

Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association

PO Box 391 • Eldon, MO 65026

573-392-6591 • lakeoftheozarksBA.com

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

The Voice

JUNE 2021

Last month I wrote about the value of an association – what an association does and how that can be a benefit to the churches – but I did so in a rather generic way. Even when I wrote of our own association it was more about what, and very little of the “why”. So allow me to address the why . . . Why do we do what we do?

To put it simply, we do what we do to change lives, to change the world, and to change eternity.

The latest population figures show that our three county area has a total population of 92,541. That figure has undoubtedly increased over the past year as more people move to the lake area every month. Even so, every one of those is a soul, created in the image of God and destined for eternity in hell unless they put their faith in Christ. No church can reach all of these folks by itself. . . . not to mention the millions that come to the lake area every year. But working together we can be more effective in introducing people to Jesus.

If the average worship attendance of every Southern Baptist Church in Miller, Morgan, and Camden county were added together there would be less than 2200 people. In other words, Baptists make up about 2.3% of the population in the lake area. We need each other! We need each other for encouragement, true, and for accountability and equipping. But we also need each other because of the multiplying effect of cooperation, often called synergy. The Bible teaches us that two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor (Ecc. 4:9, NASB) and that we are to bear one another’s burdens. I believe that through our camps, our youth events, and other means of cooperation we can multiply the effectiveness of ministry and gospel witness and more lives will be changed . . . more souls will be rescued from hell and redeemed for heaven!

I also believe that such cooperation and synergy will help move some churches from survival mode to growth mode, and from being defensive against the encroaching evil in our society to being on the offensive. The church is to be on the offense, right? Didn’t Jesus say (Matthew 16) that the gates of hell shall not prevail against His church? Gates are defensive and resisting the onslaught of something on the offense – the church. “Onward Christian soldiers, marching as to war! With the Cross of Jesus going on before!” But too many of our churches have become defensive rather than offensive. As we link arms one with another we become stronger, our light shines brighter, and salt has more savor.

We read in the book of Acts that the early followers of Christ were accused of turning the world upside down (I prefer to think they turned it right side up). Just a handful of 120 believers gather in the upper room seven weeks after Jesus was executed. But they changed the very character and make-up of the Roman Empire, and indeed all of human civilization. Did they have a different God? No, our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Were they fighting an easier battle? No, if anything the Roman Empire was more evil, and oppressive, and pagan than our own. Did they have better Scriptures? No, in fact the New Testament had not even been written yet! They changed the world using primarily the Old Testament. What is the difference then? It is in the church, in the people of God, in you and me. Where is our passion?

As the gospel is proclaimed and lives are won to Christ there will be a resulting impact on society. Couples will get married rather than living in fornication and adultery, and those marriages will last a lifetime rather than ending in divorce. Domestic violence will cease. Human trafficking will end. There will be no unwed mothers.

Abortion will be unheard of. Drunkenness and drug abuse will end. Men will work to provide for themselves and their families and employers will treat their employees as they would want to be treated. Can you imagine living in a community, or a region, or even a world where these things were so?

Can you imagine the Lake of the Ozarks shedding its reputation as a place for partying and debauchery and becoming a place where Christ is honored, families are celebrated, children and women are safe, work is fairly rewarded and leisure time creates no guilt or regrets? Can you imagine a time when there is no longer a “party cove”? Can you imagine a time when these Ozark hills echo the praises of God’s people rather than the worldly and fleshly cries of those trying to drown their brokenness in a pool of booze?

This is why we do what we do. It’s not because “it’s Sunday and we’re supposed to go to church.” That won’t win anybody to Christ or even honor Him in any way. It’s not because we’ve always done it a certain way, and its not because something is the latest fad or trend from some mega church or even the Southern Baptist Convention. It’s because Jesus tells us to go into the highways and hedges and compel them to come. We must go. We must be compelling.

Let us, as an association, work together to replace the brackish water of this lake with the living water of eternal life!

Your Servant,
Timothy



Pastor’s & Wives Breakfast
Saturday, June 12, 2021
8:30 AM
Blue Springs Baptist
Church

COME JOIN US
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7,
4:00-6:00 PM
BLUE SPRINGS BAPTIST
CHURCH
FOR AN ASSOCIATION
HOMEMADE ICE CREAM AND
FIXINS SOCIAL
GAMES-HORSESHOES-CORN
THROW-RING TOSS
SWIMMING - BRING YOUR
SWIM GEAR
BRING CONTAINER(S) OF
HOMEMADE ICE CREAM
CAKES, COOKIES OR PIES

Missions Opportunity!

MISSION TRIP TO ROCHESTER MINNESOTA JULY 24-29

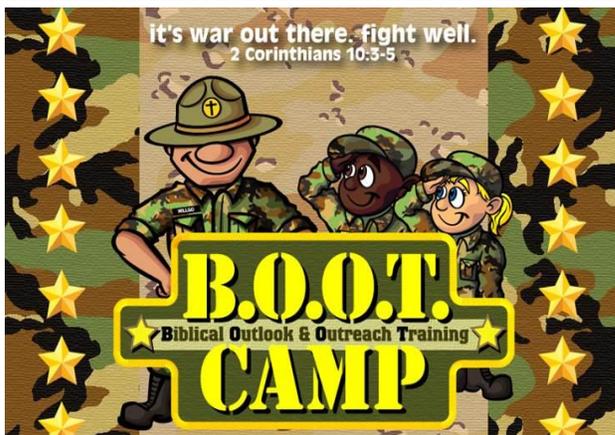
TO ASSIST WITH VBS AT EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

AND SOME MAINTAINENCE AT THE WISCONSIN/MINNESOTA STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO GO YOUR COMMITMENT FORMS NEED TO BE TURNED IN BY **JULY 1**

FORMS ARE LOCATED ON OUR WEB PAGE lakeoftheozarksba.com [Info Center]

CALL THE ASSOCIATION OFFICE IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS



**Children's Camp -
July 5-9, 2021 -
Camp P82, Rocky Mount
Registration forms
can be located on our
web page [Info Center]
and must be turned
in by **June 15****

We need volunteers to help with camp.

