



CONCORD COVENANT

INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES UNITED IN FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION

SPECIAL PRAYER MEETING

Special Places Tour -
Stop#5 - Mount of Olives

When: Monday, June 28

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: Mt. Olive Baptist, Russellville

What: Coffee & Tea to discuss
World Prayer strategies.

Who should attend: Men & Women
of all ages who are interested in the
power of prayer!

WHAT'S

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OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY | 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
TUESDAY | 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
WEDNESDAY | 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
THURSDAY | 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
FRIDAY | 8:00 AM – NOON

ALAN EARLS, DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS
alanearls@cbamo.org
(573) 338-8333

ALICIA AMOS, MINISTRY ASSISTANT
office@cbamo.org
(573) 635-4832

You do not want to miss this year's Children's Camp – Join the Concord Baptist Association and the Heart of Missouri Baptist Association for a joint children's camp, to be held from July 18th-23rd at Camp Cedar Crest in Santa Fe, MO!

This camp is open to students who have completed 3rd-6th grades, and cost is \$80/student.

Registration is live until July 2nd, or until the camp is full. There are 150 spots available, and this is a joint camp, so don't wait! Once those spots fill, there will be a waiting list.

Closer to camp, you will receive a letter with any further instructions and a packing list. Registration and forms are located at cbamo.org under the Events tab.

We are also seeking volunteers to serve. If you or someone from your church is interested in joining us for this important children's ministry, we are in need of: counselors, teachers, recreation volunteers, cafeteria help and lifeguards. Registration and forms are also located at cbamo.org under the Events tab. If you need financial assistance, please check with your church.



If you have any questions, please contact Kari Sullivan at (573) 291-1313.

Come explore the true meaning of our theme verse -

Our God is a God who saves; from the Sovereign Lord comes escape from death. Psalm 68:20 NIV

A WORD FROM OUR DOM



Bro. Alan Earls, DOM
573-338-8333
alanearls@cbamo.org

Dear Concord Baptist Association,

A number of weeks ago I had the privilege of participating in a DOM conference. Leo Endel, the Executive Director of the Minnesota/Wisconsin Convention was able to attend and shared a brief session on "Synergy". The term synergy seems to be a popular word now days. It really is a simple word that defines a phenomenal solution to getting things done. Synergy simply means, according to the Oxford dictionary, "the interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations, substances, or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects." So what does that mean? I suggest we go back to the Bible. Ecclesiastes 4:9 tells us what synergy really is when it states, **"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."** It's a bit funny when fancy scientists invent fancy words that God already defined thousands of years ago. Synergy simply means that when you have two people working individually they can get what two individuals can get done. But when the two individuals work together, they don't just double their work.

Often times when people work together they can have a 10 fold increase of what they can do individually. That is the reason that we have an association. Individual churches can get a lot done for the Lord, but when they work together, it is astounding what God will do when we work together.

I am thankful for our churches when we work together and great things are accomplished for the Lord. This newsletter will provide a lot of insight on a number of missions projects. When one of our church's work on mission for the Lord, God will use them to accomplish a lot. But can you imagine when we choose to work together?

I had the privilege of attending the WOM meeting at Mt. Olive a week or so ago. I shared with them that the wives of the pastors in Montana work very hard in a challenging mission field. We discussed the importance of encouraging one another. There are roughly 180 churches in Montana and each one would be benefited by loving encouragement. The ladies of Mt. Olive are going to start by adopting two wives. The Mt. Olive Ladies are going to pray for them, send encourage packages to them, reach out to tell them they love them, to say they are thankful for what they are doing for the Lord and will walk beside them all these miles away, in prayer. Isn't that a beautiful partnership? The neat thing is the principle of Ecclesiastes 4 is in effect. Mt. Olive will touch two special ladies in Montana. What would happen if all the churches in the Concord Baptist Association would work together to encourage the servants of the Lord in Montana? When we come together God will use us to accomplish far more than what we can do on our own.

