NOVEMBER 2026

CONCORD COVENANT

Individual Churches United in Fulfilling the Great Commission

GIVE THANKS!



Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!
Psalm 107:1 (ESV)

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A WORD FROM OUR DOM

DEAR CBA CHURCHES,

As we enter into November, I am reminded that traditionally we consider November as a time of Thanksgiving. We have so many things for which we should be thankful. The Psalmist shares in Psalm 69:30, ***"I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify Him with Thanksgiving."*** May this passage remind us to Praise God and to magnify Him with Thanksgiving for who He is and for all that He does for us.

The November Newsletter will probably be the last that we send out for a while. Teresa Gier has served as our Ministry Assistant for the association for a few years. She has been the editor of the Newsletter and has done an amazing job. Terry retired effective October 30, 2026. While we continue to seek a new Ministry Assistant, we are still waiting on the Lord to deliver that person (if you know someone that may be interested in this ministry, send them our way). I am thankful that Teresa served the Lord and our association faithfully. We will miss her but wish her the very best in her retirement.



Above and Right: Ministry Partners Booths at CBA Annual Meeting

I am also thankful for our CBA Annual Meeting that was hosted at Fortuna Baptist Church on Sunday October 11, 2026. I was excited and appreciated our ministry partners and their staffing of booths to help our churches with their ministries to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to make disciples. The meeting went very well, and we all celebrate the addition of Cedar Grove Baptist Church as a member of the CBA association of churches (highlights below and on page 3). It is exciting to see our churches faithfully serving the Lord and to be witnesses for Jesus in their Community, State, Nation and World! Thank you churches for all you do to serve and Honor the Lord.

May the presence and direction that God is giving our churches and association be the catalyst of thanksgiving, not only for the month of November but for each day of the year.

God's Blessing to each of you and Happy Thanksgiving!!!

In Christ,

Bro. Alan





Above (l-r): Kelly Myer, Southridge - Outgoing CBA President; Newly Elected CBA President Pastor Mike Nichols-Mt Olive





CONCORD BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 11TH ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Thank you Fortuna Baptist Church for hosting the 2026 CBA Annual meeting on October 11, 2026. We were blessed with a great turn out for the partnership booths, annual meeting and our joint worship.

Reports were given at the annual meeting by several team leaders, the BSU Director Clint Mahan including 4 Lincoln University students who talked about the BSU in their lives. Director of Missions Alan Earls reported on ministry opportunities and resources for CBA Pastors and Churches. Pastor Mike Nichols-Mt. Olive, offered thanks through prayer recognizing those members of our churches who had passed away.

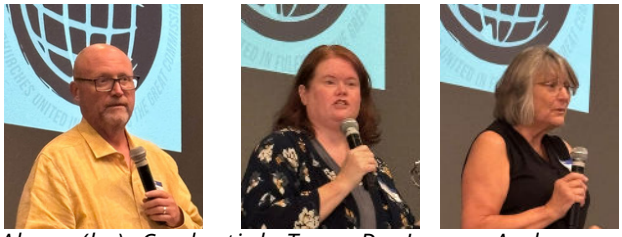
Of special note, the Credentialing Team made a motion to recommend Cedar Grove Baptist Church of Holts Summit be accepted into the Association and the motion passed. We want to welcome Cedar Grove as our newest member of the association of churches!

Along with presenting new council and team members the following General Officers and a Director of Corporation were voted into office as follows**:**

Director of Corporation: David Bonvillian (Southside)
President: Mike Nichols (Mt. Olive)
Vice-President: Mark Ritchey (Pleasant Hill)
Treasurer: Jill Campbell (Concord)
Clerk: Teresa Gier (Mt. Olive)



Above: Four BSU - Lincoln University Students



Above (l-r): Credentials Team-Dr. Jeremy Anderson-California First; Kids Camp-Kari Sullivan-Memorial; Ladies Night Out Event-Regenia Wyrick-Highpoint



Above (l-r):Teresa Gier-Mt Olive, Jill Campbell-Concord; Pastor Mike Nichols-Mt Olive; DOM Alan Earls; Dr. Mark Ritchey-Pleasant Hill; Kelly Myers-Southridge; Katie Richey-High Point and Pastor Dusty Klein-Cedar Grove



Above (l-r):Nominating Committee-Tom Shands-Salem; El Salvador Mission-Pastor Jared Rivera-FBC Tipton; Mid Mo Pastor Academy-Pastor Chris Roe-FBC Tipton

LINCOLN BAPTIST STUDENT UNION MINISTRY

Our students loved engaging in Soularium, a photo activity where you learn to listen and ask good questions moving toward spiritual conversations. We also had good discussions at our cookie and game night in the newly decorated BSU basement. Additionally, our student athletes engaged in team building and conflict resolution activities in the gym before diving into our John 15 passages this semester.







