

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3 DON MAYO
8 JIM PAGE
13 JAMES & DIANNA MOHLER
18 JAMES CAPPS
19 STEPHEN PATTERSON
31 ROGER MAYO

CCSBA Financial Status

Oct. 01, 2020 – Sept. 30, 2021

Budget to date	Contributions received
\$ 20,957.58	\$ 16,486.41

PRAY FOR THESE PASTOR-LESS CHURCHES

New Hope	+Emmanuel
*Harviell FBC	Calvary, Dexter
*HAVE INTERIM SERVING	
+HAVE A TRANSITIONAL PASTOR SERVING	

CCSBA Office Hours

8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday –Thursday

8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Friday

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BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

Before jumping into details of the last month, and the semester as a whole, I want to take a moment and say thank you to all of the churches and individuals who have supported the BSU. I could not do my job without all of you and am incredibly thankful to everyone. In the middle of November I was able to attend a weekend with the Missouri Baptist Convention's Collegiate department. The weekend was a time for prospective students to get a birds eye view of what college ministry is like. This was a great time and I was able to meet with several college ministry leaders from around the state. It was also awesome to see a group of students and young adults coming to learn more about becoming a college minister. Back home the final night of our Thursday night Bible study was spent having thanksgiving dinner and then learning about living life on mission through a Zoom call with The Traveling Team.

Even though this semester was short God was still active on the campus. For the first three months I made at least one new contact every Monday during lunch. One-on-one discipleship with students has led to some great conversations on how each one should be living out their faith. The Thursday night Bible study has been steadily growing since the beginning of the semester, and while the number of students may not be high, the impact I see God is making on the students life is high.

As the semester has come to an end one thing has become clear to me. The work will not end. Most of the students who come for Bible study are local and have expressed a desire to continue studying even during this winter break. This would be a great time to introduce students to the BSU before the business of next semester sinks in. **If you know of any college students please invite them to join us on Thursday nights at 7pm. As always please continue to pray for God to work through the BSU to the students of Three Rivers to equip and send students out to impact our community and the world for the gospel.**

Calendar for December & January

November 26- December 6 Week of Prayer and Mission Study for IMB and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December 8 CCSBA Executive Board Meeting 7 PM at Memorial Baptist Church

December 23 CCSBA Office Closed at Noon

December 24-25 CCSBA Office Closed

December 31 CCSBA Office Closed at Noon

January 1 CCSBA Office Closed

January 17 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

Strategic Planning for Church Leadership

January 9, 2021 9am-3pm

Temple Baptist Church, Poplar Bluff

A practical workshop to help you and your church establish momentum for future fruitfulness.

(More details coming soon.)

CCSBA CHURCH PRAYER FOCUS

Bloomfield FBC



John McCain, Pastor

Trinity



Eldon Wheelis, Pastor

Lone Hill



Truman Chatman, Pastor

East Carter Grace



Tony Bales, Pastor

Preparing For the 2021 Harvest

Every year at this time many of us start looking ahead into the coming year – trying to see ahead what will meet us there so we can plan for that encounter and hopefully come fruitful by years end. Looking back to last year, nobody would have expected 2020 to have turned out the way it has. And considering how things have turned out, most have simply tried to adjust and make the most of a bad situation.

Looking ahead, does it do us any good to try to plan for 2021, to plan for fruitfulness, or to plan for a spiritual harvest of souls for His kingdom? Many are still in a “hunkered down” “circle the wagons” mindset hoping to “ride out the storm”. Others are ready to “throw caution to the wind” by returning to what they think should be “normal” during this time of year the church and their families. While, some are trying to figure out how to move forward cautiously, planning for the coming year with great expectation on what the Lord will do for His glory.

Scripture tells us to “*Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.*” Proverbs 16:3

These things we know moving forward: God is always working and has specific plans for His glory in 2021; God has specific work for each of us and directs us to be engaged in that work for His kingdom and glory; God will bring a fruitful harvest as we obediently follow His plan and engage in the work He has for us.

Three steps may help you move into 2021 with a clearer vision of what’s necessary to experience a great harvest. First, you’ll need to prepare. There is no greater way to prepare than to spend concentrated time in prayer and Bible study. God will guide you through this time if you’ll be committed to it. This time will focus on Mark, Romans, and any other epistle you want to read. You’ll read 1 chapter per day, praying over the following question: “Lord, what do you want to do in 2021 and how do you want to use me and the church in that?” Keep a record of what you see God doing through Scripture, and what Scripture says that you and the church should be involved with. When you finish Step One: Prayer and Bible Study then you’ll be ready for Step Two: Process and Plan.

Process what you’ve read in Scripture, heard from the Lord, and written down as important into the values and practices God wants you to have for 2021. Starting with the values – it is likely all these will fit into one of the five major functions of the church (which are the same five major roles believers live out). Evangelism, discipleship, service and ministry, worship, and fellowship are all core parts of the spiritually healthy believer and church. What does God desire to see from your life and church in each of these areas during 2021?

Settling on those answers is important and will help you begin to set the goals necessary to reach the vision God has given in each of these areas. That vision could mean making changes, executing some practices better or returning to those practices which the Lord blessed and you’ve gotten away from over time.

Step Three: Implementation – will require you to set attainable short term goals aimed at moving you toward that vision God has for your 2021. Setting and achieving those goals – week after week, month after month – should help you reach the fruitfulness, along with the harvest God desires to see in and through your life during 2021.

“May he (the Lord) grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans!”

Psalm 20:4 ESV