May God richly bless you as you prepare to seek the Lord and to build His kingdom and make disciples. And may we all be willing to do so through God's power and working together.

God Bless,

Bro. Alan

THE EARLS' FRONT PORCH

The Summer of '84

Hello, I am Paula, wife of your Director of Missions, Alan Earls. I will be sharing a little about us. So welcome to our porch. Summer time is here and what fun can be had! The memories made and shared while growing in the Lord! Today I think back all the way to memories of the summer of 1984.

You see it was a very special summer as I began serving the Lord fully and with everything in me! I had always prayed, read the Bible, helped with GA camps and vacation Bible Schools. But the summer of '84 I said goodbye to Kentucky for 12 weeks and hello to the inter-city of St. Louis, MO. WOW! What a difference a few hundred miles can make.

I was commissioned by the Missouri Baptist Convention to serve at Grace Baptist in North St. Louis. I had four partners from all over the United States and we lived at Fourth Baptist Church in St. Louis. Kind of a spooky old ran down, huge building in a not-so-good part of St. Louis. But we didn't care. We were there to serve the people and love the kids.

My first week on Summer Missions was exciting. We served hot lunches at the little church's store front and shared Jesus with the kids who came in to eat. In the evenings we had revival. The evangelist was good but that song leader...he was awesome!

We would go out for ice cream after revival each night. The song leader drove us around in his father's station wagon. He was really good to us. In fact one night we were outside playing with the neighborhood kids and he stopped in and just about came unglued because we had left the church doors unlocked and our purses in the church van. He kept saying "THIS IS THE CITY". You aren't in the country you have to use locks and common sense. We did as he said since he was such a good big brother looking after us and all. Little did I know how much he really cared.

The summer went on and we did several backyard Bible clubs and then we were headed to camp with kiddos who had never been out of the city. They loved it! Many had never stayed in a bunk house or swam in a pool. We had such a great week with them. Oh did I forget to mention the song leader went too. The song leader lead devotions and music at the campfires each night. Which later lead to many late-night talks after the campers were asleep.

When we returned to the city the song leader started driving his little two-seater pick up over in the evenings. So there wasn't room for everyone to go for ice cream, but always room for me. How special our friendship developed serving the Lord together – and yes you guessed it the song leader was your very own DOM, Alan Earls.

I met his family on the Fourth of July for a barbecue so I was pretty sure he liked me. That evening we worked at the St. Louis VP Fair giving away buttons and water bottles. It was a wonderful event plus it was under the St. Louis fireworks he kissed me for the first time so I knew for sure he liked me.

I returned to Western Kentucky University in late August and we began writing letters. Cell phones and the internet were non-existent. We would travel to my parent's home in Kentucky which was about half-way for both of us when I could get a weekend off from work. I cherished the times we saw each other, however, we both needed to continue our studies. Our long-distance relationship continued until 1986. I moved to an apartment in St. Louis and began working and we married in July.

Aren't memories fun! Alan and I have served the Lord together for over 37 years. We praise Him for bringing us together. Little did we know all He has had in store for us to include serving the churches of the Concord Baptist Association. One of my favorite verses regarding service is 1 Peter 4:10-11. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ... If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

Until we visit again, remember to make summer memories, but be on the look-out for how God is going to use your service for His Glory. Be certain to share your talents during VBS or camp or however God is calling you this summer.