We are also excited around our upcoming Friendsgiving Dinner and Night of Worship on Sunday evening, November 15th. Please see the details below! We would love our CBA churches to join through several capacities as we hope to welcome 100 students. Open and check out the Sign Up Genius link to see what items are still needed to help make this event a success!

Set up - 4:30pm
Serve Dinner - 5:30 - 6:30pm
Clean up - minimal at 6:30 before worship and remaining from 8-9pm

We will take care of plates, utensils and drinks. I can help pick up any items offered for the event on Friday or Saturday prior! We are grateful for your partnership and efforts to help make this a great evening!
Sign up Link:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D44AFAE2CABFECF8-66763493-bsufriendsgiving



Clint

EVANGELISM



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

I recently heard a testimony by a law officer who was a member on a drug task force who worked undercover. He was watching a bad man who was a drug dealer and a drug addict. This criminal had been to jail many times but never prison. The criminal had a warrant out for his arrest and was hiding in a house. The swat team was called in because they thought he had a gun and was refusing to come out and surrender. The criminal didn't have a gun, but he knew they thought he did. He was seriously thinking about coming out and committing suicide by police officer because he was sick and tired of running and had hit his rock bottom. The law officer whom I know, talked him out of the closet he was hiding in. He told him if he didn't surrender it wasn't going to end well. He told him to walk out backwards with his hands behind his back, and he would live to see another day.

The man did come out and surrendered that day. He was eventually sent to prison. In prison he found a Bible and began to read it. He got down on his knees in that prison cell and cried out to God, "I am a bad man! Can you do anything with a bad guy?" He said, he found out as he read his Bible that everyone in there was bad except for Jesus. In that prison cell he surrendered his life to Jesus. He told the Lord, "Use me as hard as the drugs used me!" John Stroup who cofounded Freeway Ministries was born again that day in Fulton, Mo.

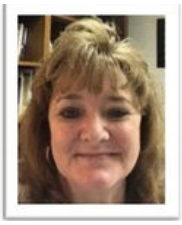
Fast forward several years. John was preaching a revival in Jefferson City at Concord Baptist Church. Steve Thompson who was the cop who talked John into coming out and surrendering that day, came to the revival meeting. He said when he heard that John was preaching a revival meeting, he knew it couldn't be the John Stroup that he knew. Then he saw John walk up to the pulpit and it was the John that he knew but when he heard him speak it wasn't the John that he knew. As he listened to God's word being preached, he fell under conviction and the Lord convicted him that he was just a bad guy who had been chasing bad guys. Steve went forward to surrender his life to Jesus Christ that evening and he was born again! Steve and John are now brothers in Christ and have become good friends. Only God can bring things full circle. Only God can write stories like that. You can't make things like that up.

Let me challenge all of us to share the gospel. Let's be used of God to write stories like this one.
2 Corinthians 5:17, **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."**

Brother Mike Quinn



THE 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.

Welcome back to the Porch. These cooler days are certainly nice!

I think my mama had every book Billy Graham and his family ever wrote. I remember daily devotions growing up in Kentucky when Mama would read from his books, the pages soft and a little worn from years of hands turning them. There's a particular kind of warmth in a childhood memory like that — a kitchen table, a familiar voice, and words that were quietly shaping you long before you knew it. One devotion I remember vividly came during the Thanksgiving season. The Scripture we learned that day was from 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

"***Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus".***
1 Thessalonians 5:18

As a youngster, I didn't fully understand what that meant. It sounded simple enough to repeat, but not so simple to live. Recently, I read the devotional again and found this quote from Dr. Graham: "The Bible frames thankfulness as a central pillar of faith. Rather than just an emotion, it is presented as a continual practice and an act of worship that acknowledges God's goodness, anchors the heart against anxiety, and fosters deep spiritual contentment regardless of circumstances."

