



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

MAY 2021

First, I want to publicly welcome Montgomery Baptist Church into our association! Montgomery is located near Greenview (Camdenton address) and was previously a part of the Lamine Association. Rodney Allen, formerly a deacon and youth pastor at Mt. Carmel in Lake Ozark, has been pastor at Montgomery for about a year. Last January the church voted to seek affiliation in Lake of the Ozarks Association, and in our April Executive Board meeting we unanimously welcomed them into our family. We are looking forward to much fruitful ministry together.

In regard to the association, someone asked me a while back what I thought the purpose of an association is, what it does, and why a church may want to be a part of an association. They were asking so they could share with another church that could benefit from being in a healthy association. So, since May is Associational Emphasis Month in the SBC, I thought this might be a good time to share my thoughts on all of that with everyone else as well.

First, having grown up as a Southern Baptist and even the son of a bi-vocational pastor, I often just accepted the association as a part of life, as something that just is, like a car or kitchen table – we just accept them as what is. As I got older and more involved in Kingdom work, I was blessed to be involved in several different associations. Through these experiences I found that, simply put, an association exists to help churches do what they cannot (or sometimes will not) do on their own. In other words, the association is not to replace the church, but to make the church healthier and more effective.

Most churches experience pastoral turnover from time to time – Rocky Mount may be an exception! – and when a church is without a pastor having some outside guidance and perspective in discerning the Lord's will for the next can be very beneficial. The association can help in this. When the pastoral vacancy is due to conflict the association can help mediate and heal. Even when the church has a pastor, the association can provide a list of preachers to fill the pulpit when the pastor is ill or on vacation.

Sometimes a church calls a pastor who has not yet been ordained and sometimes a church may identify a man that would be a good deacon, but there are no other ordained men in the church to conduct an ordination . . . the association is available to provide guidance and even conduct ordinations when called upon.

But there is so much more – some churches are small and do not have enough young people to have a youth group. The association comes alongside these churches and provides youth ministry through activities and teaching that all youth from all the churches can participate in and grow from. This has the added benefit of helping the kid connect with other believers that go to the same school but different churches.

Few churches could organize and conduct a children's camp on their own. But the association brings people from a variety of churches, each with their own skills and gifts, and camp is conducted safely and spiritually rewarding for all. Many churches can do VBS on their own, but a little extra boost makes it so much better – the association, provides summer missionaries to help wherever needed.

Training and equipping the saints to do the work of ministry is also a constant challenge. Though primarily the task of the pastor (see Ephesians 4) few pastors are highly skilled in all areas, so having others come alongside to provide training and equipping is invaluable. The association provides training conferences for deacons, teachers, treasurers, and others.

Our Lord also instructs us to share the gospel locally, and around the world, and everywhere in between. The association comes alongside the churches to assist in their ministry and outreach efforts in their own communities, as needed. But also, working together in the association the churches are better able to reach beyond their own communities to “Judea and Samaria”.

We all need some encouragement from time to time. Associations are a great place for fellowship and encouragement. We pray for one another, challenge one another, and lift one another up to be the best we can be in fulfilling God’s call.

I realize that most of this sounds like the association is only for the smaller churches – and it is true that smaller churches tend to participate more and benefit more from an association. But larger churches are valuable in associational life as well. First, we must not think that larger churches are perfect; we can all benefit from being part of a family rather than walking alone. After all, God created us for relationships and that is true among churches as much as it is among individuals. They can provide an example to their smaller sisters, and even find the association to be an expanded outlet for ministry.

Finally, at least in the Lake of the Ozarks Association, others are given the opportunity to grow and sharpen their ministry skills as we have students from SBU come preach in our churches on Ministerial Experience Day, we have summer missionaries and ministry intern working in our churches and doing resort missions through the summer.

So the association – in general, and specifically our 26 churches of the Lake of the Ozarks Association – is a family within the broader Kingdom of God. Each church free and autonomous, but voluntarily cooperating together for the benefit of each member of the family. And personally, it is a daily joy for me to serve among you all.

