

JANUARY 2022



# CONCORD COVENANT

INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES UNITED IN FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION.

I AM THE *Light of the World*  
WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NOT  
WALK IN DARKNESS, BUT WILL WALK IN LIGHT.

- JOHN 8:12

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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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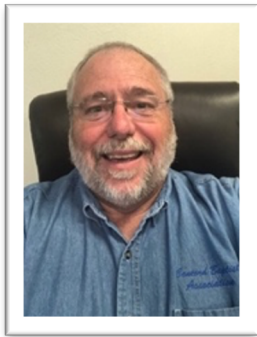
## *We Have Moved!*

As many of you are already aware, the association voted at the October meeting to move our office, which will allow for the remodeling and efficient use of the building at 804 Fairmount for the Baptist Collegiate Ministry, as well as allow us to reinvest more of your faithful giving into ministry, rather than infrastructure.

We are now physically located on the third floor of the Baptist Building on 400 East High Street, but any mailed correspondence should be sent to: Concord Baptist Association, PO Box 419, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

Our office phone number has also changed! You may reach us by phone at (573) 556-0379.

# A Word from Bro. Alan:



For those of you that have never been to my office you will find a few lighthouses that has been given to me by special people over the years. They aren't fancy and really don't make a big statement in my office. But they mean something. When I was younger, I recall singing the old Southern Gospel classic *The Lighthouse* written by Ronnie Hinson. The chorus is simple but powerful:

*"I thank God for the Lighthouse, I owe my life to Him  
For Jesus is the Lighthouse, and from the rocks of sin  
He has shown a light around me, that I could clearly see  
If it wasn't for the Lighthouse, where would this ship be?"*

Having just celebrated Christmas, we, as believers, can all recognize that Jesus is the Light. In John 8:12 the scriptures shares, ***"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'"*** John 8:12 ESV. In yesteryear before GPS and even radar a lighthouse was the only hope for ships tossed in difficult seas in the darkness. A little light in the darkness can bring salvation to a ship. Jesus has come as a light to all people lost in the darkness of sin for all who will choose to look upon it, receive it and be saved.

Friends as we look in our communities, state, nation and world, we can see a lot of folks walking in darkness and about ready to be dashed upon the rocks and deadly seas of life. They need hope. They need the light of life. They need what we have. They need Jesus. Are you and your church committed to share that light no matter what?

A good friend of mine, Mike Nichols, once share with me a you tube video by Penn Jillette a renowned atheist. He made a statement, such as "How much do you have to hate someone not to share what you believe about heaven and hell if you believe it is true?" Feel free to access that video through the following link: <https://www.churchpop.com/2016/01/16/atheist-penn-jillette-christians-evangelize/>

So church, if we love Jesus and believe that salvation comes through Him and anyone dying without a relationship with Jesus goes to hell, does that inspire you to share the truth with others? For our New Year 2022, I want to challenge you to fully commit to doing what Jesus says in part of Matthew 28:19 which tells us to ***"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations..."***

So what will you do to allow God to be a lighthouse shining Jesus in your community, state, nation and World?

In Christ,  
Bro. Alan

# Lincoln University Ministry Highlights:



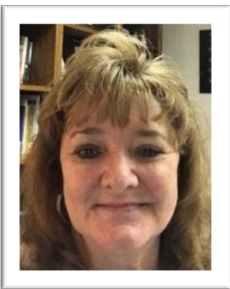
James invites us to "count it all joy and become perfect and complete" knowing that we will meet all kinds of trials. My journey has seen no shortage of this perseverance activity as I continue therapy for my broken hip, moved into a house in Jefferson City, had a lady run head on into my car last week, all while learning the reality of poison oak or ivy blisters and rash covering my legs. The Lord promises there is purpose in what He allows, and His faithfulness endures forever. I am so glad for our living Hope and that He sticks closer than a brother.

As for moments at Lincoln, the students have finished their semester and are enjoying a welcomed Christmas break. Our beloved Joseph and I valued a trip to the KC airport last Friday along with some Covid interruptions, but he was able to fly home to Liberia, Africa to spend time with family and his expectant wife. I also enjoyed meeting student leaders from the Lincoln International Society as we consider various service projects together. One need mentioned is to start a collection of items for global students who need school supplies, socks, jackets, blankets, etc. If you have any of those items or would like to help us pioneer this stockpile, please let me or Alicia know. The Lord also heard our prayers as I visited the athletic offices. One of the believing assistant athletic directors listened and welcomed me upstairs and proceeded to introduce me to the entire athletic staff and many of the coaches, two of whom we already had great spiritual conversations. Please pray with me for new open doors to serve and minister in the new year.

Blessings and Merry Christmas!

Clint

## The Earls' Front Porch



Hello, I am Paula, wife of your Director of Missions, Alan Earls. It's hard to believe we've been meetin' on my porch goin' on a year this month. I'd like to thank you all for your kind comments and welcoming hugs when I get to meet you in person. Makes me feel like I am back home in Kentucky when you know how much I like beets or check in on things I've shared about my family.