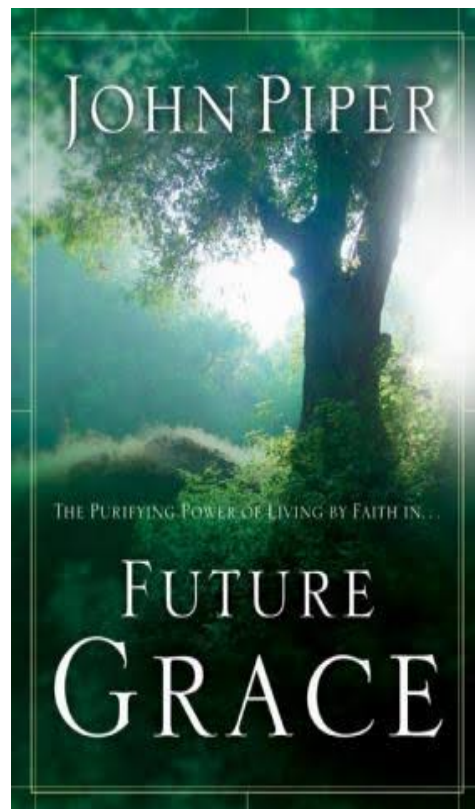
Blessings

Paula

FUTURE GRACE

BY JOHN PIPER

If you are looking for a casual, easy read on the subject of grace, this book is not the one you want. If you are looking for an in-depth study of grace and how it affects every area of our lives, then this is your book. John Piper gives us an in-depth look into the subject of grace. Be aware before you begin, however, this will not be a fast read, a lighthearted read, or a book you read while doing anything else. At the beginning, John Piper tells us he arranged the book into thirty-one short chapters for “thorough assimilation but also unrushed reflection.. raking is easy, but all you get is leaves; digging is hard, but you might find diamonds.” (Piper, 2020, p. 10). You will find, he is correct. This is not a book you hurry through. Piper begins with the premise that we, as believers, should be living our lives by faith in future grace. Then he goes on to explain what he means by future grace, what it is, what it is not. He expands to comparing future grace to every aspect of a believers walk with God. Essentially, Piper asks us to examine our mindset and our motivations. “The aim of this book is to fix in our minds this truth: the way to fight sin in our lives is to battle our bent toward unbelief. We are prone to drift away from a hearty confidence in who Christ is, what he has done for us, and all the promises that are sure because of Christ...The fulfillment of those promises, grounded in the work of Christ, is what I mean by future grace. This is the way we fight. Or to put it more positively, the way to pursue righteousness and love is to fight for faith in future grace. (Piper, 2020, p. 219). Piper encourages us, as believers to look ahead to the grace God provides us on a



moment-by-moment basis. He encourages us to not only seek God’s promises but to cling to them. We are reminded of God’s limitless grace available to us no matter the challenges we face. “God is not the God of some grace—like bygone grace. He is the God of “all grace” —including the infinite, inexhaustible stores of future grace” (Piper, 2020 p. 68).

There is a twelve session DVD available as well as an accompanying study guide for the DVD. While I have not looked at them, it occurs to me it might be beneficial to address this book as a group. There is certainly plenty of material for discussion.



This book review was submitted by Sarah Kennedy. Sarah is a member at Mt. Olive Baptist Church. If you have a book or study you are interested in having reviewed for your ladies group, please contact the CBA office (office@cbamo.org).

MISSIONS CORNER



I was able to spend the afternoon on May 11 with these incredible ladies from the Mt Olive Baptist WOM group. I had the privilege to share about my recent trip to Montana and possible partnerships between churches of CBA and churches from the Montana Baptist Convention. I am excited that these ladies will begin a special encouragement ministry to the wives of Montana pastors. They will be adopting two Pastor Wives from Montana. As we discussed the opportunity, they are excited to reach out to the special ladies of Montana to pray for them, send a love and encouraging package every few months, invite them to join their mission studies via zoom, send cards and letters, and so many other things. If your church is interested in joining Mt. Olive as Montana-Pastor wife encouragers there is plenty of Pastor Wives in Montana to adopt. Please contact me and I would be honored to share with your church as to how you can become involved in this exciting mission activity. Bro. Alan

How Can My Church Become Involved in A Partnership?

As you probably know your church has several mission opportunities within your own church and community, state, nation and world. The very first step is prayer followed by proper spiritual preparation and learning about the field for which you will be serving. We always encourage our churches to reach out and share the hope and salvation of Jesus within our own communities. If you have a community mission project for which you would like help, please let your sister churches know. They may very well feel led by the Lord to help you.

So how can you be praying about how God can use you on the mission field?

