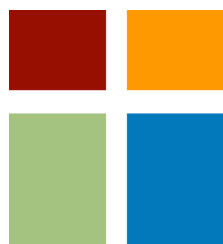


May 2022



CONCORD COVENANT

Individual churches united in fulfilling the Great Commission

UPCOMING *Summer* ACTIVITIES

CONCORD BUILDERS | JULY 10-15

More information and forms available at cbamo.org

CHILDREN'S CAMP | JULY 17-21

More information and registration available at cbamo.org

3MT | JULY 23-30

More information at 3MT.org

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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

CLINT MAHAN, BCM DIRECTOR

cmahan@cbamo.org

(720) 936-3371

ALICIA AMOS, MINISTRY ASSISTANT

office@cbamo.org

(573) 556-0379

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Pastor's Roundtable – The April Pastor's Roundtable is scheduled for May 17th at noon. A light lunch will be served, so please RSVP if you are able.

Office Closed - The CBA Office will be closed Monday, May 30th, in observation of Memorial Day.

Summer Missionary Application Deadline - Applications are being accepted for the 2022 Summer Missionary position. Applicants must be 18 years old and be able to pass a background check, and must be available May 30-August 5, 2022. More information and application available at <https://cbamo.org/summer-missionary/>. Applications will be accepted through end of day May 23.

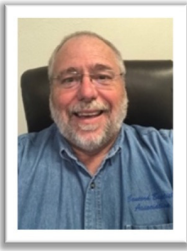
Concord Builders – Dates: July 10th-15th, 2022. The team will be heading to Southside Baptist Church (Fulton) to construct several buildings: a bus garage, and a snack shack/pavilion for their recreational area. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lucy Engelbrecht (lengel0625@gmail.com)

Children's Camp – Dates: July 17th-21st, 2022 at Pulaski Association Campground. Children's camp is open to students who have completed 3rd - completed 6th grades and cost is \$80/child. Registration and more information is available at cbamo.org/childrens-camp. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kari Sullivan (kari@memorialchurch.net)

3MT - The 3MT Board has set the dates for their 2022 Mission Week: July 22nd-30th, location TBA. The current plan is to house-in, similar to past years. If COVID cases rise, the plan is to utilize last year's format. More details and information can be found at 3mt.org.

Church Histories Still Needed - The 200th Anniversary of the Concord Baptist Association is coming up in 2023. In honor of the occasion, a book is being written about the history of our Association, to include the histories of the churches that have been a part of it. Roy Dameron has been working hard to write this book for us, but the information that he currently has about churches is limited. In order to ensure that each church in our association has an up-to-date history included, we would appreciate your help to update your church's history. If you need a copy of the parameters that Roy is asking for, please contact the CBA Office. **The deadline for submissions is July 1st.**

A WORD FROM OUR DOM:



Dear CBA Churches,
How many of us can remember the blessings of God's power in past years? Where the churches had spring and fall revivals.

Churches had strong evangelistic outreach through Vacation Bible Schools and Mission Trips. Salvation and rededications were plentiful! I remember that my mom, sister and I repented of our sin, accepted Jesus as Lord and we all were saved during a revival service at Northside Baptist Church in North St. Louis City in 1972. It was a joyful time!

How many of us can remember the heartache of church conflict or even church splits? Or the disobedience of our willful choices and all the baggage that sin brings? Or even our emotional attachments to topics of this temporal earth that takes our focus off the Kingdom?

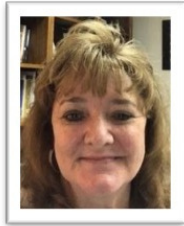
Our past can bring Blessings and Heartache. But friends as I spoke about God's power of the past, we can't help but to recognize the power of God in the present. God is as powerful today as He has ever been. We would also be amiss if we don't recognize the power of God for the future. In the testimonies of God's power in the past we see that when His children were repentant, loving and obedient, we received the power of God in our midst. When our focus is on ourselves, or of the world, or of sin, we see the enemy advance, attack and gain ground for which he was never intended to have.