Today I want to share about serving in 2022 so you can get things on your calendar.

But I must start out with hardy thank you for asking about my people back home in Kentucky! That terrible tornado a couple of weeks ago just tore the living daylights out of homes, churches, and business like nobody had ever seen. Your sweet words and most of all your prayers will help get them through these difficult days.

Don't forget though, if you want to go down there, call the office – your church can go and help in many ways! Trust me they won't turn away anyone who wants to help.

I think so much about serving this year with our children's camp and Concord Builders. I don't know about your schedule for 2022 but I just encourage you today to get out your calendar whether you have a lot of time or a little time – a lot of skills or a little skill. Put these dates on your calendar. You will get so much out of working with our association. Children's Camp begins July 17<sup>th</sup> it is so rewarding working with the kiddos who are eager to learn about Jesus. This is an opportunity you don't want to miss. I challenge you to come – plan now so nothing else gets on your calendar.

Okay you say Paula, "kiddos are not really my thing", I got ya - join the Concord Builders team they take anyone! They took me and Brother Alan! I helped out in the kitchen washing tables and doing dishes. Alan is a good gofer – he can go for this and go for that. Plus, they even taught him a thing or two. They are scheduled for the first full week after the fourth of July.

So, whether you have a little or a lot you can serve. After all, remember one of my favorite verses – "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord." (Romans 12:11). We love serving with you at the Concord Association and hope each of you have a wonderful New Year!!!

Praying your 2022 is full of Blessings,

Paula



# Pastor Spotlight:

## Pastor Brad Homan, Fortuna Baptist Church



Hey everyone! My name is Brad Homan and I currently serve as the senior pastor at Fortuna Baptist Church. It is hard for me to believe, but this church has now been my home for almost 20 years, as I started attending when I was just 17 years of age. I originally was drawn to the church because it was located in a booming and successful economic metropolis...okay, that is not really true...but rather because I was invited by a friend to come hear him preach one of his first sermons. (Many of you all probably know him, as his name is Andrew Kuttenkuler, who currently serves at Oakland Baptist Church.)

Now before I visited that day, there is a backstory that you need to be aware of. At that time, I had preached ONE sermon in the church that I grew up in about 6 months earlier, as I thought I had felt the call to ministry. However, when I finally received that opportunity to

preach, let's just say...it didn't go so well. In short, I had prepared and prepared and thought my sermon would last approximately 35 minutes...well... it instead ended up lasting around 9-10 minutes. Therefore, from that point forward, I began to question if I was really called by God because I clearly was NOT a public speaker.

Well, to get back to the main story. The day that I went to hear Andrew speak, it radically changed the course of my life. Now, to be honest, I couldn't tell you the passage of scripture that Andrew preached from that day, but I do remember what he said after the sermon. After Andrew got done preaching, the head deacon came up to the front of the church and addressed the crowd of about 30 or so and said, "Andrew, you did a fantastic job! We need more young men like you who are bold and preach the gospel. Andrew then pipes up and says, "Well, my friend Brad has preached a sermon before." The next thing I knew, I was on the schedule to preach to this congregation the very next week as they were without a pastor. Talk about a wave of emotions that ensued the following week: Feelings of doubt, fear, anxiety and yet still a reassurance of God's calling placed upon my life.

So, I say all of that to say this, even though I was pretty much convinced that I would never preach again, God reassured me that He had other plans. For the next several years, I became very plugged in at Fortuna Baptist. I had the opportunity to preach monthly, to be discipled by a retired pastor and to work with the youth group. Then in 2009, I officially became the pastor of Fortuna Baptist Church.

It is so funny in how God works, because if you were to tell me that morning of when I first entered into the FBC building about 20 years ago to hear a friend preach, that years later, I would become the full-time senior pastor, I would have snickered and thought you had lost your mind. Even today, sometimes I wonder, "God, why did you call me to Fortuna? Why would you use me, an untrained hillbilly, one who is okay at many things, but excels at nothing, one who has never gone to seminary, to play a role in bringing our community closer to Christ?"

And the only answer that continues to come to me is, "Because you are who I desired to use."

It is humbling to note that my own abilities, intelligence, talents, nor good looks are what have contributed to revitalizing a small church.

I am reminded of what it says in 1 Cor 3:5-7 (NKJV):

*"Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase."*

Our church is not perfect, not even close to it...but God is stirring the hearts of many in our community, and He is doing some incredible things through FBC. And may I say, what a privilege and honor it is to see God work!

# Book Review:

## Joy that Lasts: How to have an Overflowing Life

by Gary Smalley with Al Janssen

Every person desires to have a meaningful, joy-filled life but often achieving a joy-filled life can be a struggle. In this book, Gary Smalley addresses reasons we sometimes find fulfillment unattainable using his own personal struggle as an example. "For the first time, I began to realize my major mistake: I was expecting to find fulfillment in people, places, possessions and position," (Smalley 1986, p. 23). Smalley is very open in sharing how he realized he was "expecting his relationships to keep my cup filled," (Smalley 1986, p.23). From there, he outlines the process he followed, addressing persistence, faithfulness, and dependence on God. Throughout the book, he reminds us that joy can only come from one source: God. Smalley tells us how to grab hold of fulfillment, addresses the main cause of unhappiness, and how to address the major destroyers of joy. Smalley also shares the advantages of trials in our life and what those trials are meant to produce.

