



CONCORD COVENANT

INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES UNITED IN FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION.



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CURRENT CBA OFFICE HOURS:

Please note that due to the Stay at Home Order, the Office is closed to visitors until further notice. However, if you have a ministry need or have associational business to attend, please call (573) 635-4832.

ALAN EARLS, INTERIM DOM
MONDAY | 8 AM – NOON
WEDNESDAY | 8 AM – NOON
FRIDAY | 8 AM – NOON

*ADDITIONAL AVAILABILITY BY APPOINTMENT

A WORD FROM OUR INTERIM DOM:

Dear Concord Baptist Association,

What an incredible few weeks we have experienced. In many ways our heads continue to spin. We are trying to understand what a pandemic is and how it can impact lives. I believe that we are beginning to find those definitions right now.

As Christians, we have been praying a lot. We are praying for the health of those struggling with COVID-19; praying for the virus to be eradicated; praying for emergency responders and medical staff; praying to reduce negative economic impacts that may ripple our families, friends, our churches, our community, nation and world; praying for the President, Congress, our governor, county executives and mayors; and praying that God may use this very difficult situation to bring revival to our land. As Christians, we know and realize that God is our fortress, refuge and strength. We must continue to trust our true living God.

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I shared with my congregation the truth of John 16:33 for our first Facebook Live-only worship on March 22. The scripture shares: **"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."** When we are "in" Jesus, we have His peace as well as His encouragement and because we are "in" Him when Jesus overcomes the world, we are overcomers as well. What a beautiful eternal promise to remember in these moments. When we are "in" Jesus we have peace and encouragement and a promise that we will overcome the troubles of the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The CBA wants to continue to support each pastor and church within our association, especially with the COVID-19 issues. The association recently received a release of funds from the Missouri Baptist Convention to help address the immediate needs of COVID-19. Last week, I sent a note to all pastors providing them an opportunity to make a request to put the funds into immediate use to help our hurting communities and to share the Good News of Jesus and the hope that God offers. We still have limited funds to distribute, so please let us know how we can assist your ministry. If God has revealed ways that your local congregation can minister with these additional funds, please let Alicia or myself know.

Thank you for serving the Lord with commitment and joy. The world needs to see the Bride of Christ for who we are. They are looking to us as Christians to help in their time of need. Thank you, CBA churches, for doing exactly that. Please continue to pray for and support your pastor. Please continue to phone and send notes to the members of your church who are especially vulnerable during these times; thank you for stepping out of the church to encourage your neighbors and your community; for picking up groceries or medication for those who should not get out; for providing meals to those in need. There is so much of Christ's love being shared we can't begin to list them. Thank you and please continue to serve your church and communities while adhering to the direction of properly washing hands, refraining from social gatherings of more than 10 people and keeping a 6-foot distance while in public.

God bless you. With an association of churches united, we are truly working together to fulfill the Great Commission. Stay safe and continue to honor, glorify and serve the Lord.