Wow! All the dots connect for me now. Life with Christ is deeply rewarding as we grow in the Lord, remember that His mercies are new every morning, and trust Him with the challenges before us. What Mama was really teaching me at that table wasn't just a verse to memorize - it was a way of seeing. Thankfulness isn't the reward for a life that's going well; it's the practice that helps carry us through the life we have, good days and hard ones alike.

Have you ever thought of thankfulness as a central pillar of your faith? What governs your faith day by day? Thankfulness is a continual practice we are all called to live out. In 1 Thessalonians, it doesn't say to "give thanks" only when life feels easy, but to give thanks in all circumstances. That's the hard, holy part. It's easy to be thankful over a full table with the people we love. It's something else entirely to give thanks in the waiting room, the empty chair, or the year that didn't go how we planned. And yet that's exactly where the practice matters most.

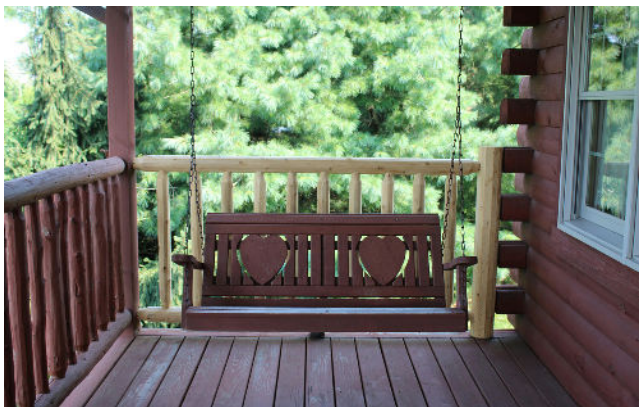
How is your thankful barometer reading this Thanksgiving? As you reflect with family and friends during this special season, may your heart be reminded to give thanks in all circumstances — not because everything is easy, but because God is good and near, even now.

We wish you and yours a very blessed Thanksgiving season!

Thanks for stopping by the Porch.

Blessings,

Paula



BOOK REVIEW



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

OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE

By Max Lucado

In Outlive Your Life, Max Lucado focuses his attention on the effect our lives have on those around us and what will remain long after we are gone. Using the early church in the first twelve chapters of Acts, Lucado encourages and motivates us, "It's not enough for you to do well. You want to do good. You want your life to matter. You want to live in such a way that the world will be glad you did," (Lucado 2010, p. 3).

To that end, Lucado reminds us that the spread of the gospel in the first century was accomplished by God working through ordinary people much like you and me. Those early disciples, empowered by the Holy Spirit, saw the world around them in a brand new way and were compelled to share the good news with everyone. As they shared the gospel, they also ministered to the poor, practiced hospitality, learned to look past labels and judgments to see the person, and the need. They learned the value of teamwork and community. The early church spent much time in prayer, meditated on God's grace and love, and memorized His words. These are the things we should be doing as well.

Lucado closes with this thought, "None of us can help everyone. But all of us can help someone. And when we help them, we serve Jesus. Who would want to miss a chance to do that, (Lucado 2010, p. 172)?

There is a discussion and action guide at the back of the book. There is also a DVD and a study guide available. Lucado has dedicated 100% of the proceeds from this book to World Vision and other ministries of faith-based compassion.

Churches in Transition:

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

- **Cole Spring - Rev. Alex Earls, Interim**
- **Concord - Dr. Robert Matz, Interim**
- **Cornerstone - Transitional Pastor Rev. Kenny Martin**
- **Enon**
- **High Point - Rev. Monte Shinkle, Interim**
- **Immanuel - Transitional Pastor Rev. Steve Sowder**
- **Jamestown**
- **New Hope - Dr. Dennis Maxwell retiring end of November**
- **Prairie Home - Rev. Shawn Dumsday retiring end of December**

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOU!



I would like to thank Concord Baptist Association for the opportunity to work alongside you for the past two years as your Ministry Assistant. It has been a blessing to get to know more of the membership on a personal basis. I've come to realize how much each CBA Pastor, leadership, team leaders, team members, and staff have a heart for working together with the goal of spreading the gospel. Thank you.