Gary Smalley has written an excellent book on how to live a joy-filled life, but it is a book on prayer as well, "...looking back over the first nine chapters, I realize I've written a book about building a relationship with God through prayer." (Smalley 1986, p. 166). Throughout the book, he is very open about the importance prayer played in his journey and gives specifics on incorporating prayer into a life of joy.

If you are familiar with Gary Smalley's work, you will already know that he usually concentrates on family relationship issues. While this particular book is more personal, you will find that following the guidelines he gives us will have a positive effect on your personal relationships. This book has been around a while as it was published in 1986. However, you will find the advice and information he gives relevant for today's world. I did not check all major retailers, but it is still available from Amazon and christianbook.com



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)).

# How Can We Help Disaster Relief?

A Message from Dr. John Yeats

Colleagues,

I hope you are well and seizing the day to make Christ known.

As we have learned from the news media, several of our state's fellow pastors and their families have been impacted by the storm that swept across eastern and southeastern Missouri. Our sister state, Kentucky, was hit the hardest and needs our intercession.

Gaylon Moss, who directs Missouri Baptist disaster relief efforts, shared that our DR teams have been deployed to Princeton, Ky., to assist with loss and brokenness. In our own state, our teams are working in Defiance. We work through Directors of Missions to assess and bring about a strategy to assist hurting people.

Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief teams are the best. Would you remind your people of that before they surrender funds to a parachurch ministry in response to this disaster? Ask them to prayerfully consider the benefits of our MBC DR teams, and to contribute directly to the Midwest tornado relief effort. Also, remind them how their gifts to the [Cooperative Program](#) and the Offering provide the readiness and overhead for quick responses to great need.

You are the key to communicating those powerful insights. By working together through prayer, participation, and personal sacrifice, you make a huge difference for the cause of Christ. May His name continually be found worthy among us.

Sharon and I are so grateful to God for your passion for the Lord Jesus and the mission of bringing the gospel to our neighbors and nations. Merry Christmas!

Dr. John Yeats  
Executive Director, Missouri Baptist Convention  
Recording Secretary, Southern Baptist Convention

## 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  
CONCORD (Interim Neil Franks)  
FBC JEFFERSON CITY (Interim Dr. Keith Herron)  
FRESHWATER  
FRIENDSHIP  
JAMESTOWN  
LUPUS  
MT. OLIVE (Interim Alex Earls)  
MT. PLEASANT, CLARKSBURG (Interim Steve Sowder)

**PRAY FOR CLINT, OUR NEW BCM MINISTER, AS HE CONTINUES 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." (1 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

**Executive Council Meeting** – The January Executive Council Meeting is scheduled for January 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. We will be hosted by First Baptist Church, Elston. Each CBA church may send two individuals to serve on the Executive Board as voting members (visitors are also welcome). We hope to see you there!

**Pastor's Roundtable** – The January Pastor's Roundtable is scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup> at noon. A light lunch will be served, so please RSVP if you are able – this helps us plan.

**SAVE THE DATE: Men and Boys Wild Game Supper** – The annual Men and Boys Wild Game Supper will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup> at First Baptist Church, California, time TBA. This year's speaker will be Royce Railey of Go Fish Ministries.

**SAVE THE DATE: Preaching and Leadership Equipping Conference** - The annual Preaching Conference is taking on a new look this year. We have changed the meeting from an annual conference to a biennial conference. Also there has been a name change to Preaching and Leadership Equipping Conference. This conference will be for any church leader or potential church leader that is interested in more effective Biblical preparation for Discipleship (small groups), Music and Evangelism, as well as any men called to Preach the Gospel. We will be sending more information regarding pre-registration.

The Conference will be held at Concord Baptist Church, Jefferson City, on Friday March 18- 5:30pm-9:00pm (dinner to be served) and Saturday March 19: 7:17 am-12:15 pm (Breakfast to be served). Cost: Pre-registration - \$20 (now through March 1); Registration after March 1 - \$25

For Questions please contact:

Justin Rich, Co-leader - [richj@missouri.edu](mailto:richj@missouri.edu)

Billy Bolden, Co-leader - [bbold911@gmail.com](mailto:bbold911@gmail.com)

or the Associational office at: email: [office@cbamo.org](mailto:office@cbamo.org) or phone: 573-556-0379

**SAVE THE DATE: Concord Builders** – July 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. More details will be released as available. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lucy Engelbrecht ([lengel0625@gmail.com](mailto:lengel0625@gmail.com))

**SAVE THE DATE: Children's Camp** – July 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> at Pulaski Association Campground. More details will be released as available. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kari Sullivan ([kari@memorialchurch.net](mailto:kari@memorialchurch.net))

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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)