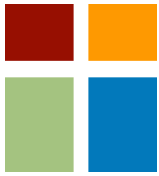


NOVEMBER 2021



# CONCORD COVENANT

INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES UNITED IN FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION.



*Give Thanks to the Lord,*  
for He is good.

## *What's in This Issue:*

DOM | 2  
ANNUAL MEETING | 2  
EARLS' FRONT PORCH | 3  
BOOK REVIEW | 4  
MISSIONS PARTNERSHIPS | 4  
CALENDAR | 6  
CHURCH NEWS | 7  
RESOURCES | 7

## *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

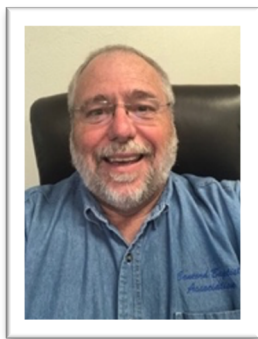
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# A Word from Bro. Alan:



Dear CBA Churches,

As Christian Americans the month of November always moves our hearts to Thanksgiving. Psalm 100 reminds of the importance of being grateful, thankful and praising:

*"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."* (Psalm 100:1-5, ESV)

So if Psalm 100 is the litmus test for our heart of Thanksgiving to the Lord, how are we doing?

1. Do you serve and worship God with gladness?
2. Do you truly know and believe that God is good?
3. Do you recognize that God has made us, we are His people and are shepherded by Him?
4. Are our hearts lifted up in praise when we are in His presence?
5. Do you know that God is good?
6. Do you know His love endures forever?
7. Do you know that He is faithful not only to us but for future generations too?
8. Do you know that His true love is found in salvation through Jesus?

When you look at the truths of God, our hearts are thankful, and we can rejoice. It is only at the times that we take our eyes and focus off the Lord that we begin to lose our hearts of thanksgiving. When we become consumed with things other than God, like economy; like politics; like our jobs; like earthly possessions, we miss the truths of Psalm 100. So, this thanksgiving season don't let the challenges and problems of this world steal away the truths that the true living God, who is all powerful and all knowing, is our God and we are His people. Won't we all be thankful for what God has given us...Salvation through Jesus Christ, the Son of God!

God Bless and Happy Thanksgiving,  
Bro. Alan

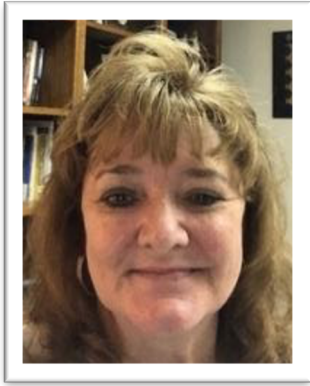
## Annual Meeting Recap

This year's annual meeting was hosted by Freshwater on October 10<sup>th</sup>. More detailed minutes from the meeting are available upon request, as always, but we just wanted to give you a brief recap of a few of the highlights from the meeting. First, a *huge* thank you to Freshwater for graciously hosting our Annual Meeting, for their worship team leading us in a wonderful time of worship and kindly providing dessert during our break. We are very appreciative of their generous hospitality! We also want to thank Bro. Monte Shinkle for bringing the message!

We had several visiting agencies bring reports of their ministries, including WMU, The Baptist Home of Ashland, the Missouri Baptist Children's Home, Deaf Youth Camp, and Stillwaters Counseling. We also heard reports from our Councils and Teams, detailing what they have been up to this past year, such as the Men & Boys Wild Game Supper, the Men's Conference, Children's Camp, etc...as well as plans for the coming year! Both the councils would like to see our association's women be able to come together in similar ways that the men have, and dates will be announced soon for the Preaching Conference. They will also be sending out a survey soon to assess the needs of our churches to see how the councils can be more effective.

We approved the 2022 Budget, and the new officers. A number of other decisions were made, to include the addition/return of Fortuna Baptist Church to our association! We are excited to welcome them back, and to see the Lord work through our partnership. The decision was also made to deed the Concord Baptist Association Building back to the Missouri Baptist Convention, who will be renovating the space for the purpose of enhancing collegiate ministry. The CBA Baptist Student Ministry will return to the building once the renovations are complete, but the CBA office will be moving to the MBC building. More details will follow, but if you have additional questions regarding this decision, please contact Bro. Alan.

# The Earls' Front Porch:



Hello, I am Paula, wife of your Director of Missions, Alan Earls. I enjoy sharing a little about us, so welcome to our porch.

I'm always reading the most delicious and amazing recipes for the Thanksgiving holiday with the best of intentions for trying new recipes. Each year I begin planning the menu by reviewing the recipes I've saved on Pinterest or bookmarked in magazines. However, I seem to end up with the same menu from previous years. I tend to stick with the tried-and-true recipes that have been passed down from my Grannies and Mama to me. I am so grateful for them.