- Your Church's Community
- The Association
 - 3MT
 - Concord Builders
 - Children's Camp as a counselor, teacher and helper
 - VBS Team to help other CBA churches that maybe struggling with VBS staff
- State Wide Missions
 - Disaster Relief
- Out of State Partnerships eg; Minnesota; Wisconsin and Montana.
 - Your church could partner with a specific church in Montana
 - Schedule a week mission trip in Montana assisting and serving your partnering church
 - Invite your partnering church to come to Missouri and help your church for VBS or a special mission in your community.
 - Work with your partnering church to assist with a conference:
 - Men's Conference
 - Women's conference
 - Deacon's retreat
 - Leadership Conference
 - Your church could partner with other CBA churches to minister to Montana together.
 - Your church may develop a special team for Christian Sport's clinics or VBS/Backyard Bible Clubs
 - Partner with Vision 3:16 or The Abundant Journey
- International Missions
 - El Salvador
 - Ukraine
 - Mexico
 - Note if you do not possess a passport you will need to have one.
 - Please review the following MBC website to assist you in your preparations: <https://mobaptist.org/partnership-missions/>

ABC's of Salvation

Salvation means to be saved from something. Biblically salvation means to be saved from death. Below is a simple explanation of what this mean.

Acts 4:12 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

A - Admit

Admit what you have done wrong and ask forgiveness.

Romans 3:23 All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is death.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

B - Believe

Believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose again as a payment for your sins.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

C - Confess and Choose

Confess and choose to allow God to be in charge of your life

Matthew 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Romans 10:9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:13 Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

"That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." (Romans 10:9-10)

"for, Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

If God has drawn you to Himself and you are ready to accept Jesus as Lord and the love He offers; say and mean the following prayer:

Dear God, I know I'm a sinner. Please forgive me of my sins. I turn from sin and turn to Jesus. I believe that Jesus is God the Son who died and shed His blood on the cross for the payment of my sins, was buried and that He rose from the grave three days later. Father, I want Jesus to come into my life. I want Jesus to be my boss and Lord. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus name, Amen.

MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES FOR CBA CHURCHES

Mission Opportunities in North America:

The Concord Baptist Association is prayerfully considering possible Missions partnerships between CBA churches with churches in Minnesota/Wisconsin and Montana. If you or your church is interested in traveling to these states and participating in a Vision trip to explore a church partnership, please contact Alicia at office@cbamo.org or Bro. Alan at alaneails@cbamo.org

Mission Trip to El Salvador:

The Concord Baptist Association is exploring another mission trip to El Salvador. The specific date, time and specific mission is still being considered. If you feel God calling you to a short term inter-national mission trip, please pray and seek God's guidance to determine if this trip is for you. We will be sharing more information as it becomes available. In addition to your calling and spiritual preparation, one of the first steps is to check your passport to ensure that it has not expired. If you have never received a passport, please follow the following link: <https://www.usa.gov/passport>

PARTNERSHIPS WITH MONTANA

Bro. Alan has returned from Montana full of ideas of ways Concord Baptist Associational churches can assist and partner with Montana Baptist.

There is a **CBA Vision Trip** being planned for **August 15, 2021 - August 21, 2021.**

If you or your church is interested in joining us for this partnership exploration, please notify Bro. Alan as soon as possible at alaneails@cba.org.

Service Opportunities

International Mission Trip - Vision 3:16:

Vision 3:16 is international again! In June 2021 we will be going to Mexico to do an eyeglass clinic. We will be working in the state of Oaxaca with Elida and Ubaldo, our mission partners.

The cost of the trip is approximately \$1,500 and we leave **on June 14 returning on June 20**. Obviously, you need to have a passport. If you are interested in the trip, contact Larry Merry with your email, text or phone. He may be reached at (573) 619-0013. We will need to hear from you soon because we will be purchasing airline tickets as soon as possible.

Missouri Baptist Children's Home:

Is your church looking for a mission project or developing an on-going ministry that will make a huge difference in the Kingdom of God and in the lives of children and hurting people? Please consider exploring a partnership, mission or ministry with the Missouri Baptist Children's Home.

