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THE GREATER WABASH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

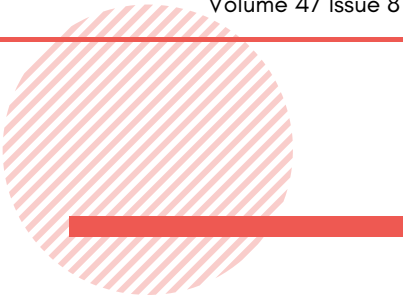
August 2024

Volume 47 Issue 8

Briefs from Brent

The poet said, "careful with fire is good advice we know, careful with words is ten times doubly so." Perhaps this poet was a student of the Bible. Paul wrote "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person" (Col. 4:6). Both the poet and Paul knew that words were hard to retract once they have been spoken. Words live on in the minds of the persons who hear them. That means we want to be sure that what we say is what we want to say, and even more so what we should say. Some people are proud of speaking what is on their minds, but if that be true, we need to be sure that what is on our minds is wholesome and pure and correct. What we speak should not just be an opinion or a preference but should reflect the mind and soul of God. As a believer in Christ our words should be bathed in the heart and truth of the gospel. For we have not been assigned the task of propagating the thoughts and ways of this world, but we have been entrusted to proclaim the eternal hope of salvation found in the Lord Jesus.

In I Thessalonians 2:4 Paul said, "But just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts." Communicating the truth of the gospel, the good news of God to men is not always, maybe not even usually, well received. The gospel message is not a belligerent message, but it is sometimes received with belligerence. The truth is we sometimes present the gospel with belligerent tones. We should speak carefully in order not to do that. Yet at the same time we should present the gospel not just as a good idea but as the truth of God. The truth may not be pleasing to the ears of men, but it is the truth. The gospel story may not concur with their world view, but it is the truth. The gospel might confound their minds and trouble their hearts, but we do not speak to please man, we speak to please God. Our listeners may wish to argue and question the truth that we speak. But we are called to endure and not compromise truth in the interest of placating the listener. The disciples of this world may wish to test our hearts. But we should recall and firmly plant this thought in our mind, God is the one who wrote the test and he is the one who will test our hearts. If we are going to pass the test, we must speak not to please man, but to please God.



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Baptisms

It is wonderful to see how the Lord continues to work in our churches.

First Baptist Church, Carmi

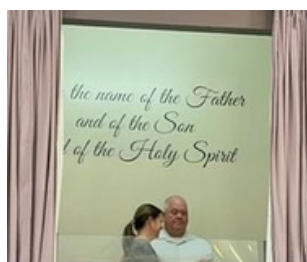
First Baptist Church Carmi has once again rippled the waters of Baptism. Trinity Carter was baptized on Sunday, July 28th. Trinity is pictured with Pastor Drake Caudill and her family.



Crossville



On Sunday July 21st Crossville Missionary Baptist Church celebrated the baptisms of Addalynn Hill and Jaxon Acord. Ron Fellows is the pastor at Crossville. The Lord has been doing a great work at Crossville. In this calendar year the church has had 12 baptisms.



Northside, Grayville

In June the Northside Baptist Church in Grayville celebrated as Kate Clark and her daughter Willow Gayer were baptized. What a great testimony of the power of the gospel when a mother and daughter are baptized on the same Sunday.

Samaria



Pastor Nathaniel Trowbridge had the opportunity to baptize Gabe Beadles as the congregation of the Samaria Missionary Baptist Church was privileged to give witness to this testimony of faith.

Sims Missionary Baptist Church



Sims Missionary Baptist Church rejoiced in three baptisms on Sunday July 21st. Pictured with Pastor Daniel Bradley are Olivia Reed on the left (Olivia was saved at camp) and Shelby Burner and Derek Burner on the right.



If your church has baptism pictures to share, please send them to us so we can rejoice with you.

GWBA News & Upcoming Events

Upcoming GWBA Annual Meeting

On Sunday Sept. 15th, Crossville Missionary Baptist Church will host the Annual Meeting of the Greater Wabash Baptist Association. The meeting will begin at 3:30 PM, We will break for a meal at 5:00 PM and then reconvene at 6:00 and rejoice together in a time of worship. We are honored this year to have Dr. Nate Adams, the Executive Director of the Illinois Baptist State Association with us for this event. Dr. Adams will be preaching to us during the evening service.

Sale of the Associational Parsonage

The Association has sold the parsonage. The property sold for \$135,000. After the realtor's commission and closing cost, we had a net amount of \$125,363.25. Our resource team met and discussed how to invest this money. After much discussion they decided to allocate the money as follows:

\$30,000 in a 6-month CD with People's Bank at 5% interest allowing the interest to compound.

\$30,000 in a 12-month CD with People's Bank at 5% interest allowing the interest to compound.

\$30,000 in a 3-year bond with the Baptist Foundation of Illinois at interest rate of 5% with interest being paid every 6 months.