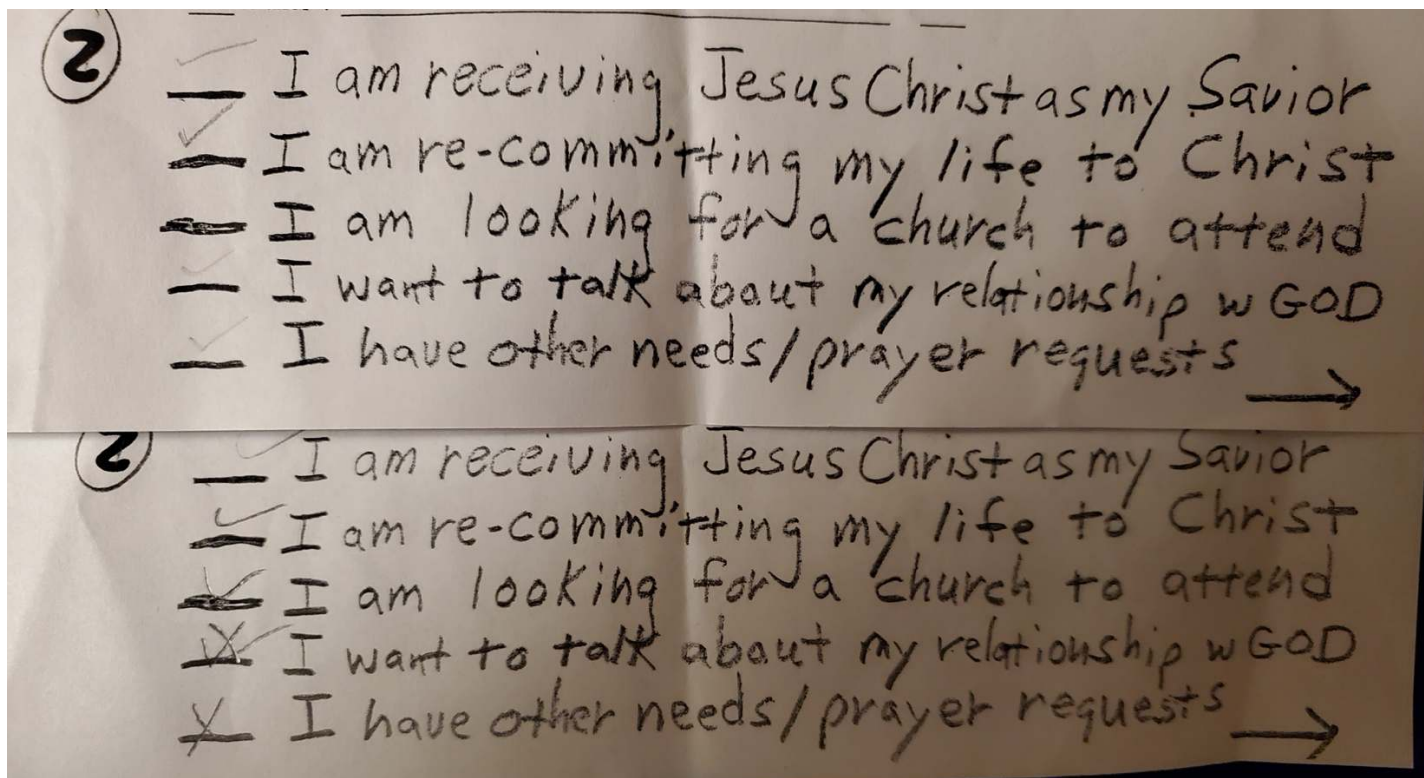
In Christ,
Bro. Alan
Rev. Alan R. Earls, Interim DOM
Concord Baptist Association
Email: alanearls@cbamo.org
Office Phone: 573-635-4832
Cell Phone: 573-338-8333

BCM UPDATE:

In late February, I attended the final home basketball game for the women and led a pre-game prayer and devotional. Thereafter, I led departing prayers for away competitions for the track, basketball, and softball teams.

Several individuals have volunteered to serve as chaplains. Jamere Brown, an old friend of mine, has volunteered to serve as chaplain of the track team. Steve Hogard, pastor of Hickory Hill Baptist Church, has begun as chaplain for the women's softball team.

On March 9th, we sponsored a Jamaican cuisine dinner for the track team and showed an evangelistic video afterward. Two young men indicated accepting Christ!



When the pandemic grew, all athletics and the campus were shut down. Of course, I have remained home, but we have reached out to students by the way of phone calls, messaging, email, and by providing food from our BCM pantry. This has been especially meaningful for our international students, helping them to not feel isolated since some are prohibited from returning to their home countries. We were able to help one young lady with food and funds to repair a tire to return home to Kansas City. I have a messaging list and will continue sending out encouraging words, bible verses, and inspirational links. I have been counseling people who have called me.

We are praying, as for all people. That God will bring good out of this crisis for this university community that we love, as hearts are reminded of what is ultimately important, and that many will come to Christ. We have sewn a lot of gospel seed...pray that as God continues to water, we will hear of many coming to the Lord!

David Phelps
BCM Coordinator



UPCOMING DATES

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, many events within our association have been either cancelled, modified, or are tentative, pending how the situation continues to unfold. We will continue to communicate additional information and changes as we learn more.