In Isaiah 43 we see where God tells His people that once again He was going to deliver them from Babylon. God's deliverance was not simply to make some type of point but simply tell them that He loves them. In verse 18 we see a beautiful truth, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. Isaiah 43:18 -NIV. This could mean a number of things. It could be a reminder that the Israelites past disobedience that got them into captivity should not be something that they should dwell on. Repent and be reconciled to God and experience His forgiveness and freedom, then move on. Perhaps it could be in reference to the Exodus and the miraculous deliverance that they had received in generations past. But one thing that can be noted, that all the extraordinary things that God had done to deliver Israel in the past, what He was about to do was going to be even greater.

Friends do we need to forget the former things and not dwell in the past? Are you ready for the Power of God to move in our midst? Forget the former things and don't dwell on the things that distract. We must prepare ourself for God's power to be displayed in our midst in ways that we have never seen. We must not limit ourselves to the power we have seen God display in the past. Why? Because He wants to show us even greater power. Let us seek a great revival again. Let's commit to turning from the ways of the world with repentant hearts and look to Jesus and serve Him faithfully and Obediently.

In Christ,
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.

When I think of the month of May, I just can't help but think of Mother's Day! I love visiting our churches and greeting all the wonderful Mamas! I see you being so responsible in the midst of the chaos going on in your family on Sunday morning. Often you are the one picking up the literal and figurative pieces of your family. You all know, that place of swooping in to save the day because you have to or you wouldn't make it to church that morning.

Those moments prick my heart as I have flashbacks of raising our boys trying to keep everything afloat – family, career, church and everything else that God put on our plates. Strange how quickly time has passed by.

To my mind comes 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." These scriptures so eloquently describe the moms in our churches.

I love watching how patient and kind you are with your children and husbands. You stick a glue covered craft project in your purse without hesitation because your little one is so excited to give it to you!

Your kindness abounds like no other as you float through-out the congregation greeting one another with love and hugs!

You are not envious or boastful just thrilled to be in attendance with your husband and children.

You are only proud when your child comes to the acceptance of Christ. You are there to honor the Lord and serve each other faithfully. Your goal is to serve and put God front and center. You do not get all bent out of shape when things go a little whacky- you just roll with the punches and give God all the glory!

You never keep records of wrongs because you know the feeling of being broken and alone, as well as wounded. To tell the truth we all were once number keepers who constantly measured things but thankfully with God's grace we forgive and are forgiven.

Thank you, sweet Moms, for all you do for your families! I tell many of you often "You got this and you are doing a great job! So please keep up the great work!"

If we haven't gotten to attend your church, please know I am still praying for you on Sunday mornings. It's tough and Satan wants to win; however, I know I can count on you to defeat him and bring home the Win for our team!!!

**"A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies. Her
husband has full confidence in her and
lacks nothing of value. She brings him good,
not harm, all the days of her life."**

(Proverbs 31:10-13)

Happy Mother's Day!

Paula

PASTOR SPOTLIGHT: PAUL YOUNG, MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH



My name is Paul Young and my wife is Rebecca. I am the new kid on the block. As I write this article I have been at Mt. Olive Baptist Church (Russellville) for two months. We had been at Sturgeon Baptist Church for nearly twelve years in Sturgeon, Missouri prior to coming to Mt. Olive.

I have been in the ministry for thirty-six years and about half of that has been bi-vocational. I spent twenty years in education, both public and Christian schools. I truly enjoyed education and the pastored but am blessed now to be focused on one vocation.

My wife and I are truly blessed by God to be called to Mt. Olive. God has not only brought us to a great church full of loving people but he

as now allowed us to be back with our family. My two sons and wives along with five grandchildren live in the Russellville area. I am excited to be part of a loving, giving, serving and praying church. To be part of Concord Baptist Association once again is a privilege as well. I look forward to getting to know the pastors of this association and our churches serving together to advance the Gospel message.

I have been married to my wife Rebecca for almost forty-three years. God truly blessed me by bringing the two of us together. She loves the Lord and has always stood firmly beside me in the ministry. She is a true demonstration of what a pastor's wife should be.

Over the next many years I hope to lead Mt. Olive well, along with being a productive part of CBA. I look forward to serving alongside Bro. Alan as he leads our association.

My prayer is that the Lord may find us faithful when He returns!!!!