\$30,000 in a 5-year bond with the Baptist Foundation of Illinois at interest rate of 5% with interest being paid every 6 months.

The balance, \$5,363.25 invested in a cash management account with the Baptist Foundation of Illinois at the interest rate of 2.5%.

Annual Church Profiles

The Annual Church Profiles (ACP) are due by August 15th. It is important that these are returned by this time. Along with the ACP you also received a form where you could designate who your church has elected as messengers for the Annual Meeting. Please be sure and elect your messengers and return this form to us.

Ignite Night Training

This is going to be a great night of Evangelism training at Wayne City Baptist Church. Pastors, please recruit your people to come. We will begin with a meal and then each person will have opportunity to attend two training sessions. Go [HERE](#) to register.



GREATER WABASH

ignite night

WAYNE CITY BAPTIST CHURCH

204 E Meadow, Wayne City, Illinois 62895

August 29

6:00 - 8:30 PM

Ignite Night is a one-night training event to help encourage, inspire and instruct you to effectively share your faith. The goal is to help your church reach lost friends, family members, and people in your community for Christ. A free evening meal will be provided at 6pm. Breakouts sessions will begin at 6:45pm.

**REGISTER ONLINE AT
IBSA.ORG/EVANGELISM**

Breakouts



- >Overcoming the Fear to Share-Scott Harris
- >Renewing Your Passion for the Lost-Mark Emerson
- >Making Friends with the Lost to Make an
Eternal Difference-Shannon Ford
- >Developing an Evangelistic Prayer Strategy for
Your Church- Ben Jones

IBSA | Evangelism

Questions? contact EmilyJones@IBSA.org or 217-786-2600

Worship Leader Meet Up

This is a great opportunity for pastors, song leaders, and others involved in leading and planning worship to gain new ideas about how to make worship better in your church.



WORSHIP LEADER meet up

AUGUST 17 (8:30 AM - 12:00 PM)
Effingham First Baptist Church
213 W. Fayette Ave. Effingham, IL 62401

MAPPING YOUR WORSHIP MINISTRY

*Gather with other Worship Leaders to help you
Map your thinking for Worship Ministry.*

Discuss and share best practices for:
designing corporate worship
building a worship planning team
technology for worship
and others

Questions?
Call: 217-786-2600
Email: TammyButler@IBSA.org



For Minister's Wives

The Illinois Baptist State Association is offering this amazing opportunity to every ministry wife in our state. Please encourage your pastor's wife to attend.

priority Retreat

A GATHERING FOR PASTORS' WIVES
SEPTEMBER 20-21

Pastor's Wives Retreat, a weekend with Jesus and other
Pastor's Wives enjoying a time of rest, fellowship,
renewal, worship and encouragement.

LOCATION:

THE IBSA BUILDING
3085 STEVENSON DR.
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704

COST:

FREE FOR THOSE WHO OPT FOR HOTEL
ROOM W/ DOUBLE OCCUPANCY;
\$58 FOR A PRIVATE ROOM

REGISTER:

[IBSA.ORG/WOMEN](https://www.ibsa.org/women)



QUESTIONS: TAMMYBUTLER@IBSA.ORG | 217-391-3124

GWBA Camp Update

Our GWBA camp was a great success. Kids came from 14 of our GWBA churches and from four other sister Southern Baptist churches. There were 84 kids in junior camp along with 48 leaders and helpers. We had 111 kids in senior camp along with 48 leaders and helpers. This is the largest camp we have had, at least in recent memory. It was a very encouraging time. It was so good to see so many people stepping up and taking leadership responsibilities at camp. Six people came to know Christ as Savior during this week of camp.

Many thanks to Dennis Seidel, Carissa Seidel, Jay Loucks, Sharon Reed, and Gina Johnson for planning and organizing our camp this year. Great Job guys.

The next two pages are dedicated to candid pictures from camp.

Youth Rally Held at Ellis Mound

Ellis Mound Baptist Church hosted a youth rally on Saturday July 27th. It was a great success. Matt Griswold led worship and Dennis Seidel brought the message. There were 130 people in attendance..



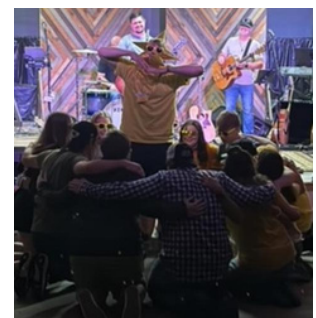
GWBA Junior Camp

These are just some of the pictures taken at Junior camp.



GWBA Senior Camp

These are just some of the pictures taken at Senior camp.



Vacation Bible School

Six of our GWBA churches had VBS in July -- Albion Missionary Baptist, Carmi FBC, Fairfield FBC, Mt. Zion (unpictured), Northside Grayville, and Wayne City.



