Dr. Timothy Faber, Director of Missions lakeoftheozarksba@att.net lakeoftheozarksba.com

The Voice

JULY 2019

In Philippians 3.13-14 Paul wrote, "...forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward all of God in Christ Jesus." (NASB)

The Centenary Translation words it this way: "...straining every nerve toward that which lies ahead, I am ever pressing..."

Many Believers have claimed these verses as motivation and to remind them to keep going. We tend to focus on the goal, we compete with others over who accomplishes the most, we strain and strive to attain that which requires no strain or striving.

I am not meaning to undermine Scripture! Not in any way! When Paul wrote that he did so under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and it is totally true. But I think we often misunderstand or misplace the emphasis. Paul was highly motivated in everything he did, and he wanted to make sure that what He did is what God had called him to do. His memories of his past plagued him and Satan haunted him about the things he had done in persecuting the people of God. Thus point of that verse is staying focused on the upward call of God, not on our the things of our past, nor on our pursuing and pressing and striving.

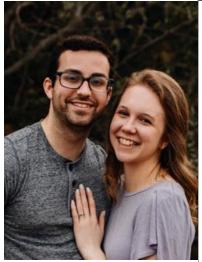
So what exactly is that upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Quite simply, it is to be faithful in reflecting Jesus to others; to be faithful to what He has called us to. Psalm 46.10 says "Cease striving and know that I am God" If the focus of Philippians 3.13 is striving and pressing forward, but Psalm 46 says to cease striving what are we to do?

God told Abram to go to "A land I will show you" so Abram had to look for God each day, and each step, instead of rushing forward to some to some goal (land). After David was anointed by Samuel as king he could have pressed on toward that goal of being king, but instead he went back to shepherding his father's sheep, and at the right time the Lord fulfilled His call in David's life.

When we focus on the goal rather than journey we miss the blessings along the way. On our recent trip to Colorado if I was only focused on the goal of getting there I would have missed the small herd of antelope, I would have missed the rolling hills of Kansas that were as green in May as the hills of Ireland, I would have missed the windmills and the lesson they gave (see last month's Voice), and more.

Our Christian walk is a just that, a walk. A journey. The goal is already secured through the blood of Christ! So enjoy the journey and the blessings the Father has for us along the way. Remember, when God came to Adam and Eve in the garden He was walking (Gen 3.8) and in fact the Bible refers to "walking with God" or "walking in His way" numerous times. So slow down, relax. Remember the Sabbath. There is joy in the journey.

Mt. Carmel calls Minister of Students - Zach Mendenhall



Zach & Lauren Mendenhall

I grew up in a Christian home and I was saved when I was seven years old. But, when I began my first couple years of college, I struggled to live as I ought to as a Christian. God brought me out of my struggle with sin like a prodigal son. After my first two years of college, God called me to enter into the ministry. God gave me a desire to serve the youth and from that time I began attending Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri for three years. I graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Pastoral Studies. After I graduated, I was blessed with the opportunity to serve as a bi-vocational Middle School Pastor at First Baptist Church of Ozark. God has taught me a lot about the ministry and I am very thankful to have been led by God to Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. My goal is to preach the gospel, teach the truth in love, build relationships with the students, and to make disciples. I realize that I am a sinner saved by grace and so it is by God's grace alone that I can live to reach this goal everyday. I hope and pray that the students will hear God's Word and be changed by it. I hope and pray that God uses me as an instrument for his glory, so that I can point them towards Jesus Christ. As is said of David in Acts 13:36, I hope to serve the purpose of God in my own generation and be with the Lord for all eternity.

LAKE OF THE OZARKS
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD

MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 7:00 PM
LOCUST BAPTIST CHURCH
9277 WEBB ROAD
VERSAILLES MO



Pastor's & Wives Breakfast
Saturday, July 13,
8:30 AM
Blue Springs Baptist Church



ASSOCIATION
YOUTH
MINI GOLF
MONDAY,
AUGUST 12,
2:30 PM
MEET AT
RIVERVIEW
COST \$10 PER
PERSON

YOUTH COUNCIL

MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

2:30 PM at

BREW BROS.



Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association Camp 2019 Camp P82, 27407 Montrose Rd. Rocky Mount, MO 65072

Youth Camp, completed 3rdgrade-Completed 6thgrade, July 29th-August 2nd,Cost \$75 Kids Camp, Completed K-Completed 3rdgrade, August 1st-Aug 2nd,Cost \$15 REGISTRATION FORM AND FEES DUE JULY 1ST

Camp forms are available on the Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association website www.lakeoftheozarksba.com

Youth Camp, Completed Grades 6-12
July 22-26 Cost \$100
Pulaski Baptist Camp, Waynesville MO
You will need to contact Pulaski Association Directly for Registration Forms pulaskibaptistassociation.com



BLUE SPRINGS CELEBRATES 175 YEARS

On Saturday, June 22, family and friends gathered to help celebrate 175 years for Blue Springs Baptist Church. Several speakers were on the program including Lonnie Simpson, Pastor, Randy Mistler and Jimmy Calton, Deacons, and Cindy Mistler, church historian. Others included former pastor, John Shifflet, Timothy Faber, DOM for Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association, and Randall Bunch, son of former pastor, T. W. Bunch. To conclude the program for the afternoon, The Lesters, presented a concert. A cake and punch reception followed the concert.

Below are pictures taken by Alyson Calton:













ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE

The Annual Church Profile report will be available at our July Executive Board Meeting. It is vitally important to the work of the association that this report be filled out. Give as much complete information as possible, especially contact information for church leaders {address, phone, email}. Also send a list to the association office of those from your congregation who need to be on our Memorial list.

Reporting period is July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019.

If you have any questions please call the association office, 392-6591.

Missions Opportunity!

As part of the partnership between the Missouri Baptist Convention and the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention, our missions committee is planning a mission trip to Rochester Minnesota for July 19 – 26. This mission opportunity involves helping the Emmanuel Baptist Church with Vacation Bible School, and also doing some work at the convention offices. There will be painting, removing vinyl flooring, installing ceramic tile, and some landscaping work. To accomplish all that needs to be done we will need at 15-20 people. Having someone accompany the group as a cook would be a great blessing and allow the other workers more time to do the painting and other work.

The trip is open to anyone who is at least 18 years old and a member of an LOBA church. Those under 18 may also participate as long as a parent or other responsible adult accompanies them.

Each person will be responsible for their own meals and transportation in-route to Rochester, but carpooling is encouraged. While on the field, we will have lodging in the facilities of the Emmanuel Baptist Church. Meals will be together as a team and the cost for groceries is \$75 per person with a maximum of \$150 per family.

If you are planning to go please turn in Commitment Forms as soon as possible. They are available in the office and on our website www.lakeoftheozarksba.com.

IT'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TIME

Listed below are the VBS that the dates are known. Make plans to attend.

July 7-11: FBC Iberia, 3 Bonnie Drive, Iberia, 6:00-8:30 July 8-12: FBC Eldon, 209 S. Aurora, Eldon, 8:30-11:30 AM

July 14-19: Hickory Point, 6 Ponder Slab Road, Iberia

Vacation Bible School Reports

Remember to submit your VBS Reports to the association office as well as include the information on your Annual Church Profile

AMAZING ADVENTURES WITH JESUS

Nominating Committee Meeting Tuesday, July 2, 6:30 PM Association Office

ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL

MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13,

6:30 PM

BUDGET PLANNING

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2: Nominating Committee Meeting, Associational Office, 6:30 PM

July 4: Independence Day - Office Closed

July 7-11: VBS Iberia 6:00-8:30, 3 Bonnie Drive, Iberia

July 8-12: VBS FBC Eldon, 8:30-11:30 AM, 209 S. Aurora, Eldon

July 9: Executive Board Meeting, Locust Baptist Church, 9277 Webb Rd., Versailles, 7:00 PM

July 13: Pastors & Wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

July 14-19: VBS Hickory Point, 6 Ponder Slab Road, Iberia

July 16: Camp Committee Meeting, Associational Office, 10:30 AM

July 19-26: Mission Trip to Rochester MN

July 22-26: Youth Camp, [Grades 7-12], Pulaski County Baptist Association, Waynesville

July 26-27: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

July 29-Aug. 2: Older Children's Camp (completed Grades 3-6), Camp P82

August 1: Youth Council Meeting, 2:00 at Brew Bros. in Eldon

August 1-2: Kids Camp [Completed Grades K-3] Camp P82

August 10: Pastor's & Wives Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

August 12: Youth Mini Golf, meet at Riverview Baptist Church at 2:30

August 13: Associational Council Meeting, Associational Office, 6:30 PM, Budget Planning

September 14: Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association Annual Meeting