Your Servant,
Timothy



Pastor’s & Wives Breakfast
Saturday, May 8, 2021
8:30 AM
Blue Springs Baptist Church
Pastor’s & Wives Breakfast
Saturday, April 10, 2021

COME JOIN US
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7,
4:00-6:00 PM
BLUE SPRINGS BAPTIST
CHURCH
FOR AN ASSOCIATION
SOCIAL OF
HOMEMADE ICE CREAM AND
FIXINS
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

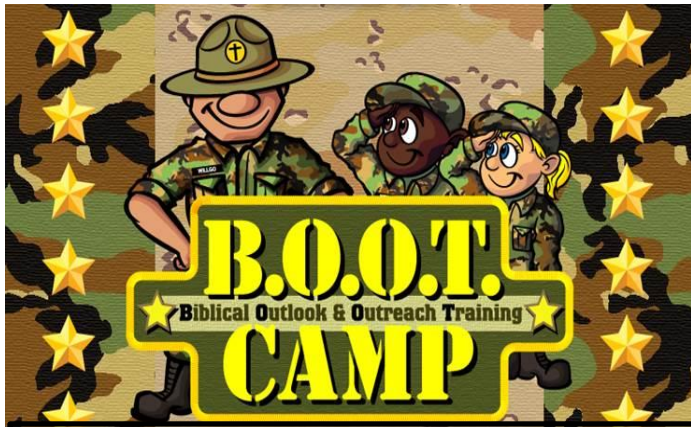
TO ASSIST WITH VBS AT EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

AND SOME MAINTAINENCE AT THE WISCONSIN/MINNESOTA STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO GO YOUR COMMITMENT FORMS NEED TO BE TURNED IN ASAP

FORMS ARE LOCATED ON OUR WEB PAGE lakeoftheoarksba.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 July 1.**

We need volunteers to help with camp.

**We need Men Cabin Counselors,
Help in the kitchen, Nurse,
Crafty People, or other general
workers.**

**If you have indicated that you
would be a volunteer you must
fill out your camp form asap.
Forms can be found online at
lakeoftheoarksba.com [Info
Center] or at the Office.**

CORNERSTONE MISSION CONSTITUTES AS CHURCH

For some people, Cinco de Mayo is a day for celebrating the Mexican victory over French forces in 1862. For some reason, it seems to be more popular in America than in Mexico. Well, now we have our own reason to celebrate the fifth of May

On Wednesday evening, May 5th, the congregation of Cornerstone "mission" voted to adopt a constitution and a budget, and will soon be filing with the Missouri Secretary of State as a non-profit organization. In other words, Cornerstone has become a duly constituted church!!

The church began in June 2018 under the leadership of Pastor Bob Vander Berg and sponsored by Aurora Springs Baptist Church. They met in several locations before settling into the current storefront location near Save-A-Lot in Camdenton about a year ago. The church recently baptized 3 individuals and has a Sunday attendance of around 25 and a Wednesday night attendance of 18 or so. Please continue in prayer for Cornerstone that they will be a mighty force in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 8: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM
May 8: Cruise Around the Lake
May 9: Mother's Day
May 16: Eldon High School Graduation
May 28-29: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open
May 31: Memorial Day
June 6-10: Aurora Springs VBS
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
June 13-17: Horseshoe Bend VBS
July 5-9: Camp at Camp P82 – Registration forms available on our web page
July 10: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM
July 11-15: Iberia VBS, 6:00-8:30 PM
July 11-15: Honey Springs VBS
July 13: Executive Board Meeting
July 18-23: VBS at Cornerstone Baptist Church, Camdenton 9:00 AM- Noon
July 18-23: Mt. Carmel VBS
July 25-28: Mission Trip to Rochester MN
July 26-31: First Baptist Eldon, VBS, 8:30 – 11:30 AM
July 28-31: Montgomery VBS
August 1-6: Spring Valley VBS
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