ABIDE IN CHRIST: THE JOY OF BEING IN GOD'S PRESENCE, BY ANDREW MURRAY

In this book, Andrew Murray has written a guide for every Christian on what living a life in close, intimate fellowship with God looks like and how it benefits believers. Murray begins with John 15:1-12 and continues to use this scripture throughout the book. The first few chapters are devoted to what the phrase 'abide in Christ' means. Murray then works through the process of trusting your daily life to Jesus. I found Murray's ideas on the relationship between the vine and the branches especially relevant and thought provoking, even having read more recent books based on John 15.

There are thirty-one relatively small chapters designed to be read each day. I recommend this cadence as reading more may not allow adequate time for reflection, meditation, and contemplation of the chapter's insights.

Be aware that Andrew Murray lived in the 1800's in South Africa. Don't expect this book to have modern language or vernacular. It definitely reads as a book written over one hundred years ago. Despite this, I found this book worthy of my time and study. It is available from major retailers along with a study guide designed for a small group. This book's continued consumption is a reflection of its long-lasting relevancy and merit.



This book review was submitted by Sarah Kennedy. Sarah is a member at Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRIES UPDATE



God is faithful and keeps His promises as He has opened a few doors on Lincoln's campus this month. have several football guys now meeting regularly on Friday

afternoons and I was able to serve at the Lincoln Open track meet (photo below) on April 10th where I met a few believing coaches and athletes to connect and follow up as well. I am grateful for your continued prayers as I meet with some basketball athletes this week and reconnect with some international students. Please be praying for our Pizza, Praise and Prayer event at the old CBA building on Wednesday night, April 27th. I am working on some details to consider a student meal the first week of May sometime as well.

This month I also had the privilege to help serve with my Athletes in Action ministry team in New Orleans. We hosted several ministry events surrounding the Final Four activities as we led a Coaches Wives night, a Christian Coaches Forum, a John Wooden Character Award breakfast and a Sunday morning church service. It's always incredible to encourage and serve these coaches and wives who value leading in spirit, truth and love while using their platform to build God's Kingdom.



SHARING JESUS WITH OTHERS:

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus gave to His disciples what we know as the Great Commission. "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20, NKJV)

This commission applies to us today. We are to be God's witness to a lost and dying world. God calls us to this task. I want us to consider four things about God's call on our lives to share Jesus.

1). God's Call comes from above.

Jesus said, "all authority in heaven" had been given Him. Our Heavenly Father has called us to the task of sharing Jesus. All of heaven is backing us up when we share Christ.

2). The call comes from below.

In Luke's Gospel we are given the account of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). The rich man wound up in hell and he pleaded with Abraham to please send someone to tell his five brothers not to come to this place. There are people in hell pleading with someone to go and tell those who are lost not to come to the place of torment.

3). The call comes from within.

When we become Christians the Holy Spirit comes to reside within us. His ministry is to point men, women, boys and girls to Christ. He is calling from within, to share Jesus.

4). The call comes from without.

There are those who are outside of Christ who are crying out, "What must I do to be saved?" They have heard the gospel but do not know how to respond and are waiting for someone to explain to them what to do.

Ask the following questions and share these verses in witnessing:

- **Do you believe that God loves you?** "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).
- **Do you believe everyone is a sinner?** "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
- **Do you believe sin has a price that must be paid?** "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).
- **Do you believe that Jesus Christ paid your price?** "But God commended His love towards us, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).
- **Do you want to pray and ask Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior, and claim His promises of eternal life?** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

Let's answer the call and share Jesus!

Mike Quinn

Pastor of Evangelism, Concord Baptist Church

A LETTER TO CHURCHES ON MOTHER'S DAY:

Last year, on the second Sunday in May, I stood with dozens of other mothers while kids darted around the sanctuary, handing out flowers to all the moms. I stood there, remembering the previous five Mother's Days when I would have loved nothing more than to have not gone to church, not gone to lunch, but rather, to have hidden in a hole and avoided the day altogether.

There are many reasons why many women (and men, for that matter) have complicated feelings surrounding Mother's Day that aren't at all fertility related. Maybe they've lost their mother to death or complicated circumstances keep them from having a relationship with them. Maybe they've similarly lost children. For whatever reason, Mother's Day can be incredibly difficult for some people.

