

CONCORD COVENANT

Individual Churches United in Fulfilling the Great Commission





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Dear CBA Churches,

February is always a great month to remember the celebration of Love. I John 4:7-8 states, "7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love." It is a blessing to recognize that God's character is love. When we know Jesus as Lord, we know God's love. In fact, as born-again Christ followers, the Love of God consumes us. There is something different for us when we become a disciple of Jesus. We stand out. Specifically, we stand out because of our love. "35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35

As we march through February may the love of God be the cadence for which we march. It is a joy when people around us see us as Christians by our love.

Early in January 2025, I had the privilege of Legislative Praver Breakfast the sponsored by Concord Baptist Church and the Christian Life Commission. I sat at a table with some incredible Christ centered people who were kind, gracious and displayed the love of God. As we talked among our table, I introduced myself to a young lady who was very gracious, kind and well informed. As the conversation continued, I asked if she was a legislator. Her response was not what I expected. She was a member of Missouri's Supreme Court. As I thought about the moment, I was so impressed by her knowledge, humility, her attentiveness commitment to ensure that all her decisions in agreement with the State Constitution.

As I thought for a moment, as a Christian, we too have a source document to govern, direct and lead our life. For us, it is the Word of God. It is the Bible that teaches us about God, His will and His commands. It is The Holy Scripture that teaches us to love and to be known by God's love!

May God richly bless you churches and may the love of God consume you so that the world can see we are Christians by our love!

In Christ,

Bro. Alan

LOVE - FORGIVING AND FORGETTING

In his daily devotion entitled *Good Morning, Lord...Can We Talk?, Chuck Swindoll expounds on his devotional on January 28 from Psalm 42:11 with the title, "Two Questions". To truly enjoy a love relationship, we must be willing to forgive and seek God's help to forget. Swindoll suggests that we be prepared to ask ourself two questions:

- **1**. Is there someone or something I have refused to forget, which keeps me from being happy and productive?
- **2**. Am I a victim of self-pity, living out my days emotionally paralyzed by anguish and despair?

Forgiving can be difficult but forgetting can even be a tougher challenge. Swindoll further shares, "Forgetting requires us to think correctly, which means our full focus must be on the Lord and not on people. By God's Grace, that level of freedom can be experienced." As we focus on loving God and others, may we seek God's grace to forgive and forget.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. Psalm 42:11 ESV

^{*} Swindoll, Charles, Good Morning, Lord... Can We Talk?, Yates and Yates, 2018, page 28.

Lincoln Collegiate Ministry

Happy New Year as we jump fast back into 2025 and the new semester. We had our first gathering last night with student athletes which will be meeting every Monday night. Our student leaders will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at the BSU for an hour of leadership, discipleship and intentional prayer before we send them to their Dorm for their weekly Bible study on campus. We will also be meeting on Thursday nights to walk through Galatians this semester with the campus students as a whole.

We are considering a Child Care option for our CBA church families on Friday night, February 14th, for those parents that want to go enjoy a Valentine night out. We are thinking of either the BSU for student convenience or a local and central church for space. We are looking at suggested donations for our Mission trips this year and would look at hours of 5:00 - 10:30pm. Please let us know if this would be valuable and of interest.

Additionally, I'd like to ask each CBA church to consider a <u>special mission gift</u> toward our partnering missions to NYC in March and to Brazil in May. We are having the students raise about half and trusting God for the other half through local churches and businesses. Would you please prayerfully consider any size tax-exempt donation to help us match what the students are raising themselves?

Grateful for partnering with me and our Lincoln students, Brother Clint

Clint



Full-time Pastor, Russellville Baptist

Russellville Baptist Church in Russellville, MO is seeking a full-time pastor who is a dynamic, energetic leader to oversee the fulfillment of God's vision for our church. We're looking for a pastor who leads with exemplary character, is devoted to prayer, preaches the Word, and equips us for the work of the ministry. As a body, we want to build on what is already working and are ready to grow and move to the next chapter of our church's history. Located in beautiful central Missouri, we average 120 in morning worship. To learn more and apply, visit <u>russellvillebaptist.com/pastorsearch.</u>

Ministry + Joh Openings:

EVANGELISM:



This article was submitted by Mike Quinn. Mike serves as the Staff Evangelist at Concord Baptist Church.