We need Help in the kitchen, Crafty People, or other general workers.

If you have indicated that you would be a volunteer you must fill out your camp form by June 15.

Forms can be found online at lakeoftheozarksba.com [Info Center] or at the Office. **REGISTRATIONS DUE JUNE 15**

GROWTH AT SPRING GARDEN

Submitted by Robert Cavanaugh, Pastor, Spring Garden Baptist Church

In early April Spring Garden was way down in attendance and we were praying for God to show us what to do about that. I called and talked to Dr. Faber at the association and he said let's go visiting people. I always enjoyed visitation and replied, "Let's go." We picked a day and I found two members who had not been to church for awhile. We went to visit them and we haven't seen them since. Guess that's the way that goes sometimes.

The great thing is that we have been seeing God move in wonderful ways since that night of visitation. Although those people never showed up at church other people have. We had one couple show up and said they had been driving by and saw we were consistently open so they thought to come and see what was going on inside.

After a couple visits they decided to join in the work and joined the church. Then some of their grandchildren have joined also. Plus one of their daughters family is coming. The man and I have been going out on visitation most Thursday evenings for 1.5 -2 hours and from that we have 3 other couples coming with one of them having teenagers.

All of this has not gone without some growing pains. We had to add 2 new Sunday school classes, one for children and one for youth. That means we had to clean out a storage room to make a class. We also needed new teachers. I got to teach one Sunday in my new class and now find out this week I have to switch to another room because the youth have outgrown their room and the youth are bringing more of their friends. We have opened the nursery up during worship service and have found no trouble in volunteers to take that on using a rotation basis.

We don't have a piano player for worship service so I've been playing the mandolin alone for 3 years. Now we have a guitar, bass, and a song leader. People sure are enjoying the new music. As opportunities to serve have opened the people have joyfully taken to the work. We even have a Wednesday evening dinner and fellowship that started out of VBS preparation work.

We can't take credit for any of these good things happening at Spring Garden. This is a work too large for us to take credit for. I have seen when we are obedient and faithful in our service to God we can see Him bless mightily. From early April to late May Spring Garden has grown in attendance from 12 to 30 last week (with six missing). Brothers and sisters, GOD IS GOOD.

PS: Since this article was written, Spring Garden has had a high attendance of 36 and has baptized 3 people!

SUMMER INTERNS AT WORK

Our summer missionaries – Jessie and Deborah – have hit the ground running. On Saturdays they are doing Kid’s Clubs at Camp Bagnell and Riverview RV Parks, and on Sunday mornings they are helping with the worship service at Camp Bagnell. Philip Stout is doing the preaching at Camp Bagnell.

The summer missionaries are also booked most of the summer for Vacation Bible Schools and camp but have a few openings so if you need them for anything do not wait to book them.



**From L to R:
Jessie Little, two of the seven kids at Kid’s Club, Deborah Neal during Kid’s Club at Camp Bagnell, May 29, 2021.**



**L to R:
Deborah, Jessie, and Philip just prior to the first worship service at Camp Bagnell, May 30, 2021.**

Jordyn Gage has been working hard at the food pantry as well! Not only is she earning college credit through her apprenticeship, she is proving to be a huge blessing to Dan and Marilyn!

Continue praying for all these young people throughout the summer that they grow in their stature with God and man, and that they are blessed and that they continue to be a blessing to all among whom they serve.



YOUTH LAZER TAG/PIZZA EVENT

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 10:00 – 1:00

Cost per youth \$10

Meet to play Lazer Tag at 10:00 AM. Following will travel to State Park for Pizza & Devotion.

Please be picked up by 1:00 PM



UPCOMING EVENTS

June 5: VBS Kick Off event for Spring Garden/Mt. Herman 3:00 at Spring Garden

June 6-10: Aurora Springs VBS, Destination Dig, 6:30-9:00

June 12: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

June 13-16: Spring Garden/Mt. Herman VBS at Spring Garden, Destination Dig, 5:30-8:30

June 13-17: Horseshoe Bend VBS, Destination Dig, 5:30-8:30

June 15: Camp Registration Deadline

July 1: Registration forms due for Mission Trip to Minnesota

July 5-9: Camp at Camp P82 – Registration forms **due June 15** available on our web page

July 10: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

July 11-15: Iberia VBS, Concrete and Cranes, 6:00-8:30 PM

July 11-15: Honey Springs VBS, Destination Dig, 6:00-8:30

July 13: Executive Board Meeting

July 18-23: VBS at Cornerstone Baptist Church, Camdenton, Destination Dig, 9:00 AM- Noon

July 18-23: Mt. Carmel VBS, Concrete and Cranes,

July 24-29: Mission Trip to Rochester MN

July 26-31: First Baptist Eldon, VBS, God's Wonder Lab, 8:30 – 11:30 AM

July 28-31: Montgomery VBS Concrete and Cranes 5:30-7:30

August 1-6: Spring Valley VBS, Concrete and Cranes 5:30-8:30

August 5: Youth Lazer Tag and Pizza, 10:00-1:00

August 7: Association Homemade Ice Cream Social at Blue Springs, 4:00-6:00

August 14: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

September 11: Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association Annual Meeting, Mt Carmel Baptist Church



Happy
Father's
Day