I think a simple reason for staying with the family recipes, they are delicious, but more importantly they remind me of treasured memories from my childhood. Thanksgiving holidays spent back home with my cousins, Aunts, and Uncles. A home full of family, laughter, and thanksgiving. I am so grateful for those memories.

As I reflect on the memories of Thanksgiving, I'm often preparing for our sons to arrive with their families. Cleaning, shopping, organizing, and planning as I anticipate (rather excitedly) their arrival. I'm thankful each year because I know I get to make memories with their families. It's important to pass down traditions to my family in hopes they will cherish the memories with their own families. I enjoy creating special holiday traditions for our sons. I am grateful for them.

So, with much thankfulness, I'd like to share a few of my favorite staple ingredients for gratefulness. Just blended together to create a heart (and home) full of gratitude for the holiday and every day!

**Blessings** - Take a moment to reflect on the many blessings in your life. I am blessed and thankful for my faith, my family, my friends, my health, the roof over my head, and the food on my table. James 1:17 "All generous giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or the slightest hint of change."

**Acceptance** - Be accepting of one another. Let's not place undue expectations or judgment on family, friends, or acquaintances. Romans 14:1-4, "If there is someone whose faith is weak, be kind and receive him. Do not argue about what he thinks. One man believes he may eat everything. Another man with weak faith eats only vegetables. The man who eats everything should not think he is better than the one who eats only vegetables. The man who eats only vegetables should not say the other man is wrong, because God has received him. Who are you to tell another person's servant if he is right or wrong? It is to his owner that he does good or bad. The Lord is able to help him."

**Love** - Give love to everyone. We all need love – we all desire to love and be loved so show the love daily. Romans 12:10 "Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honoring each other."

**Thankfulness** - Give thanks to God in every situation to express unshakable faith in His word because God is faithful and true. Hebrews 12:28 "So since we are receiving an unshakable kingdom, let us give thanks, and through this let us offer worship pleasing to God in devotion and awe."

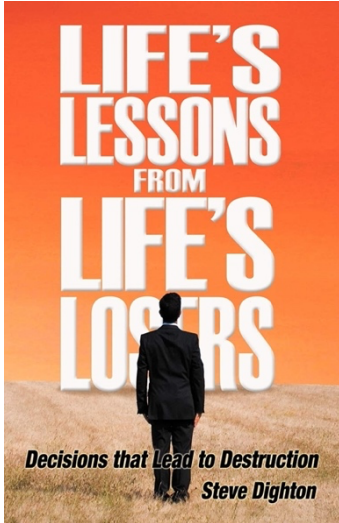
How about you? Is there something you are especially grateful for this year? Do you have a recipe for gratefulness? Let's be grateful together this Thanksgiving season and spread the cheer – share your recipe for gratitude with your church family!

Blessings,

*Paula*

# Book Review:

## Life's Lessons from Life's Losers: Decisions That Lead to Destruction by Steve Dighton



No one wants to be known as a loser. Losers are reviled, avoided, and scorned. Steve Dighton tells us in his preface, "While we like to think of ourselves as winners the truth is few of us win and none of us win all the time. But everyone knows the disappointment and the heartache of losing." (Dighton 2012, p.ix).

In this book, Steve Dighton takes a look at a few of the losers mentioned in scripture. Some are easily recognizable, Cain, Goliath, Judas, and others are more obscure, Doeg, Nadab and Abihu. Dighton addresses twelve 'losers,' their stories, and the lessons they teach us. The common factor is they each chose their way over God's way.

In looking at these individuals as examples, "...we are seeking to learn some positive truths from a negative example that will motivate us...", (Dighton 2012, p.14). The author takes a look at disobedience and compromise, bitterness and jealousy, greed and covetousness, and hypocrisy. In each character, we find a lack of faith in God as each one chose sin and rebellion over worship and devotion to God and God's commands.

I found this book on a table of free books someone had set out in the lobby of the Baptist Building in Jefferson City. I was immediately intrigued by its title, and I have to admit my first thought was 'what could we possibly have to learn from a loser?' Dighton shows there is actually quite a bit! This book is copyrighted 2012, however, it is still available in hard copy from [christianbook.com](http://christianbook.com) and Amazon. Each chapter and the 'loser' addressed provides not only plenty of food for thought but would generate good discussion in a small group setting.



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](mailto:office@cbamo.org)).

