

The Messenger

November 2024 Newsletter for Mt Salem-Wyaconda Baptist Association

A Word from Interim Director of Missions / Moderator Barry

Here it is now, the month of November and we are only one month away from December. The seasons of Thanksgiving, celebration, and holidays all combine as we come to a close of another year. And yet, we still have time to get things ready, at least for today. But what about tomorrow? It's amazing how fast time flies. It's still just 24 hours, but it seems like we lose an hour. Every day. Not really, but it seems that way. And before you know it, it seems as if all the time is gone. Then when we start wondering where and when will I get things done? For example, I have been meaning to clean out some boxes in the basement, thought I would take one box at a time and would have that project finished! I started that project the day I moved here, and that was 6 years ago! Guess what – those boxes are still there, and still full, waiting for me to get after them!!!

I have often wondered if that's the way we treat our relationship with the Lord. We say that "I will make a commitment to Him, and I will follow Him, and I will serve Him, and I'll do it with gladness. I just won't do it today, maybe tomorrow." We know that for many of us, that tomorrow will never come, because we are a people of procrastination. It might be as simple as cleaning up the boxes, or even more important, making the decision to ask Jesus to be our Lord and Savior. This level of decision and commitment can extend even further into being a part of a local church.

I know people who are professing to be Christians that say, "I'm just not sure if this is the church I need to be in." Or, "Is this the place God would have me to serve and worship in?"

My question to you is this: If this is where God has placed you for this time, He's placed you here for a purpose. Even more, he may have placed you there for a very unique and special purpose. But he's waiting on you to accept that invitation and to become a part of that church fellowship.

Again, I see procrastination as being the key factor in everything. It's time we stop wasting the Lord's time by being idle and start making the very best of what he has asked us to do.

Talk to your pastor. Ask him how you can join and be a part of your local church. Your commitment is to be first and foremost to the Lord. Then to His Church fellowship that he's placed you in. You are very important because God has a plan for you.

We've just recently added a Mission Team to our association. If you have some thoughts on an area of missions that we could explore, or know of areas where we can expand the mission work of this association, please contact me and let me know!

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Summer Bible Camp 2025 at Camp Inlow

by Barry Pfister, Camp Team Leader

Please mark your calendars for July 21-25, 2025. That is the week we're planning on camp, but we really need cabin leaders this year, as in 2024 we were a little bit shorthanded. We really need your heart and commitment to come and spend a week with these young men and women. If you'd like to be a part of this, start planning now. Ask for your time off. Make that commitment to serve the Lord in this area of missions! Become a mentoring person who will be willing to commit to praying and supporting that new young Christian when they make a decision at camp.

We are currently working on the theme for 2025, which should be finalized soon. We're also asking our pastors if they would be willing to help out again, much like they did in 2024, where we would have a different pastor each night from one of our sister churches come and bring the message to the older boys and girls. Pastor, if you're interested, let me know soon. Or at least let me know how you feel about this. Our thoughts are to be making connections between the pastors and all these boys and girls that come from our association churches. I feel that way we can help mentor them in their spiritual walk, help teach them, and encourage them, and then prepare to send them on to be part of a ministry elsewhere, if not here!

Continue to pray for camp. We have some great needs, and shortly you'll be receiving some news about the needs. We're trying to keep the costs down and we'd like to invite all of our churches to be a part of our associational camp in one way or another. If you have some ideas of support, please let me know. If not, always be in prayer for how God can use this camp to reach many young people each and every year.

A Music Note

by Mike Kitch, Music Team Leader

Greetings and blessings to everyone! Our October Hymn Sing at Durham met the standards of the edifying sharing of God's word, wonderful praise in song, and fulfilling food and fellowship!

I know that's a mouthful, but it's almost an understatement. Those who attend regularly understand what I'm saying. I realize not everyone has the time, but our Hymn Sings are always a rewarding Christian event with great music!

Our next Hymn Sing is Tuesday, November 12 at 7 pm at Lewistown First Baptist Church. Come join the assembling!

