

**Reunification Day 2020**

Now that the Governor has said businesses can reopen on May 4<sup>th</sup>, including churches, every Missourian is waiting for that day. Churches are looking forward to May 10<sup>th</sup>, Mother’s Day, as the much anticipated Reunification Day – when the church can come back together in corporate worship. That time of worship is, after all, one of the main purposes of the church; one of the functions the body of Christ is to perform.

Within our Association, most churches will hold services on May 10<sup>th</sup>; however some of the larger fellowships are opting to wait an additional three weeks. They patiently anticipate June 1<sup>st</sup> as the ending of the 6 foot distancing rule and the opportunity to have church as it was intended – with the physical touch and close proximity of friends sitting together unhindered as they worship Christ.

Regardless of the exact date, now is the time for the reopened church and the reunified body of Christ to reset its focus on what it means to be a healthy multiplying church. With that reset in focus, it will be possible to see revival and revitalization among the body, and spiritual awakening around the community. Now isn’t the time to wish for a return to what was, but a time to envision what can be when the body truly becomes a healthy multiplying church.

Years ago, after serving in the same pastorate for 20 years, Gene Mims felt as if he was on a merry-go-round. After much prayer, the Lord impressed upon Mims: 1 commission with 5 functions and 4 results for kingdom growth. The result was the book Kingdom Principles for Church Growth. It is still valid for today.

The commission is obvious, “*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*” Mt 28:19,20

The 5 functions every healthy church must pursue are: evangelism, discipleship, fellowship,

ministry, and worship. Every church’s joy should be found in obeying the command to **reach people with the gospel of Christ**. This is a responsibility God places upon every believer in Christ – share your faith with unbelievers.

**Discipleship/teaching** of new and young believers is **paramount** to the health and growth of the church. Becoming “like Jesus” is our goal, and can’t be reached through osmosis. Intentional discipleship yields growth in many ways.

**Fellowship** isn’t just fun and games. It’s the backbone of what the Holy Spirit uses to give encouragement, care, and unity to each member of the body. It is a direct product of true unification.

**Ministry** is meeting needs in Jesus’ name. Compassion for the needy yields the effort to care for that one just as Jesus would care for them. He emptied Himself for the needy. Should we not also follow His example in caring for those around us? For it may be through this care that they hear of Jesus and place their faith in Him for salvation.

**Worship** is essential for growth. In the context of worship the body praises God, draws near to Him through the study of His word, offers themselves through giving and prayer, and looks to make application of His word to their lives in order to bring Him great glory. Worship is essential.

As the body presses forward in these 5 functions, they will see results. Spiritual and numerical growth, along with expanding ministry and missions will show evidence that the church is truly becoming a healthy multiplying church. Now is the time to reset, refocus, and reunify for revival and revitalization.

**CCSBA Financial Status**

Oct. 01, 2019 – Sept. 30, 2020

Budget to date	Contributions received
\$ 71,717.52	\$ 63,024.36

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

2 DANNY & CHRISTINE COLLINS  
11 MONTY & RHONDA FLANIGAN  
11 GEOFF & LAURA BOX  
17 LAURA HOLLY GENTRY  
22 TIM & KRISTEN FREEMAN  
22 MALISA MAYO  
23 EDNOR & MAY SEBAG  
25 JUSTIN & JODAWN MILLER

## PRAY FOR THESE PASTOR-LESS CHURCHES

New Hope            Harviell FBC

### Calendar for May & June

May 7 National Day of Prayer  
May 10-19 Christian Home Week  
May 25 CCSBA Office Closed  
June 9 CCSBA Executive Board Meeting 7 PM  
June 21 Baptist Men Emphasis

## FOCUS ON THE BSU

This semester has been a roller coaster. Between the ransomware attack and now COVID-19 the students have been pushed into new ways of learning, but they have been moving forward towards their goals even in this time. Students have voiced how it has been an adjustment to online learning but they are still being diligent in their class work.

There is also anxiety with students as they work on class schedules. Some are wondering when they will be able to return to campus next semester. With all of this uncertainty I ask for your continued prayer for the students. Pray they are able to finish well and to make wise decisions for next semester. In one of our studies we have been looking at how we as Christians are to rest in God's peace in times of affliction. I ask you to pray that our students are able to find this peace, and to share with those who don't have peace in these times.

Thank you for all of your support this school year, and I look forward to the day where we can all work together on Three River's campus to reach the students and to send them out throughout the world.

Because of the uncertainty of COVID-19 restrictions, the Baptist camp in Van Buren has postponed all activity at the camp for the summer. There will be no Children's or Youth Camp this summer for CCSBA. The Camp may reopen for activities, retreats, etc. later this year depending on the circumstances, but that timing is still unclear.

## CHURCH PRAYER FOCUS

### Duck Creek



Steve Bode, Pastor

### First Liberty MB



Nathan Kirkley, Pastor

### Doniphan FBC



Monty Flanigan, Pastor

### Third Baptist



James Capps, Pastor

## 2020 Disaster Relief Training

[www.mobaptist.org/dr](http://www.mobaptist.org/dr) [disasterrelief@mobaptist.org](mailto:disasterrelief@mobaptist.org)

### CCSBA Office Hours

8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday –Thursday

8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Friday

Web: [www.ccsba.com](http://www.ccsba.com)

Address: 2090 Three Rivers Blvd.

Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

Phone: 573-686-1115    Fax: 573-686-1116