For more information on the Missouri Baptist Children's Home or how you can become involved, please visit:

<https://www.mbch.org/common/downloads/public/pub00307.pdf>

<https://www.mbch.org/index>

The Missouri Baptist Children's Home and its affiliates are making a lasting difference in the lives of children, youth and families. If you are interested in hosting an official representative to speak at your church, please contact Kenny Vawter, Regional Representative at (573) 241-1113 or Kenny.Vawter@MBCH.org

FUTURE MINISTRY PROJECTS

Enon Baptist Church:

A month or so ago Enon Baptist Church's water pipes froze and busted. They have been working very hard to address the matter. The Association reached out to them soon after the incident and offered to assist. They were very appreciative but were able to work on the plumbing issues on their own. Now that the plumbing repairs are coming to an end, they have shared that they could use some help with replacing the flooring. Enon is currently working to determine when they will be ready and the full scope of what will be done. I wanted to share this information with you, so members from your church may be aware of an opportunity in the near future to volunteer to help our sister church in Enon. As soon as I receive the information from Enon, I will pass it along.

One in Christ Baptist Church:

Many churches have asked how they can assist our Sister Church One in Christ Baptist Church. They have been working on their own to initiate repairs. They are aware that the association is still willing to help. I am in hopes that we will be able to schedule an association workday in the future.

Bless Every Home:

Some of you may remember Dr. Phil Hunter. Dr. Hunter served as the Evangelism Director for the Missouri Baptist Convention in the 1980's. He lives out of state but called me recently to share about a ministry entitled *Bless Every Home*. Perhaps you have heard about it or you and your church are participants. *Bless Every Home* is an opportunity for individual members of your church to register as "lights". Once registered they will receive an email each day of 5 neighbors in their own neighborhood. They will be asked to lift those specific families up in prayer. The hope and prayer is for revival and that those unsaved families in your neighborhood will be prayed for, find opportunities to build relationships with them, share Jesus and work with them to become disciples. You can learn more from their website: <https://blesseveryhome.com/> I hope to work with Phil and the man that God used to create this ministry, Chris Cooper. As I learn more, I will share with you. Please pray and if you have questions, please contact me and we will discover the answers together. This could be a wonderful follow-up to "Who's Your One". If you are not aware of the "Who's Your One" campaign, please let me know and I would be glad to share more. It is exciting to be workers with God to share the Gospel of Jesus. *Bless Every Home* and *Who's Your One* are two great resources to "make Disciples..."



UPCOMING DATES

Revelation Bible Study – Join us at the CBA office on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 am to noon as we study the book of Revelations. The cost of \$20 is to cover the printed materials.

Pastor Roundtable – The next Roundtable will be held on Tuesday, June 15th at 12:00 p.m. A light lunch will be provided, so please let us know in advance if you plan to attend.

Newsletter Deadline – If you have an item you wish to have in the June issue, please send it to office@cbamo.org no later than Monday, June 21st.

First Baptist Prairie Home Celebration - Sunday, June 27th. See page 10 for more information.

Special Places Tour - Stop #5 - Monday, June 28th. World Prayer Strategy meeting at Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR...

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

- CENTERTOWN (Interim Shawn Higgins)
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ELSTON
- FIRST BAPTIST JEFFERSON CITY
- LUPUS (Interim Billy Bolden)
- MT. OLIVE (Interim Alex Earls)
- MT. PLEASANT-CLARKSBURG (Interim Frank Whitney)

SUMMER ACTIVITIES -
THOSE ORGANIZING THEM AND LIVES TOUCHED

- 3MT
- CONCORD BUILDERS
- CHILDREN'S CAMP
- VBS' THROUGHOUT OUR ASSOCIATION

Pastor Changes in the Association

New Pastors

High Point - Heber Mena

Enon Baptist - Randy Trumbo

Retiring Pastors

Please join me in congratulating Pastor Verlyn Bergen, First Baptist Church Elston, on his upcoming retirement July 1, 2021

2021 SUMMER ACTIVITIES AND MINISTRIES

Mid Missouri Missions Team – 3MT will be held from June 27th-July 1st. This local mission week is open to students who have completed the 6th grade and older. This year, youth groups and churches are asked to serve their own towns/surrounding area. We will not be staying overnight or having meals at the school. However, there will still be an evening worship service at 7:00 pm, hosted by California First Baptist Church, which all participating groups are asked to attend. Virtual options will be available for groups who don't wish to travel. Instructions for Host Churches, deadlines and all forms are available for download at 3mt.org. Cost is \$75/student.

