

# The Central FOCUS

"Experiencing God Together!"

Central Baptist Association  
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## Churches:

Argenta  
Arthur  
Atwood  
Boody  
Calvary  
Emmanuel  
Fellowship  
Findlay  
Forsyth  
Galilee  
Hammond  
Heyworth  
Lincoln  
Lovington  
Mt. Zion  
Shiloh  
Sullivan  
Summit Avenue  
Tabernacle  
Tri-Valley  
Trinity

The Mission of Central Baptist Association is to encourage and facilitate Cooperation, Fellowship, Missions Awareness and Missionary Activity among our churches; and to assist and resource our churches in the areas of Church Renewal, Leadership Development and New Work!

## Two Town Hall Meetings—About What You Ask?

Here is an update regarding the Major Overhaul Task Force that was appointed by our Moderator (Brother Lanny Faulkner) following the Executive Board Meeting and Convocation on the Association held July 12<sup>th</sup>. The Task Force would like (1) to ask for your continued prayer for them, (2) to remind you about the scope of their work, and (3) to invite you to participate in one of two Town Hall Meetings in late September.

Three pastors and three laymen were appointed to serve alongside your two part-time coordinators. Brother Lanny, of course, is an Ex Officio member of all standing and ad hoc teams.

The Task Force serving you – and in need of your prayers – is as follows:

<u>Laymen</u>	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Association</u>
Dennis Blankenship, Tabernacle	Scott Andrews, Emmanuel	Lanny Faulkner, Moderator
Dale Granda, Summit Avenue	Will Ferguson, Argenta	J.J. Hairston, Coordinator
Mark Lash, Fellowship Shelbyville	Don Lusk, Southern, Sullivan	Rich Ratts, Coordinator

The specific task that the Major Overhaul Task Force has been given is to develop and present a plan for Central Baptist Association to undergo major strategic and structural adjustments in order to more effectively collaborate together for the Kingdom.

The plan presented will not be perfect, however, we prayerfully anticipate that the members of our association will deem it a good starting place when we consider its adoption during our Annual Meeting (scheduled for Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at Forsyth Baptist Church).

**Please consider attending one of two Town Hall Meetings** being planned in order for the Task Force to present their proposed plan which they believe God has helped them to develop. One meeting is scheduled for a weeknight and one on the weekend in an attempt to accommodate schedules for those who are not available at one time or another.

The meetings are scheduled for:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Saturday	September 20 <sup>th</sup>	9–10:30 AM	Emmanuel Baptist Church
Monday	September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7–8:30 PM	Emmanuel Baptist Church

Following the Town Hall Meeting presentations, a packet of information will be sent to all CBA Pastors and Executive Board Members with final recommendations of the Task Force to be considered at the Annual Meeting.

## In This Issue:

Front Page-*Two Town Hall Meetings & "God's Courtroom"*

Page 2-*Did You Know?, Beth Moore Simulcast*

Page 3-*Lots of Coming Events*

Back page-*Where do we go from here?, CBA Calendar & Annual Meeting Information*

## "God's Courtroom" Videos

*Coming to a video store near you*

Bruce Kugler produced "God's Courtroom" with help from his church, Living Faith Baptist in Sherman. Now, the video presentation of the Gospel—set in some of Illinois' most historic courtrooms—is available through more than 770 Family Video stores across the country.

In keeping with Kugler's commitment to offer the film free of charge, the video is a free rental.

Kulger, as a defense attorney, wondered what it would be like when people one day stood before God, the ultimate judge. He began creating a Gospel presentation based on principles and terminology used in the legal system. "God's Courtroom" is the result.

The CBA office has a copy if you are interested in seeing it. Call the office at (217) 428-1730 or email [cbaooffice@comcast.net](mailto:cbaooffice@comcast.net)

# CBA Pastors, Staff & families...

## September

### Birthdays

5-Vickie Marshall (Mt. Zion)  
6-Brandon Smith (Mt. Zion)  
9-Bill Henderson (Hammond)  
10-Dale Granda (Summit Ave.)  
23-Bethany Andrews (Emmanuel)  
-Renee Smith (Mt. Zion)  
24-Julie Andrews (Emmanuel)  
28-Rich Ratts (Forsyth)



### Wedding Ann.

21-Tom & Pauline Miller (Heyworth)

## FREE TO GOOD CHURCH HOME

Tabernacle Baptist Church has the following to give away to a church in need:

Air Hockey table Foosball table Pool table  
22 mid-size metal folding chairs (larger children's size)

Contact Tabernacle at (217) 877-5653 or  
kim@tbcdccatur.org to arrange pick up.



