We were able to worship the Lord at the same time in the two languages. It was something beautiful! Then, we listened to the excellent message preached by Pastor Dana Williams.

“At the end of the service, the brothers of Cornerstone, as the good hosts they are, invited us all to eat a very good meal, and then they gathered for my ordination as a minister of the gospel. It was a very solemn ceremony where family, brothers, friends and guests listened to the testimonies of my spouse and me of how we met the Lord and He called me to serve Him.”

Epic Life, Pea Ridge: Jake McCandless writes, “Following one of the most exciting weeks in our Connection Groups, this week was quiet. Several of the families had set vacations for this week. We only had one of our groups meet. Under this method of ministry, family vacations take on a different role. It’s not just ‘missing church’ but a chance to work on your marriage and family. Amanda and I even took advantage of a training she had with school to get away for a couple of days.

“We have found, with us and all our coach families, that the strength of our marriages is vital when opening your home and pouring into others. It also often becomes the area that is challenged the most. Pray for all our coach families. They have committed to be missionaries in their neighborhoods, which puts a target on their backs for an attack from the enemy.”

El Faro #2 Hispanic Mission, Cabot/Jacksonville: Michael Hight writes, “We had a good week. I ministered to a family by taking them to the doctor and translating for them. This family has 13 people living in a 2-bedroom duplex. God bless them; I don’t know how they are doing it.

“I also traveled to Northwest Arkansas and interpreted both a worship service and an ordination service. Seeing the connection between Roberto’s mission, Sovereign Grace, and their sponsor, Cornerstone Baptist Church, was great.

“Pray for us as we plan to start services on Sept. 1. We put up signs and are working hard to meet people.”

BMA GLOBAL Christmas 2024

Purchase this keepsake ornament to help benefit the ministry of Missionary Care

BMA Global Christmas Ornament Available for Pre-Order

By Jonathan Montgomery, Director of Missionary Care • BMA Global

It's Christmas in July! The 2024 BMA Global Christmas ornament is now available for pre-order. The 2024 ornament highlights our ministry's impact in Central and South America, as Mexico and Brazil were the first two international mission

fields for the BMA. The ornament's design includes ribbons the colors of the flags of these two countries. "Merry Christmas" is shared in both Spanish and Portuguese, and the two flowers are the poinsettia, which originated in

Mexico, and the Christmas cactus, which originated in Brazil.

Your purchase of this keepsake ornament will help Missionary Care to continue investing in our missionary families by providing a way for BMA Global to offer counseling services, coaching for personal and ministry development and family conferences.

Visit bmamissions.org/missionarycare to place your ornament order. Ornaments cost \$25, and all pre-orders placed before Sept. 1 are eligible for free shipping. Ornaments will ship in Fall 2024.

Thanks for supporting our missionaries, BMA Global and Missionary Care!



Patsy Pool, 76 of Damascus, passed away July 10. She was a member of Sand Springs Baptist Church.

George Carroll Sherrod, 75 of Bauxite, passed away July 8. He was a member of Park Place Baptist Church in Bryant.

Clarence Wooldridge, 81 formerly of Pocahontas, passed away June 10. He was a member of Lakeside Baptist Church in Newport.



Bluff Springs, Rosston; July 20-23; Sun. 5 p.m., Mon.-Wed. 7 p.m.; Sun./Mon., Kenneth Bobo, evangelist; Tue./Wed., Damien Rogers, evangelist; Donnie Dillard, pastor.

Center Point, Nashville; Aug. 4-7; 6 p.m.; Alan Davis, evangelist; Jason Tipton, pastor.

County Line, Marvell; Aug. 4-7; Sun. 5:30 p.m., Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Todd Smith, evangelist.

Landmark, England; Aug. 4-7; Sun. 6 p.m., Mon.-Wed. 7 p.m.; Master's Voice singing, Ricky Capps, evangelist; David Inzer, pastor.

Center Grove, Cord; Aug. 5-9; 7 p.m.; Barry Anderson, pastor.

Faustina, Hampton; Aug. 26-

28; 7 p.m.; Jim Moss, evangelist; Gene Boyette, pastor.

Barney, Enola; Sept. 25-28; 6:30 p.m.; Sun.-Mon, Bill Goodwin, evangelist, Tues.-Wed., Verlon Wood, evangelist; Reagan Shearer, pastor.

First, St. Charles; Nov. 7-9; Luke Watson, evangelist; Wayne McLean, pastor.



Bethlehem, Greenbrier added three by baptism; Dr. Martin Jameson, pastor.

Calvary, Stamps gained one by letter; Kenneth Bobo, pastor.

Lakeside, Newport received two by letter; Jared Richardson, pastor.

Herman, Bono welcomed one by letter; Randy Stimach, pastor.

The Bridge, Mt. Home rejoices over three professions of faith; Hershel Conley, pastor.



Blooming Grove Church in Rector is in search of a bi-vocational pastor. For more information, contact Tim Barnum at (870) 335-8061, Roby Ward at (870) 476-7013 or Ben Isom at (870) 595-4499.

Old Bethel Baptist Church in Canton, Texas, is seeking a pastor. Resumes may be sent to OBBCResume@proton.me. For more information, contact Chris Cade at (903) 343-4953.

CAMP Joshua ARKANSAS

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SOAR 2024 Snapshots

The collage includes several photos: a group of people in prayer, three men speaking at a podium, a woman speaking, a band performing on stage, and a large crowd at a night event with a banner that reads 'YOU MOVED IN POWER THEN GOD MOVED IN POWER NOW'.