Pastor's Roundtables – will be held via ZOOM for the foreseeable future. Please contact Bro. Alan for login information, dates & times.

April Executive Council Meeting – originally scheduled for April 19th, has been cancelled.

Associational & State Bible Drill – the current, statewide plan is that churches will not be joining other churches for Associational or State Drills. Churches are to hold drills for their own students at a time when it is deemed safe to do so. This plan is subject to change, but we will keep you updated of those changes as we learn of them.

3MT Spaghetti Dinner & Auction – will no longer be held on April 18th. This event may be rescheduled for June, pending other 3MT Board decisions.

July Executive Council Meeting – scheduled for July 12th at 2 pm, will take place as scheduled at Enon Baptist Church.

Concord Builders – is still tentatively scheduled for July 6th-11th. This decision will be re-evaluated as the Concord Builders' Leadership monitors how the COVID-19 situation continues to unfold.

3MT – is still tentatively scheduled for July 11th-18th. This decision will be re-evaluated on April 25th, and more information will be forthcoming.

Children's Camp – is still tentatively scheduled for July 20th-24th. This decision will be re-evaluated as the Children's Camp team monitors how the COVID-19 situation continues to unfold.

The leadership teams of these events have many difficult decisions ahead of them as we head into the summer months. Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they make the difficult decision whether to keep, postpone, modify, or even cancel these important ministry events.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER MISSION INTERN

Due to the COVID-19 situation, we are still evaluating the impact on summer programs that we typically send our summer missionaries to assist with.

However, the Concord Baptist Association is still accepting applications for 1-2 Summer Mission Interns. You must be available for 10 weeks, June 1st-August 8th, 2020. Hours will vary according to need.

Duties will include working with CBA Churches in outreach events (VBS, Sports Crusaders, etc...), Children's Camp, missions projects, LU College Ministry, and other duties as assigned.

The application is available at cbamo.org. **The deadline for submitting applications has been extended to May 4th, 2020.**

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR...

OUR DOM SEARCH COMMITTEE & THE MAN
GOD IS PREPARING TO LEAD US

OUR INTERIM DOM, BRO. ALAN EARLS

THE BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

OUR CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS, THE
MEN LEADING IN THE INTERIM, & THE MEN
GOD IS PREPARING TO LEAD THEIR
CONGREGATIONS:

COLE SPRING (Interim Mike Donnell)

HIGH POINT (Interim Heber Mena)

JEFFERSON CITY BAPTIST

LUPUS (Interim Billy Bolden)

PRAIRIE HOME FBC

RUSSELLVILLE BAPTIST (Interim David Ford)

TIPTON

THE LEADERSHIP TEAMS WITHIN OUR
ASSOCIATION AS THEY MAKE IMPORTANT
DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR SUMMER MINISTRY
EVENTS:

3MT

CHILDREN'S CAMP

CONCORD BUILDERS

BIBLE DRILL

RESOURCES AVAILABLE



VBS MATERIALS

The Association has purchased the Director's, Pre-K, Kids Starter Kits, and Worship Rally Pack for the 2020 Lifeway VBS: Concrete & Cranes. It is available for churches to borrow, at no cost.

Requests will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Please email Alicia Amos at office@cbamo.org for questions or to request materials.



BLOCK PARTY TRAILER

If you are planning a summer outreach event, VBS celebration, etc...the CBA Block Party Trailer is available for churches to rent! It contains a bounce house, popcorn and snow cone machines, as well as a variety of games and evangelism tools.

Requests will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Please email Alicia Amos at office@cbamo.org for more information.

COVID-19 RESPONSE FUNDS

The Association has received a release of funds from the Missouri Baptist Convention to help assist CBA churches help address needs that have arisen from the COVID-19 pandemic, with the larger goal of reaching our communities with the love of Christ.

We have filled several requests already, but we still have some limited funds available. If we can partner with your church as you reach out to your community during this time, please contact Bro. Alan or Alicia as soon as possible. Please include the amount you are requesting, and the purpose you intend on using the funds.

We look forward to sharing the stories of how your church reached beyond the four walls of your building to share the hope of the gospel with your community during this time that seems to be dominated by fear and panic.