## Living Proof Simulcast

Saturday, Sept. 13th, 2014

Beginning at 8 AM

Tabernacle Baptist Church, Decatur, IL  
650 N. Wyckles Rd.

If you've ever enjoyed studying the Word through Beth's Bible studies, you'll love experiencing her teaching via simulcast. Beth's mission is to guide women everywhere into a richer, more fulfilling relationship with the Father.

**Cost: \$30 for individuals**

**\$28 for groups of 10 or more**

Cost includes a Continental Breakfast,  
a Catered Lunch and handout guides.

Registration begins at 8:30 AM  
and Simulcast begins at 9:30 AM.

Free childcare available upon request  
when purchasing tickets.

**Tickets available during Tabernacle's  
business hours of 8:30 AM-4 PM, M-F,  
by calling (217) 877-5653**

## Did you know?

Twenty years ago, June 6th, 1994, I, Lanny Faulkner, walked in the front door of Central Baptist Association as Director of Missions for the first time. By the grace of God, HE allowed me to serve in that capacity for 5,961 days! That is 16 years, 3 months, and 25 days.

These were years of both joys and sorrows, triumphs and tragedies, right decisions and wrong decisions. The thing I remember most is the amazing graciousness and kindness that was poured out on me and my family by the members of our Churches. There are only two men still pastoring in CBA who were here when I came: Mitch Flesch at Calvary; and, Tom Miller (who was then, as now) at FBC Heyworth. Hundreds of faithful laypersons in our Churches are still with us and still faithfully serving their Church.

I am thankful beyond expression to the men and women of CBA for the multitude of kindnesses and faithful support given to me and my family over those years. I am thankful to be pastoring a CBA Church; and, I am praying for the manifest blessings of God upon our Churches and our Association in the years ahead.

Thank you!

Brother Lanny Faulkner

If you'd like to read Brother Lanny's blog-go to  
[pastorlanny.wordpress.com/spirituallyspeaking](http://pastorlanny.wordpress.com/spirituallyspeaking)

## Summit Tax & Accounting, LLC PowerChurch Plus Seminars

**Date: Friday, Sept. 26, 2014**

**Time and Cost:**

**Session A: 9 AM-12 PM or Session B: 1:30-5 PM**

\$70-1st person in group

\$60 Additional guests from same group

**Session A & B:**

\$130 1st person in group

\$120 Additional guests from same group

**Session A-Membership/Contributions**

**Session B-Accounting, Accounts Payable & Payroll**

If you are interested in signing up for the seminar, please visit their website at [www.sta-cpas.com](http://www.sta-cpas.com) or call (217) 877-6766. E-mail [Kathy.Holt@sta-cpas.com](mailto:Kathy.Holt@sta-cpas.com) for more information.

## IBSA Church Resources Conference

*Come fill your*

### *Kids Ministry Toolkit*

**October 24-25, 2014**

**at IBSA, Springfield**

Includes the 2015 VBS Preview  
*of Journey off the Map*

**Friday 6-9 PM-Better, funner Sunday School**

Fresh ideas and breakout sessions

**Saturday 8 AM-Noon-Big plans for Summer**

Including LifeWay's VBS preview

**Register at [www.IBSA.org/kids](http://www.IBSA.org/kids) \* (217) 391-3124**



## Super Saturday Seminars Churches of Strength

A Super Saturday Seminar is  
coming to your area!

Monday, September 29th, 2014  
At Chatham Baptist, Chatham  
6:30-9:00 PM



followed by two informative and inspirational breakout sessions led by various members of your IBSA Leadership Teams.

I invite you to join with hundreds of others for some practical, cutting-edge, useful training that is designed to equip and strengthen your church's ministries in such areas as: Leadership Development, Sunday School, Evangelism, Discipleship, Music & Worship, Student Ministries, Family Ministries, Church Renewal, Missions Awareness, Prayer, Men's Ministries, WMU and more . . .