My wife and I recently had a wonderful experience from the Lord. We had a young lady who contacted us and said she was really struggling. She told us she was estranged from her family members, and she had made some bad choices in life. She was broken and didn't know what to do. The interesting thing about her contacting us is that we had not had any contact with her for several years. We knew her from a previous pastorate I had served. She nor her family had been members of the church, but she did attend our Wednesday evening youth services. My wife was also a substitute teacher where she went to school and had her in some classes.

We were able to share Christ with her and got her into a one-year discipleship house for women at Freeway Ministries. She was gloriously saved at the service that evening!

As I have reflected on this young lady reaching out to us, my mind went to Jesus Parable of the Sower in Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23. In this parable Jesus explains that a Sower went out to sow seed. He explains the different kinds of soils the seed fell on. Our Lord teaches us that some seed fell by the wayside (v.4). According to Jesus, this describes the person who hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it and the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart (v.18). The second kind of soil Jesus explains is the stoney places (v.5). In (v.20-21) we are told that this is the person who receives the word with joy but because of tribulations and persecution it doesn't take root, and he stumbles away. The third kind of soil the seed fell upon is ground where there are thorns (v.7). We are told in (v22) that the thorny ground represents the person who hears the word but because of the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches it chokes out the word and he became unfruitful. The last kind of soil Jesus mentions is in (v.8). It is good

ground. Our Lord says that the good ground represents the person who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty (23).

We are to be Sowers of the word. If we are faithful to sow, there will be some that will fall on good ground. We don't know a person's heart. That is God's business. Our business is to cast the seed.

The Bible says, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9). Through this recent experience I was reminded and also encouraged to keep on sowing the word of God. I hope it encourages you to do the same. We never know who is listening and what the Holy Spirit is doing with our witness.

May God bless each one of our churches with seed Sowers in 2025!

Mike Quinn

More Ministry + Job Openings

PART-TIME YOUTH DIRECTOR

First Baptist Church, California, MO, is seeking a part-time Youth Director. This individual will be responsible for implementing and directing a program of Christian discipleship, outreach, and fellowship for young people in grades 7-12. Please send your resume, or any questions to our search team at fbc.calimo@gmail.com with the word "Youth" as the subject.

Pianist Position

Clarksburg Baptist Church is seeking a volunteer pianist for their Sunday Morning Worship services. If interest, please contact Rev. David Griffith at 573-694-1307.

BOOK REVIEW

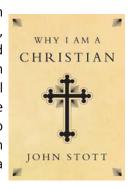


This book review was submitted by Sarah Kennedy. Sarah is a member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

WHY I AM A CHRISTIAN

BY JOHN STOTT

John Stott was a British Anglican and theologian who, priest other among noted accomplishments, was a leader in worldwide evangelical the movement. In this book, he explores why he gave his life to Christ. He presents us with seven reasons why he became Christian beginning with the



fact that anyone who is a Christian, because Christ has pursued them first. "If we are Christians at all, it is not because we have decided for Christ, but because Christ has decided for us," (Stott 2003, p. 18).

Stott has written both for the layman and for the seeker with no knowledge of Jesus yet is looking for meaning and purpose in their life. He avoids difficult terminology that might impede understanding with each thought presented in a straightforward manner. Every Christian needs to be able to articulate why they are a Christian beyond citing birth, parenting, or upbringing. Stott provides us with solid biblical reasons why "We are truly most human when we are worshiping God," (Stott 2003, p. 72).

I found this to be a relatively easy read, engaging and thought provoking. It would make an excellent personal study but could be used in a small group setting. It is definitely worth your time.

Churches in Transition:

Please continue to be in prayer for our churches in transition and those leading them.

