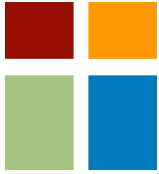


DECEMBER 2021



CONCORD COVENANT

INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES UNITED IN FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION.

SHE WILL BRING FORTH A SON
AND YOU WILL CALL HIS NAME
Jesus FOR HE WILL *save His people*
FROM THEIR SINS.

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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

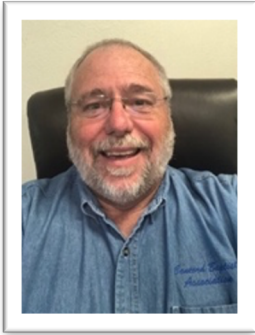
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A Word from Bro. Alan:



Dear CBA Churches,

I hope you have rejoiced in the Blessings with Thanksgiving to the Lord as we fast move from Thanksgiving celebrations in November and move toward celebrating the Birth of Our Savior in December.

I am reminded of the beautiful account of the birth of Jesus found in Luke Chapter 2. Below is just a small but powerful excerpt....

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:8-11

Lowly Shepherds, often considered outcasts of society, but the first to hear of the hope for the World. Can you imagine the moment? The Glory of the Lord illuminated the darkness of night to reveal the incredible news. That is amazing. It wasn't simply a light. It was the glory of the Lord that shone around them. The light of the Lord continues to be powerful today. For the Glory of the Lord illuminates the darkness of sin to allow us to repent and turn away from missing the mark of God's perfect will that is called sin. God has provided us this truth so we may receive the hope of the Messiah who died on the cross for our sins, was buried and rose from the grave three days later.

The truth of this scripture makes a lot of sense. There is no reason to fear when God reveals His Glory. We have received good news and great joy. We have received a Savior!

May you and your family enjoy the incredible joy of a personal savior. The true living Messiah that was prophesied and for whom we recognize, is Christ Jesus our Lord! What joy. What Peace. What celebration.

Merry Christmas churches and God's blessings be with you.

In Christ,
Bro. Alan

We are **MOVING!**



New Location:
As of December 7th, we will be located on the 3RD floor of the Baptist Building at 400 East High Street, Jefferson City.

Our new mailing address and phone number will be shared soon!

Church Spotlight:

Cole Spring Baptist Church



Courtesy/Jeremy P. Amick Located near Russellville at the junction of state Route V and Mount Olive Road, Cole Spring Baptist Church has a legacy dating back to 1835. It has not only ministered to several generations but helped establish four other Baptist churches in the area.

In 1831, the pioneering families of Enoch Enloe Sr. and Lamon Short decided to settle near the area that eventually became Russellville after a wheel on one of their covered wagons broke. Four years later, several families gathered on a nearby farm to establish the first church in the community. The Baptist congregation later moved to an area known as Belleville and helped establish several churches in the area.

A handwritten church record notes that on June 27, 1835, local settlers met to formalize the formation of a congregation that would initially be known as Cold Spring Baptist Church, receiving its name from a spring in the area. The record states, "Agreeable to a previous appointment, a number met at Brother (Jacob) Sawders for the purpose of entering into a church covenant. As we believe that the scriptures plainly hold to view that prosperity of God's people living together in a church covenant, by giving ourselves to each other and the Lord. "It was at this meeting that 15 "Articles of Faith" and 12

"Rules of Decorum" were adopted for the fledgling church, and signed by John A. Langdon, Levi Roark, James Marcy, William Small and Louis Shelton.

In an article written by Bruce Murphy and published in the Russellville News on Nov. 2, 1978, he explained, "The first church was erected on a farm now owned by Mr. George Rhodes. The building faced the south and had two doors on the south, one for the men and one for the women." Murphy further explained that the original church building had one door on each end where African-Americans, during a time associated with slavery and segregation, entered the building and worshiped alongside others from the community.

Three years after the church's founding, in 1838, the nearby town of Russellville came into existence after it was surveyed by land promoter and storekeeper Buckner Russell. The period of the Civil War was unnerving for many living in the vicinity of the church since many joined companies of the Enrolled Missouri Militia in support of the Union while bushwhacker activity remained a constant threat. The role of the war on the condition of the congregation is uncertain because there are no church records from this period. "So much information we have is from family records of the descendants of the charter members," a written note in one of the church's history books reveals. Oral histories handed down through the generations state the records from 1835-1883 perished in a fire with no further details available. However, many businesses in nearby downtown Russellville burned to the ground in a major fire in 1883, and it is believed the records may have been held there in one of the businesses owned by a church member.

The church became inspirational in the establishment of other church bodies, with Pleasant Hill being organized by Cold Spring Church in 1881. Several years later, 1888, Mount Olive Baptist Church south of Russellville was established through the assistance of members of Cold Springs. "In 1889, the present site was chosen and a new building began," church records reveal. "Part of the old building was used in the construction of the (new) building." The records add, "The building was completed in May 1890 and was dedicated September 28, 1890." The site for the new church building was located within the fading community of Belleville on property donated by Andrew Jackson Leslie. The name of the church was eventually changed to Cole Springs Baptist Church, inspired by its location within Cole County. As a gift for Cole Spring's new location, First Baptist Church in Jefferson City donated their pulpit to the congregation.