This is an excellent way to get as many people as possible trained in as many areas of ministry as your church has.

Tons of free resources and materials will be handed out. So plan "NOW" to load up a van full of folks and participate in this year's Super Saturday Seminars in your area.

For more information call (217) 391-3124 or e-mail [CathyWaters@IBSA.org](mailto:CathyWaters@IBSA.org).

## New Life Pregnancy Center's Annual Banquet

Tues., September 9th, 2014  
at Decatur Conference Center

Come meet three women from our community whose lives have been changed because of NLPC's ministry. Each is from a different walk of life and understands what it means to trade ashes for beauty and sorrow for joy.

Join them for a night of hope and celebration as they honor the Author of Life who longs to give each of us Beauty for Ashes. Seating will be reserved, and reservations will be accepted after August 6th. Please remember this is a fund raising event. We ask that all attendees be at least 18 years old. Call 872-5556 for tickets.



## Elevate Marriage

*Strengthening biblical foundations  
in today's shifting culture.*

Thursday, October 16th, 2014  
10 AM-2 PM

Lunch will be provided

**IBSA Building, Springfield**

Andrew Walker: The latest on changing laws  
and cultural values

Dr. Kevin Smith: The prophetic role of the pulpit

Jill Finley: Creating role models in church  
Ministry plans and better by-laws

**Registration required \* [www.IBSA.org/Marriage](http://www.IBSA.org/Marriage)**

## The Church Renewal Journey

Lay Renewal Weekends offer churches a way to grow in Christ and reach others for Him. The weekends provide an opportunity for churches to re-awaken to their purpose and passion, and are the first step in the five-part Church Renewal Journey.

The weekends, which are led by trained lay renewal volunteers, begin on Friday with small group times for church members. Saturday sessions include both small and large group sessions.

The wrap-up session on Sunday is the morning worship service with songs and testimonies only. On Sunday night, the church holds an evaluation session to reflect on the weekend and begin steps to turn ideas and plans into action.

For information, contact IBSA Church Renewal Coordinator Mark Shipley at (309) 361-3566, e-mail [shipleymark@comcast.net](mailto:shipleymark@comcast.net) or visit the website-[churchrenewaljourney.net](http://churchrenewaljourney.net).

**Plan ways to show your Pastor and his family your appreciation for all they mean to you, in October and the rest of the year.**

## Baptist Children's Home and Family Services Fall Festival & Golf Scramble

Fall Festival is September 20th, 2014

At the Carmi campus



Churches are invited to set up a booth of food or games. It is a carnival style event with a silent auction in the gym and a live quilt auction. There will be musical entertainment, bounce houses, games and free food.

They are in need of volunteers during the day to help out with various booths.

17th Annual Golf Scramble  
is October 4th, 2014

Green Hills Golf Club in Mt. Vernon, IL

They need golf sponsorships, golfers and volunteers for this event. This is a four-person best ball scramble. Two tee times are scheduled, the first at 7:30 am and second at 1 pm. Registration closes Sept. 26th or when they have 32 teams and 36 teams respectively. The \$65 per player entry fee covers greens and cart fees, a team photo and lunch at noon. Prizes are awarded for the longest drive, longest putt and closest to the pin competition. There are also multiple Hole-in-one prizes including a Golf Cart and a Fabulous Trip for 2 to Hawaii.



On-line registration is encouraged at [www.bchfs.com](http://www.bchfs.com). You can make a secure entry fee payment or donation by credit card.

Contact Paula Joy @ [618-731-1323](tel:618-731-1323) to volunteer for both the So. Golf Scramble or the Fall Festival.

# Where do we go from here?

## 4 steps for reaching the destination

*Vision/Tim Sadler, IBSA Director of Evangelism*

You invested the time. You did the necessary analysis. You know exactly where the organization needs to go. But how is it that you mobilize all of these people to go in the same direction and end up in the same place?

Sometimes the leader must feel like Moses at the Red Sea with an entire nation at his back: the people are counting on you to lead them from their present situation to their preferred future. But how?