New Pastors:

- Clarksburg New Pastor David Griffith
- High Point New Pastor Rev. Mark Plaza
- Southside New Pastor Rev. Tyler Murphy

Churches without Pastors:

- Elston Interim Rev. Dr. Bill Bolden
- Pleasant Hill
- Russellville Baptist Interim Rev. David Ford

TURN THE PAGES ...



Moses climbed which mountain to get a view of the promised land?

A. Nebo C. Ararat C. Sinai D. Zion

*Bible Daily Devotion



January Question; Who said: "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. And it happened as the gate was being shut, when it was dark, that the men went out. Where the men went I do not know; pursue them quickly, for you may overtake them."?

Answer: (January Newsletter) This was Rahab's reply to the king of Jericho's message about the two Israelite spies she had hidden. Joshua 2:4-5

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NEW COUNSELING RESOURCE: STILL WATERS COUNSELING OF MISSOURI

Still Waters Counseling of Missouri, Rhonda Myers, MA, LPC, will be opening a new office on March 1st. 2025 at 400 East High St. (Baptist Building). Services range from anxiety, depression, eating disorders, mood disorders, conflict/anger, etc., for individuals. couples and families. Approaches include Christian Counseling with evidence based treatments like, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, EMDR. Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, Shame Informed Therapy and more. Appointments will be either in person or televisit options. Most major insurances will be accepted along with self-pay/self-file. Availability will be by appointment only, Monday-Thursdays, 8am-5pm with other times at therapist discretion. Under the supervision/in cooperation with Still Waters, Reagen Duenckel, PLPC, of Honey Creek Counseling is taking televisit appointments for late Feb 2025 at self pay only. Then in late summer/early fall 2025, Breanna Wright of Wright Mind Counseling will be taking appointments as well. We are excited to be increasing the ability to provide more Christian Counseling and mental wellness in Mid-Missouri and throughout the State. For more information or questions, please contact Rhonda Myers, I PC stillwaterscounselingmo@gmail.com.

FEB2025



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UPCOMING EVENTS





3724 W. Truman Blvd. | Jefferson City, MO 65109 573-893-2876 | concordic.org

for more info!

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MID-MISSOURI SMALL GROUP CONFERENCE SCHEDULE Saturday 3/8/25

- · 8:15AM Worship
- · 8:45AM Plenary Session 1: Habits of Healthy Groups, Part 1
- o Make disciples
- o Develop apprentice leaders
- o Start new groups
- 9:30AM Break/Transition
- 9:45AM **Breakout 1:** Ken's 10: Top Tips for Leading Adult Bible Study
- 10:30AM Break/Transition
- 10:45 Plenary Session 2: Habits of Healthy Groups, Part 2
- o Pray for the lost/outward-focused
- o Eat with Sinners and Tax Collectors (build bridges to the lost)
- o Initiate gospel conversations
- · 11:30AM Lunch
- 1:00PM **Breakout 2:** Welcome Aboard! Creating a Culture of Biblical Hospitality in Groups
- 1:45PM Break/Transition
- · 2:00PM Worship
- · 2:30PM Plenary Session 3: Habits of Healthy Groups, Part 3
- o Encourage & release people to serve in the church
- o Meet needs in your community
- 3:15PM Introduce DiscipleWORKS tool for evaluating and creating a discipleship pathway for your church (releases Fall 2025)
- · 3:30PM Dismiss

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

PREACH NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 11, 2024

PREACH 25

CHALLENGED, INSPIRED, EMPOWERED, AND CALLED OUT



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 16-17

DETAILS

Mark your calendars for Preach 25, a transformative two-day conference designed to reach into those who faithfully pour into others.

Held on February 16-17, 2025, this event promises an extraordinary experience featuring 9 power-packed sermons, dynamic worship, and a pastors' panel addressing real-life ministry challenges.

emotionally refreshed in a community of like-minded leaders and fellow Christian men and women

Whether you're seeking encouragement, fresh insights, or simply a moment to recharge, Preach 25 is the place to be.

PREACH NEWSLETTER













The conference is absolutely free, making it accessible to leaders at every stage of ministry.