Be sure that you are following "3MT- Mid Missouri Missions Team" on Facebook so you won't miss any updates from the 3MT Board.

Concord Builders Team – Concord Builders are headed to Fortuna for its annual mission trip July 12th-16th. This team does a variety of construction projects around the area and state. No experience necessary! The only requirement is you must be 12 years or older (minors must attend with a sponsor) and you come with a servant's heart. Cost is \$40/participant and \$8/t-shirt. Work begins Monday morning. The project is an addition to a current building which includes a multi-purpose room plus two story rooms on both ends. The assignment will mainly be installing drywall, mudding and taping, possibly installing some insulation. Meals will be prepared and served on site. First meal is at 7a.m. on Monday. Three meals plus snacks will be served. Childcare will be available as details are worked out. The Deadline to register is June 15. Forms will be available on cbamo.org under the Events tab. Contact Lucy Engelbrecht (lengel0625@gmail.com) for more details.

Children's Camp – Join the Concord Baptist Association and the Heart of Missouri Baptist Association for a joint children's camp, to be held from July 18th-23rd at Camp Cedar Crest in Santa Fe, MO! This camp is open to students who have completed 3rd-6th grades, and cost is \$80/student.

Registration is live until July 2nd, or until the camp is full. There are 150 spots available, and this is a joint camp, so don't wait! Once those spots fill, there will be a waiting list. Closer to camp, you will receive a letter with any further instructions and a packing list. Registration and forms are located at cbamo.org under the Events tab.

OPEN MINISTRY POSITIONS

FULL/BIVOCATIONAL PASTOR

Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Russellville, MO is searching for a pastor. Candidates should be Southern Baptist by conviction and biblically based. This can be a full-time or a bi-vocational position in a small, mid-Missouri town. Resumes are now being received by the Pastor Search Committee by email: mtolive-russellville@outlook.com or by mail: Pastor Search Committee, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, P.O. Box 416, Russellville, MO 65074

PART-TIME YOUTH DIRECTOR

Corticelli Baptist Church, Russellville, MO, is seeking a part-time youth director. Approximately 15-20 hours a week. \$15,000 per year. Job description can be seen at corticelli.org or call the pastor at (573) 680-0192. Please send resumé to rwseaton@embarqmail.com

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Electric Organ

Pisgah Baptist Church has an electric organ available. It is in need of a few minor repairs but is in working condition. For more information, please contact the church at (573) 680-2395.

VBS Materials

Summer is here! Traditionally, the association orders a VBS kit which is available to churches to borrow. If this is something your church would be interested in, please email Alicia Amos at office@cbamo.org as soon as you know your dates to reserve the kit.

Block Party Trailer

If you are planning a summer outreach event, VBS celebration, etc...the CBA Block Party Trailer is available for churches! 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.

CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations First Baptist Church of Prairie Home 125 years of Service & Going Strong

The First Baptist Church of Prairie Home will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary as a church congregation & 100th Anniversary of the dedication of the present church, on Sunday, June 27th, 2021 with 10:30—Worship Service, 12 p.m.—Catered Lunch, (RSVP would be appreciated but not required to Kathy Alpers—660-621-4405 or email: deaconkat1957@gmail.com), 1:30—Rededication Service of Church!