Reminder! Dec 10 Christmas hymn sing at La Grange will start at 6:30 pm. Come and share part of your church's Christmas music!

Missions Together

Kimbre Thrower and Ashley Ulrich, Co-Leaders

We had a great time of learning and fellowship at the October Missions Together night learning about motorcycle missions – and there were bikers there that shared their testimonies! Our next meeting will be Sunday, November 3 beginning at 4:30 at FBC Ewing. There will be groups for all ages. Teaching time ends at 5:30, then a themed carry-in fellowship. The theme for November is South American missions. If you are not able to think of something that seems South American/Brazilian, bring a favorite dish. Hope you can come!

ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2024

Check back to the mswsba.org website for latest updated information throughout the month

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>
Nov. 2 Sat	9:00 AM	Pastors and Wives Prayer Meeting and Breakfast	Meet at Ewing Cafe. Contact: Moderator Barry Pfister at 660-734-2080
Nov. 3 Sun	2:00 AM	Daylight Saving Time Ends	Fall back one hour.
Nov. 3 Sun	4:30 PM	Missions Together	Age-level missions classes for all ages from Missions Friends to Adults on Mission, followed by South America themed carry-in at 5:30 pm. Meet at FBC Ewing. Contacts: Kimbre Thrower 573-288-4759 and Ashley Ulrich 573-288-4734.
Nov. 4 Mon	9:00 AM	WMU trip to Salvation Army Store	WMU mission trip workday at the Quincy Salvation Army Store. For last minute information, contact Mary Ann Lillard 573-853-4507 if planning to attend.
Nov. 5 Tue		Election Day	Review the issues and be ready to vote.
Nov. 5 Tue	7:00 PM	Camp Meeting	Camp Planning Meeting at FBC Ewing. Contact: Barry Pfister 660-734-2080.
Nov. 7 Thu	10:00 AM	Ladies Bible Study	Ladies' Bible Study at FBC Ewing; focus is on the book of Ruth. Contact: Ashley Ulrich 573-288-4734.
Nov. 7 Thu	6:00 PM	Disaster Relief Team Meeting	Meet at FBC Ewing. Everyone interested in DR welcome. Contact: Jill Feldkamp 573-470-1132.
Nov. 9 Sat	7:00 PM	HLGU Booster Night	Will be held in the Roland Fine Arts Building. Speaker is Andrew Peterson. For more information go to www.hlg.edu/boosternight .
Nov. 10 Sun	10:00 PM	Registration Deadline for Skate Night	Deadline for registering for Association-wide Skate Night on November 15. Call registration information to Barry Pfister at 660-734-2080.
Nov. 11 Tue		Veteran's Day	Honor the veteran's!
Nov. 12 Tue	7:00 PM	Hymn Sing	Meet at FBC Lewistown. All are welcome - bring a friend! Contact: Mike Kitch 660-956-5591.
Nov. 14 Thu	10:00 AM	Ladies Bible Study	Last week for Ladies' Bible Study at FBC Ewing with focus on the book of Ruth. Contact: Ashley Ulrich 573-288-4734.

Nov. 14 Thu	1:00 PM	Hands In Service Sewing Group	Hands In Service - because we are HIS. Meet at FBC Ewing from 1-5 pm. Come when you can. Focus on eyeglass cases. Remember we will not meet in December. Contact: Violet Brownell 573-248-8870.
Nov. 15 Fri	7:00 PM	PM Skate Night - Fall Fun Event	All churches of the Association are invited, but must have pre-registered by Nov 10 with Barry Pfister at 660-734-2080 for Association to cover skate rental. Skating at Scottie's Fun Spot in Quincy from 7 pm to 10 pm. Other expenses for food or games not covered by Association. Each church is responsible for supervising their children so do not drop off children unattended.
Nov. 16		Deer Season	Deer season from Nov 16-26.
Nov 18-25		OCC Shoebox Collection Week	Shoebox collection week is Nov 18-25. Go to www.samaritanspurse.org/occ for more information and to find a drop-off site.
Nov 28-29		Thanksgiving	Office closed for holiday Thursday and Friday.

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