- ROBERT STRONG

The conference is absolutely free, making it accessible to leaders at every stage of ministry. Did we mention, we will feed you?

Hosted in a spirit of generosity and fellowship, Preach 25 is more than an event—it's a movement to uplift and equip those answering the call to love God's people, Join us for two days of profound teaching, inspiring worship, workshops, and meaningful connections.

PREACH NEWLETTER

Pastoring the Rural Church – Led by Frank Whitney and Chadd Pendergraft Explore the unique challenges and opportunities of shepherding in rural communities. Gain practical insights and encouragement to lead faithfully in and encouragement to lead faithfu smaller contexts with big Kingdom

Social Media and the Church – Led by Richard Bitterman, Travis Boyt, and Zach Thomas Discover how to effectively leverage social media as a tool for ministry and outreach. Learn strategies to communicate the gospel, engage your community, and build your church's online presence.

Pastor Theologian – Led by Dr. Greg Ammons and Boomer Ammons Examine the vital role of pastors as theologians who guide their congregations in sound doctrine and spiritual growth. This session will inspire and equip you to depen your theological leadership in the church.

We have great workshops planned! Here is what you can expect:

Pastoring the Rural Church – Led by Pastoring the Rural Church – Led by Prank Whitney and Chadd Pendergard:

Explore the unique challenges and coportunities of shepherding in rural acommunities. Gain practical insights and encouragement to leaf distinguist of the properties of the propertie

Come for the Word, Stay for the Fellowship at Preach 25 int, just about powerful sermons and inspiring worship—it's also sermons and inspiring worship—it's also sermons and inspiring worship—it's also sermons and leaders. Lots of fun Sunday night with a Late-Night Pastor Panel and Dessert Fellowship, where you'll hear candid insights from ministry leaders and enjoy meaningful conversations over delicious desserts. Throughout the event, we've got you covered with meals to fuel both body and spirit, including dimner on Sunday, plus breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Monday—all provided for free! Join us not just to learn and grow but to build lasting friendships in an atmosphere of encouragement and community. Don't miss this opportunity to be renewed, refreshed, and well-fed in every way! Come for the Word. Stay for the

DECEMBER 10, 2024

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FOR 3RD-8TH GRADERS **PRACTICES: TUESDAYS 4-5 PM STARTING FEBRUARY 4** \$10/student

Register at concordic.org

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 15:57





2025 Spring Training Opportunities

Registration and information for our 2025 Spring Training events are up and live on Please let your churches know, invite your friends, and get yourself prepared to cross-train in a new area, or re-certify if your badge is expiring!

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to the MODR office at: disasterrelief@mobaptist.org or by calling 573-636-0400 ext 317

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS







Tipton R-VI School District 305 US Highway 50 E, Tipton, MO 65081

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

Associational Staff:



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



CLINT MAHAN, BCM DIRECTOR cmahan@cbamo.org (720) 936-3371



TERESA GIER, MINISTRY ASSISTANT office@cbamo.org (573) 556-0379

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JOIN THE EMAIL LIST!

to receive your copy of the newsletter digitally each month! (Sign-up link also available at: https://cbamo.org/newsletters/)

Available Resources:

Block Party Trailer

If you are planning an 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

Christian Counseling

Any church needing a referral for Christian Counseling may contact Alan Earls, DOM, for available resources.

Missouri Baptist Convention - Church Protection Resources

The Missouri Baptist Convention has compiled a number of resources through the SBC, MBCH, Ministry Safe, Choice Screening, and others to help educate and equip your church's leadership to prevent and/or appropriately handle abuse within your church. There are also resources that can help your church develop security plans, review your church bylaws, etc. These resources are all available at: https://mobaptist.org/church-benefits/church-protection/. If you need assistance accessing any of these resources, please reach out to our office and will help you in any way that we can.

200th Anniversary Book

There are still copies of "A History of Concord Association and Its Churches" by Roy Dameron available for purchase at the Association office. Please contact the association office or visit cbamo.org/200th Anniversary to order your copy. Cost: \$70.

Concord Baptist Association P.O. Box 419 Jefferson City, MO 65102