Christian Cullison Speaks at the Edwards County Fair

The Edwards County Fair went into full swing with a vesper service Sunday evening, July 28th. Pastor Christian Cullison of Albion First Missionary Baptist Church was the speaker. Pastor Cullison and his wife are doing a great job at the church and are community leaders as well. Christian and Faith are pictured at the fair with grandma holding their now 3-month old baby.



GWBA - August Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 **Drake Caudill** (celebrating 6 years at FBC Carmi)
- 1 **Vanessa Kiser**
- 2 **Jonathan Caudill**
- 3 **Renee Fellows**
- 4 **Anna Grace Harl**
- 5 **Steve Hamson** (celebrating 6 years at Keenes)
- 5 **Matt Barner**
- 7 **Jeanie Hamson**
- 10 **Tim Lasswell**
- 13 **Ed Windland**
- 18 **Steve & Jeanie Hamson**
- 18 **Micaiah Freels**
- 20 **Jim & Betty Minnick**
- 24 **Daniel Bradley**
- 27 **David Smith** (celebrating 7 years at FBC Grayville)
- 29 **Drake Caudill**

Did You Know?

Greater Wabash Baptist Association has a website. Have you checked it out?

greaterwabash.org

We're also on Facebook.

| Treasurer's Report | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| June 2024 | | | |
| | | | |
| General Fund Income | Amount | | |
| Arrington Prairie Baptist Church | \$ - | AMS Health Life Retirement | \$ 1,907.83 |
| Crossville Missionary Baptist Church | \$ - | AMS Salary | \$ 2,885.61 |
| Ellis Mound Missionary Baptist Church | \$ - | Meeting Expense | \$ - |
| Elm River Baptist Church | \$ - | Office Expense | \$ 394.69 |
| First Baptist Church, Albion | \$ 880.39 | Office Supplies | \$ - |
| First Baptist Church, Carmi | \$ 575.00 | Telephone | \$ 100.74 |
| First Baptist Church, Fairfield | \$ 100.00 | Utilities | \$ 260.55 |
| First Baptist Church, Grayville | \$ 167.00 | Administrative Assistant Salary | \$ 450.00 |
| First Baptist Church, Mt. Carmel | \$ 250.00 | AMS Hospitality | \$ - |
| Jasper Baptist Church | \$ 61.75 | Christmas Bonus | \$ - |
| Keenes Missionary Baptist Church | \$ 228.00 | Convention Expense | \$ - |
| Liberty Missionary Baptist Church | \$ 409.00 | Payroll Taxes | \$ 53.56 |
| Mill Shoals Missionary Baptist Church | \$ 171.00 | Staff Mileage | \$ 155.89 |
| Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church | \$ - | Treasurer Salary | \$ 250.00 |
| North Side Baptist Church, Fairfield | \$ 893.68 | Improvements Repair New Equipment | \$ 210.00 |
| Northside Missionary Baptist Church, Grayville | \$ 250.00 | Benevolence | \$ - |
| Olive Branch Missionary Baptist | \$ 199.00 | Leadership Development | \$ - |
| Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist | \$ 325.00 | Mission Development | \$ - |
| Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church | \$ 150.00 | Payroll Liabilities | \$ (179.68) |
| Samaria Missionary Baptist Church | \$ 497.00 | Student Ministry/Camp | \$ - |
| Sims Missionary Baptist Church | \$ 241.13 | WMU | \$ - |
| Stewart Street Baptist Church | \$ 181.40 | Postage | \$ - |
| Ten Post Oak Missionary Baptist Church | \$ 408.00 | Associational Clerk Salary | \$ - |
| Wayne City Baptist Church | \$ 293.86 | Insurance | \$ 521.87 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 369.69 | Total General Fund Expenses | \$7,011.06 |
| Misc.Transfer from Special Accounts | \$ 14,169.29 | | |
| Total Income - General Fund | \$20,820.19 | | |
| | | | |
| | | Associational Missions Bank Balances | |
| Monthly Income | \$20,820.19 | General Fund Balance - Checking | \$1,261.96 |
| Previous Balance | \$872.12 | Special Gifts - Designated Savings | \$71,700.03 |
| Expenses | \$20,430.35 | Total | \$72,961.99 |
| General Fund Balance | \$1,261.96 | | |
| | | | |
| Special Gifts Income | | Special Gifts Expense | |
| Baptist Hour | \$0.00 | Baptist Hour | \$0.00 |
| Camp | \$30,140.00 | Camp | \$13,527.50 |
| Disaster Relief | \$100.00 | Disaster Relief | \$146.79 |
| Mission Fund | \$0.00 | Mission Fund | \$0.00 |
| New Equipment | \$0.00 | New Equipment | \$0.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$2.48 | Miscellaneous Transfer | \$750.00 |
| Total | \$30,242.48 | Total Special Gifts Expense | \$14,424.29 |

If you have used literature, please make arrangements to bring it to the office or contact Brent at 618-599-5059.

He periodically takes a load of these used materials to Love Packages where the items will be packaged and shipped to other nations that can use them.