I have always been hesitant to say anything because I never wanted to give the wrong impression about my thoughts on this subject. Motherhood is a beautiful thing that absolutely deserves to be celebrated. But while you celebrate the Proverbs 31 women in your life and churches, I hope that you won't forget to see the 1 Samuel 1 women. Don't forget to see the women (and men) in your church that – for whatever reason – Mother's Day is the absolute worst day of the year. I know that it can be difficult to know what to do or say in these situations, especially if you have not walked through any of these struggles. But if I can offer any suggestion, any encouragement to you at all, it is this – just make them feel seen, loved and cared for, too.

Several years ago, I shared our struggle with infertility with my church family. A few months later, on Mother's Day, while I was sitting on stage with my flute clutched in my lap trying my very best to be invisible, one of the students from our youth group came up and laid a flower on my music stand. It was the simplest of gestures, but one that made me feel so seen in a season of life when I had the tendency to feel left behind and forgotten.

Maybe you are aware of couples in your church that are struggling with infertility or have lost a child (born or unborn) – this is a great opportunity to reach out to them privately with a card or a phone call before Mother's Day, praying over them and their situation. It is such a small gesture, but I can tell you that it truly means the world that their pastor, their deacon/deacon's wife, their friend, whoever...sees them, sees their pain and is praying for them. It can also be a wonderful opportunity to pray for a couple corporately – but do make sure you ask before you do it by name! Some couples are incredibly private when it comes to these sensitive issues and would be mortified to have public attention drawn to them and their struggles. Perhaps you are unaware of any specific situations that would require your sensitivity but let me encourage you to be sensitive anyway and do one small thing that reminds the person silently struggling that they are seen, even though their struggle is unknown.

I don't want to be too lengthy, but I want to leave you with a poem that I came across a number of years ago that touched my heart on the subject:

"The Wide Spectrum of Mothering"

by Amy Young, The Messy Middle Blog

"To those who gave birth this year to their first child - we celebrate with you.

To those who lost a child this year – we mourn with you.

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains – we appreciate you.

To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away - we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment – we walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms – we need you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children – we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children – we sit with you.

To those who lost their mothers this year – we grieve with you.

To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother – we acknowledge your experience.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood – we are better for having you in our midst.

To those who have aborted children – we remember them and mourn with you on this day.

To those who are single and long to be married and mothering your own children – we mourn that life has not turned out the way you longed for it to be.

To those who step-parent – we walk with you on these complex paths.

To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren – yet that dream is not to be, we grieve with you.

To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year – we grieve and rejoice with you.

To those who placed children up for adoption — we commend you for your selflessness and remember how you hold that child in your heart.

And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising – we anticipate with you.

This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. We remember you."

Thank you for allowing me to share my perspective on this topic - and as always, thank you for all that you do to serve your churches.

Happy Mother's Day!

- Alicia

MISSIONS & PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU AND YOUR CHURCH



Summer Missions Intern:

The Concord Baptist Association is accepting applications for a summer missions intern. We are looking for an individual with a servant's heart and passion for serving the local church.

Our Summer Missionaries serve our associational churches in a variety of ways: VBS, camps, Concord Builders, and more. Summer Missionaries also assist the associational office with special projects from time to time.

If you are accepted as the 2022 CBA Summer Missionary, you will be contracted to serve for ten weeks beginning May 30 and ending on August 5, 2022.

Applicants must be 18 years old and be able to pass a background check. If you are interested in this position, please visit cbamo.org/summer-missionary to apply. The application deadline is Monday, May 23rd, including background check release and references.

CBA CHURCH UPDATES

Churches in Transition:

- Centertown Baptist Church – Interim Shawn Higgins
- Corticelli Baptist Church - Interim Rev Dr. Greg Morrow
- Concord Baptist Church - Interim Rev Dr. Neil Franks
- FBC Jefferson City – Interim Rev Dr. Keith Herron
- Freshwater
- Friendship - Interim Rev Bill Romans
- Jamestown - Interim Rev Ken McCune
- Lupus
- Mt. Pleasant, Clarksburg – Interim Rev Steve Sowder

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/>

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

Concord Baptist Association
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