Belleville, which was established around 1880 with hopes the railroad would build a depot there, was located along state Highway V and once boasted a blacksmith shop, general store and houses. The town failed to grow when the railroad depot was instead established in nearby Russellville.

The rural church made headlines in the St. Louis Post Dispatch on Oct. 4, 1897. It was reported, "Two young men nearly 21 years old ... are locked in jail under the fines of \$25 and costs each for being drunk and disturbing religious worship at Cole Spring Baptist

Church near Russellville....” The newspaper added, “The preacher had them arrested and they pleaded guilty in Justice court. Their parents refused to pay their fines because they thought the boys needed punishing.”

Throughout the next several years, services continued without major distraction and the congregation helped establish Russellville Baptist Church in 1903 followed by Corticelli Baptist Church in 1905. There is a pause in church records from the period of early October 1918-April 1919, revealing a suspension in monthly business meetings and worship services. It was during this period in U.S. history that not only did World War I come to an end, but the spread of the Spanish Flu inspired worldwide closures of houses of worship.

On Aug. 29, 1937, Cole Spring held its centennial celebration (two years late), which had an attendance estimated at more than 500 people. The principal speaker at the celebration was Congressman William Lester Nelson, a native of Bunceton.

Theological author Eddie Gibbs wrote, “Old churches must not simply stand as monuments to the past but as spiritual grandparents that have invested in the future by passing on their life to others and releasing their offspring to form new congregations.” Cole Spring Baptist Church, though a small congregation, has weighed mightily with regard to its spiritual influence throughout the decades by helping establish other congregations. Her doors, though creaking with a little age, remain open to the community and continue to welcome all to worship just as she has for nearly two centuries.

Jeremy P. Amick is writing a series of articles highlighting the history of the Russellville area in honor of Missouri's bicentennial. This article originally appeared on newstribune.com, reprinted with permission of the author.

Book Review:

Can You Still Trust God?

What Happens When You Choose to Believe

by Charles Stanley



In his latest book, Charles Stanley addresses the trustworthiness of our God. This is a very timely issue given the events of the last two years —namely a global pandemic. The book is divided into five sections, each one addressing a major blessing God promises us in response to our trust in Him: God meets our every need, communicates with us, frees us from fear and anxiety, provides us a way through pain and suffering, and He reveals to us His plan for our lives. This book is filled with wisdom that will benefit every believer regardless of where they are in their spiritual walk.

Stanley starts his exploration of God's trustworthiness with a fundamental question, “*What do you really believe about Jesus,*” (Stanley 2021, p. Xiii). Stanley's words are a powerful reminder of not only what our attitude toward God should be, but the position He should have in our life as our Creator and Redeemer. Stanley includes a section on the importance of prayer and devotes an entire chapter on how to listen to God in our prayers. This is followed by a chapter on how vital it is to build meditation time into our life and gives guidelines on how to put that into practice.

While Stanley gives us quite a bit to think about and appreciate, his overall theme is God's constant presence and love. Stanley's answer to the initial question 'Can you still trust God' is to focus our attention on who God is and what He is waiting to do for us, His children.

I found this book both easy to read and convicting in that it caused me to evaluate my own spiritual walk. You should be able to find it at all major book retailers. Right now there is no study guide, although I am hoping there are plans to add one at some point as this book would generate excellent discussion in a group setting. I would wholeheartedly recommend this book to any believer.



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 & 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

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

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

FBC JEFFERSON CITY (Interim Dr. Keith Herron)

FRESHWATER

FRIENDSHIP

LUPUS

MT. OLIVE (Interim Alex Earls)

MT. PLEASANT, CLARKSBURG (Interim Steve Sowder)

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

DECEMBER 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 CBA Moving Day	8	9	10	11
12	13 Newsletter Deadline	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Pastor's RT @ noon	22	23	24 Office Closed Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day
26	27 Office Closed	28 Office Closed	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	31 Office Closed	

Pastor's Roundtable – The December Pastor's Roundtable is scheduled for December 21st 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 January issue, please send it to office@cbamo.org no later than Monday, December 13th.

Office Closed – The CBA office will be closed beginning Friday, December 24th for the Christmas holiday. We will reopen at 8 am on Monday, January 3rd.

IMB Week of Prayer and Lottie Moon Offering Emphasis – started Sunday, November 28th and ends Sunday, December 5th. Information and resources can be found at imb.org

Church News:

MOPS/MOMSnext – 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

“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 5th and Sunday, December 12th from 5-7pm. No reservations required.

Available Resources:

VBS Training/Assistance

Christy Nance, Missouri VBS Promoter, is available to help interested churches plan, lead, follow-up on Vacation Bible School – regardless of the curriculum used. If your church is not currently hosting VBS, she can show you ways to have a great VBS with a minimum number of people and/or financial commitment. If desired, she is available to provide associational training – in person or virtually. If your church is interested in any of these helps, you may email her at cdnance@swbell.net or call/text at (314) 795-0676. Additionally, if anyone is interested in our association hosting a training, please contact Alicia at office@cbamo.org so we can look at putting one together.

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

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