## Missions & Partnerships For Your Church

### *Opportunities in Montana:*

Bro. Alan will be leading a CBA Vision Trip to Montana. If you or your church is interested in joining us for this partnership exploration, please notify Bro. Alan at [alanearls@cbamo.org](mailto:alanearls@cbamo.org)

### *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](mailto:Kenny.Vawter@MBCH.org)

## Partner in Prayer

**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS, THE MINISTER LEADING IN THE INTERIM, & THE MINISTER GOD IS PREPARING TO LEAD THEIR CONGREGATIONS:**

CENTERTOWN (Interim Shawn Higgins)  
CORTICELLI  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ELSTON  
FIRST BAPTIST JEFFERSON CITY (Interim Dr. Keith Herron)  
FRESHWATER  
LUPUS  
MT. OLIVE (Interim Alex Earls)  
MT. PLEASANT, CLARKSBURG

**PRAY FOR CLINT, OUR NEW BCM MINISTER, AS HE HEALS FROM HIS ACCIDENT AND BEGINS MINISTERING TO THE STUDENTS OF LINCOLN UNIVERSITY**

## SHARING JESUS

*Have you accepted Jesus as the Lord and boss of your life? If not, would you like to? Why is salvation so important?*

The Bible tells us that all people have a sin problem:

***For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God*** Romans 3:23

Those sins have consequences:

***For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*** Romans 6:23

God provides us with the solution:

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

***Everyone who call on the name of the Lord will be saved.*** Romans 10:13

***For by Grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one can boast.*** Ephesians 2:8-9

The Truth of the Bible reveals:

***He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.*** I John 5:12-13

If you desire to come to receive eternal life and to the joy of a relationship with Jesus and you don't know what to pray, pray and mean the following: *Dear God, I know I am a sinner. I want to turn from sin and turn to Jesus. I believe that Jesus is your son. I believe that He died for my sins, was buried, and rose to life from the grave. I want Jesus to come into my life as my Lord and Savior. I want to follow Christ from this day forward. Thank you, God, for saving me. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.*



# Upcoming Dates

## NOVEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Revelation Bible Study @ 10 am	10	11	12	13
14 Monte Shinkle Retirement Celebration @ 3pm, Concord Baptist	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 Revelation Bible Study @ 10 am Council Transition Mtg. @6:30 pm	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Revelation Bible Study @ 10 am Pastor's RT @ noon	24 CBA Office closes at noon	25 Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving!	26 Office Closed	27
28	29	30				
IMB WEEK OF PRAYER AND LOTTIE MOON OFFERING EMPHASIS NOVEMBER 28 – DECEMBER 5						

**Pastor's Roundtable** – The November Pastor's Roundtable is scheduled for November 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon. A light lunch will be served, so please RSVP if you are able – this helps us plan.

**Newsletter Deadline** – If you have an item you wish to have in the December issue, please send it to [office@cbamo.org](mailto:office@cbamo.org) no later than Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Council & Teams Transitional Meeting** – We will be having a transitional meeting at 6:30 pm on November 16<sup>th</sup> for current/rotating-off/new members of our councils and teams. We will meet in the Gold Room at the MBC Building. If this date is a conflict for you, please let us know! We would also appreciate it if you could RSVP by Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, as we are planning to provide dinner for you.

**Office Closed** – The CBA office will be closing at noon on Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will reopen at 8 am on Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

**IMB Week of Prayer and Lottie Moon Offering Emphasis** – starts Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and ends Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Information and resources can be found at [imb.org](http://imb.org)

## Church News:

**Monte Shinkle Retirement Celebration** – Concord Baptist Church would like to invite you to join them in celebrating Bro. Monte and his wife Betty's 30 years of service to their church. They are holding a special celebratory service on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm.

**MOPS/MOMSnex**t – Concord Baptist Church's combined MOPS/MOMSnex group is open to mothers of infants through school-aged children. At a meeting, you can expect a safe and warm place to leave your children while you come and nurture your spirit along with other moms like you. You will hear great speakers and get to discuss relevant issues with other moms in small discussion groups while enjoying snacks and fellowship. MOPS/MOMSnex of Concord meets at Concord Baptist Church every second and fourth Wednesday September through May. Learn more at [concordjc.org/MOPS](http://concordjc.org/MOPS)

**"Cradle to the Cross" Drive-through Musical Nativity** – Corticelli Baptist Church (Russellville) would like to invite you and your church to their annual Drive-through Nativity. It will be a musical this year! It will be open Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm. No reservations required.

## Available Resources:

### 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. An information packet, which includes the reservation form, is available for download at <https://cbamo.org/concord-baptist-association-block-party-trailer/> when you input your contact information and the date you are hoping to reserve the trailer. You may also contact Alicia Amos directly at [office@cbamo.org](mailto:office@cbamo.org)

### 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. You do not receive seminary credit, however, upon completion of the course you do receive a certificate and are eligible for Continuing Education Credit. For more information, please visit <https://ftcinstitute.squarespace.com/>



### Christian Counseling Available

The Concord Baptist Association has an ongoing partnership with Still Waters Counseling, LLC. Still Waters Counseling provides Christian counseling in the Jefferson City area. Rhonda Myers, MA, LPC is 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](mailto:stillwaterscounselingmo@gmail.com)