A little history of First Baptist Church Prairie Home

The first church was dedicated the second Sunday of May, 1896, A lot on the west side of the village of Prairie Home was purchased from Dr. S.M. Teel, himself a Baptist. In 1920 a \$35,000 building, perhaps the most spacious rural church in the state, was made possible to meet its growing needs. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hornbeck donated the lot on the village Main Street and plans went forward. The building was dedicated on June 16, 1921, the Rev. S. M. Brown of Kansas City, preaching the dedicatory sermon, with other sermons preached in the basement and on the grounds to the overflow crowd who came from far and near to attend.

Other interesting facts:

The salaries of the pastors for the 1st years were between \$150-\$250 per year

Until 1912 baptisms were held in local streams.

In 1915 electric lights were installed in the old church.

In March, April, May of 1935 there were no business meetings held because of the spinal meningitis epidemic.

Some pews and the pulpit from the 1896 church are now in the basement.

In 1936 they held the first daily Vacation Bible School which was 4 weeks long.

In 1936 there were 377 members half of those being nonresidential

The address of the church is 418 Main Street, Prairie Home MO 65068

Pastor Shawn Dumsday is the current pastor. There have been approximately 34 pastors over the 125 years.

For the Church Institute through Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

The CBA office is excited to introduce you to a new initiative from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (MBTS). It is called For the Church Institute or FTC Institute. MBTS through FTC Institute is offering free online courses for who may be seeking theological education. These courses are **offered free of charge to anyone within your church that is interested in theological education but is not necessarily after a degree or paying a lot of money.** You are encouraged to click on the link below and see what you think. It is possible for you to offer these courses within your church. The 10-week lesson plans are all online and there is no additional requirement to purchase any additional resources. For the Church Institute is part of Midwestern's core value to serve the church. You do not receive seminary credit, however, upon completion of the course you do receive a certificate and are eligible for Continuing Education Credit, if any of your licensures would require CEU's. Some of you may have your seminary degree and want to have a refresher; some of you may not have had an opportunity to attend Seminary; some of you are mentoring those called to the ministry and could use these courses in organized mentorship; some of you are seeking to work on leadership development for your church lay leaders and will find this opportunity to greatly help them enhance their Biblical understanding. It is great for Sunday School teachers, small group leaders, pastoral staff, and anyone that desires and needs the training. Oh, and did I mention it is FREE, it is provided to the churches by Midwestern Seminary because their mission is to serve the CHURCH! For more information, please visit <https://ftcinstitute.squarespace.com/>

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

The Concord Baptist Association is proud to announce a new partnership with Still Waters Counseling, LLC. Still Waters Counseling provides Christian counseling through a Licensed Professional Counselor in the Jefferson City area. Rhonda Myers, MA, LPC is now available to pastors and churches throughout our association. She currently offers Christian Counseling at the Concord Baptist Association office on Friday mornings. If you are aware of anyone in need of Christian counseling, please contact Rhonda Myers by cell phone at (573) 680-3718 or email for an appointment at stillwaterscounselingmo@gmail.com

James 1:20 ...human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires....

In the previous article, I reviewed the "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" - communication types that show up in marriage when the end is near! The Horsemen are criticism, contempt, defensiveness, and stonewalling. A relationship where these four are present in abundance is certainly in trouble, but there is hope. We'll talk about how to stop them one Horseman at a time over the next few articles.

Criticism is an attack on who your partner is, not what they did. Critical statements often begin "You always..." or "You never...". For example, Jill might say to Jack "You're so lazy, you never help out around the house!" This is describing the problem as if it was something wrong with the partner's character.

When we talk like this, we're usually angry. James 1:20 tells us this kind of anger doesn't produce the kind of upright living God desires for us. If we reflect on our critical words and their results, we see the truth of that verse. Our critical words might make us feel better briefly, but they damage our relationships.

While criticism is not good for the relationship, neither is not saying anything when our partner does something that frustrates or angers us. So what do we do? A gentle startup is a great way to effectively communicate the problem you have (complaint) without attacking (criticism). What does a gentle startup look like? We'll talk about that next time!

This article was submitted by Scott Wegman, M.A. Professional Counseling. He does public speaking on mental health issues related to faith. If you are interested please contact him via email: gcc.taylor.mo@gmail.com