MINISTRY & JOB OPENINGS

Part-Time Ministry Assistant - The Concord Baptist Association (CBA) is currently seeking a part-time Ministry Assistant. This part-time position consists of a flexible 24 hour work week, at the discretion of the Director of Missions, between the hours of 8:00-4:30 Monday-Thursday and 8:00-12:00 Friday. This position requires the ability to multitask, work with CBA leadership, pastors, other CBA church leaders and their members, along with the public.

A knowledge of QuickBooks or another accounting program is highly desirable, to include, bill processing, reconciliation of bank statements, generating financial reports; answer phones and manage emails; keep calendars; design and publish a monthly newsletter; social media updates; attend 3 evening Executive Council meetings and the Annual meeting; and, overall ability to multi-task in order to run and maintain an office. Experience is preferred but willingness to learn will be considered.

For a full job description please go to our website at cbamo.org. Resumes should be emailed to alanearls@cbamo.org.

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Full-Time Pastor - Cornerstone Baptist Church, a traditional, mid-sized, multigenerational Southern Baptist congregation in Jefferson City, Missouri, is prayerfully seeking a Full-Time Pastor.

Candidates should hold a seminary degree and have at least ten years of ministry experience. We are looking for a servant-hearted leader who excels in expository preaching, embraces the 2000 Baptist Faith & Message, and values cooperation within the Southern Baptist Convention. Please send



your résumé and sermon links to pastorsearch@cornerstonejeffcity.org. Learn more about our church at www.cornerstonejeffcity.org.

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Preschool & Children's Ministry Director - Concord Baptist Church, Jefferson City seeks a full-time Children's Ministry Director with a passion for discipling children and equipping families. Responsible for providing leadership, vision, and oversight for programming and events for children from birth through 6th grade. Successful candidate will exhibit spiritual maturity, integrity, and a servant-leadership mindset. Bachelor's degree in ministry, education, child development, or related field and previous experience leading a church children's ministry preferred. Successful candidate will demonstrate strong leadership, organizational, and communication skills; ability to recruit, train, and motivate volunteers; experience in curriculum planning and event coordination; and proficiency with church management software and basic technology tools. Competitive salary and generous benefits provided. More information at cbamo.org. Please send letter and resume to: info@concordjc.org.

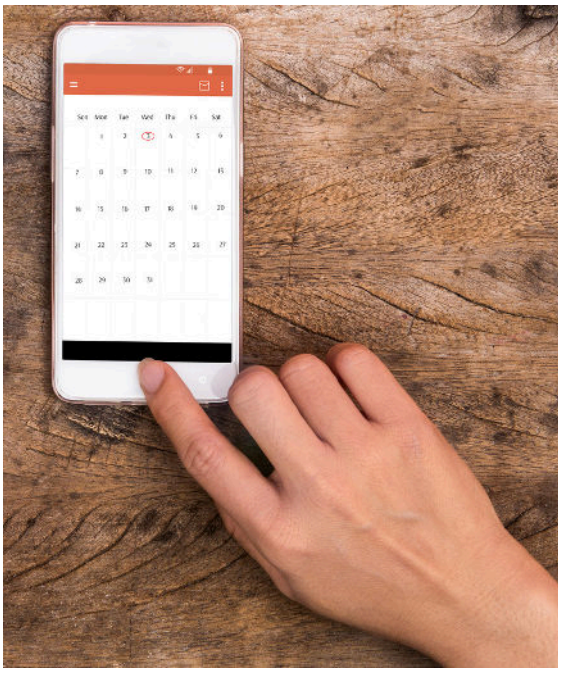
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CBA CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
				BSU Cookies & Milk Tabling Effort-BSU Event		
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
BSU Thanksgiving Dinner		Pastor Round Table-12:00pm		CBA Leadership Transition Mtg-6:30pm at MBC	Newsletter Deadline	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Thanksgiving Holiday-CBA Office Closed →			
29	30					





DEC2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01	02	03	04	05
				BSU Cookies & Milk Tabling Effort-BSU Event		*Ministry Wives Network 1-Day Retreat Tentative*
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Pastor Round Table-12:00pm			Newsletter Deadline	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Christmas Holiday-CBA Office Closed →					
27	28	29	30	31		
Christmas Holiday-CBA Office Closed →						

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
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AMELIA BERTRAM, BAPTIST STUDENT UNION ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
AmeliaBertram@cbamo.org
(573) 635-4832

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cbamo.org

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 CBA 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 the Ministry Assistant 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
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