**Know where you are going.** Possessing an unclear objective can lead to competing agendas and general chaos. Leaders must clearly and repetitively paint a clear picture of the place the organization needs to go.

Now, paint the picture for them again. And, again. Don't stop telling and retelling the story of where together you are going. Leaders who fail to cast and recast a clear vision of the future will have teams that pull in different directions. At the least, the organization will be immobilized, and will not progress toward the preferred future. At worst, unaligned teams will pull the organization apart.

It is vital that the teams you lead know where they are going. They must also know their part in helping the overall organization reach its destination and accomplish its objective.

**Know why you must go there.** Great visionary leaders will not just tell you where you are going, but why you must go there. The vision must not be one of several viable options. It must be that place to which nothing else can compare.

This is the compelling part of the vision. The beauty of this place is so emblazoned on the heart of the leader that he refuses to settle for anything less. Part of this includes explaining clearly why we cannot stay where we presently are. Knowing the why of moving toward the visionary end motivates teams to contribute to the effort.

**Know how you are going to get there.** At this juncture, wise leaders will depend heavily on their leadership teams—not that they haven't up to this point—but it's even more important at his stage. Bringing engineering to the vision is the role of team members

with specialized gifts, insight, and experience.

The leaders of specialized teams will be helpful in charting the course from where the organization is presently, to where the vision says we need to go and all pertinent points in between.

**Know what it will take to get there.** Leading is difficult, even painful at times. The question that comes to mind is, "Is that the hill on which to die?" If the answer is yes, this hill, this vision, is worth giving your life for, then carefully count the cost and trudge on.

It may be helpful at this point to make notes as to what you envision it will cost you personally, and the organization corporately, along the way. This is helpful because when things get tough, this list will be a helpful reminder that you knew beforehand that these troubles could arise. At the end, however, you'll find reaching the destination was worth the effort.

IBSA Director of Evangelism, and he's currently Tabernacle's Interim Senior Pastor.

(217) 391-3131

[TimSadler@IBSA.org](mailto:TimSadler@IBSA.org)



## Mark Your Calendar

### September 2014

#### 1st-LABOR DAY-Office Closed

- 9th at 6:30 PM-NLPC's Ann. Banquet at Decatur Conf. Center
- 13th at 8 AM-Beth Moore Living Proof Live! Simulcast at Tabernacle
- 14th-21st-State Missions Emphasis-Illinois Missions Offering
- 20th at 9 AM-Task Force Town Hall Meeting at Emmanuel BC
- 20th-BCH&FS Annual Fall Festival, Carmi
- 20th at 7 PM-Task Force Town Hall Meeting at Emmanuel BC
- 24th-See You At the Pole (Get prayer & planning ideas at [www.syatp.com](http://www.syatp.com))
- 26th-Tax Seminar at Summit Tax & Acct. in Decatur, IL
- 26th-27th-Answer the Call Conf. at IBSA Bldg.
- 27th-Church Library Conference, FBC, Salem

### October 2014 PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

- 4th-Southern Illinois Golf Tournament Fundraiser for BCH&FS
- 5th-Soul Winning Sunday
- 10th-11th-Disaster Relief Training at Lake Sallateeska
- 16th-10 AM-2 PM-Elevate Marriage at IBSA Bldg., Spgfld.
- 11th-(10 AM-3 PM) 65th Annual Meeting at Forsyth Baptist
- 13th-Columbus Day
- 24-25-Church Resources Conference at IBSA, Springfield. Includes the 2015 VBS Preview of *Journey off the Map*.

### Central Baptist Association's

## 65th Annual Meeting

Saturday, October 11th, 2014

10 AM-3 PM

### At Forsyth Baptist Church

144 E. Cox St., Forsyth

The **Annual Sermon** will be brought by **Pastor Don Lusk, Southern, Sullivan**

**Alternate: Pastor Al Hodges, Shiloh**

**Music leader:** To Be Decided

**Meal arrangements: 12 Noon to 1 PM** with the meal supplied

**Please make a sign up sheet and have your Annual Meeting Messengers, Alternates and any visitors coming, sign up for the meal, so we know how much to prepare. The CBA secretary will contact the churches Monday, Oct. 6th to get the totals.**