

## **The Messenger**

*April 2025 Newsletter for Mt Salem-Wyaconda Baptist Association*

### **A Word from Interim Director of Missions / Moderator Barry**

Here we are in the month of April with Easter Services at our doorstep. Many of us will be preparing for the traditional type of Easter worship services. Some may have a Sunrise service, some may have breakfast before the Worship Service, and some may have an Easter egg hunt for the children. Let us not forsake the full meaning of our Savior going to the cross for our sins and the sins of the world, as some want to commercialize Easter in some way or another.

Easter! The day our Lord defeated death and rose from the grave and is alive today is the highest day of Christian service and worship that we can experience! Unfortunately, many will take this day as just another Sunday Worship Service taking lightly the suffering that our Savior went through with the agonizing pain and torment! But even greater was the separation from His Father! At that last moment all the sins of the world were on His shoulders and His own Father could not look upon Him. Such loneliness and separation we cannot begin to fathom in our lives today.

We may know what it's like to be separated from family. We know what it's like to be separated from our children. But I really do not believe we know what it means to be separated from the One who loves us. Today, many of us continue to walk in our worldly ways, not realizing that we are putting pain and anguish on our Savior as was experienced that day on the cross.

My prayer is that when we come to the time of worship on Easter Sunday morning that we will truly ask the Lord to allow us to understand the fullness of His suffering and His love.

As to some events around the association, Bro Josh Thrower put on the first of several presentations for the association using the Three Circle witnessing training. There were 35 present that night at Southern Baptist Fellowship. His presentation was very well put together, and he is planning 2 or more events around our association, so keep your eyes and ears open if you're looking for a very simple witnessing tool.

Our bowling night was very well attended. We had 35 bowlers, but I counted 45-50 people there enjoying the time together, the fellowship and the competition. Needless to say, my bowling days of the past are in the past and my score was way down. Maybe next time.

Please keep our mission team in prayer as they plan this mission trip to Montana. We will be gone Sunday to Sunday in June leaving on Father's Day and returning the following Sunday.

For our pastors, if you are a new pastor within the last two years the state convention is hosting a new pastor and wife event on May 1st through the 3rd. If you are interested and would like to attend, let me know so I can turn your name in. The event is fully paid for by the state office and will be time for you and your spouse to get to know the folks at the Baptist Building.

The pastor and wife breakfast will resume in May since April will be so busy with Easter.

Barry Pfister, Interim Director of Missions / Moderator

Mt Salem-Wyaconda Southern Baptist Association

[mswdom@marktwain.net](mailto:mswdom@marktwain.net)

[bppastor@yahoo.com](mailto:bppastor@yahoo.com)

(O) 573-209-3064

(M) 660-734-2080

(H) 573-655-0172

## **Summer Bible Camp 2025 at Camp Inlow**

*by Barry Pfister, Camp Team Leader*

We really need to know who is planning to help as cabin leaders this year. Part of our planning process is that we're going to involve the cabin leaders in the Bible study time with the students in their cabin. This means that the cabin leaders will need some pre-training so that everyone will be on the same page in the Bibles studies. We want our leaders to interact with the boys or girls, depending on which cabin you are in, and help them to learn and understand the scripture, even help them to a more personal relationship with Jesus. But we need to know, so if you are interested in coming, please let me know right away. Most everything else is pretty much in place, but we still have some fine tuning to take care of.

Please watch for a letter that will come to you from our Camp Cook asking for help with the cost of food or a donation.

Registration forms will be ready in April so keep an eye out for that information. When you do get your camp forms, read over them as there will be some events that the students need to be aware of. There will be some activities that they will need to bring appropriate equipment or attire.

If you would like more information, come join us. Our camp meeting is the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at First Baptist Church, Ewing.

## **A Music Note**

*by Mike Kitch, Music Team Leader*

Our March Hymn Sing at Providence was well attended with over 70 believers gathered into their beautiful new church building. Which I was reminded that night that it is just a building. The believers, the people who gather together to praise and worship, those are the pillars that turn any building into a church. Yes, we should be grateful and enjoy blessings such as a new building, as well as the music, singing and fellowship. But they should never dim the much greater blessing of salvation. The joy of our salvation is the reason we gather together to worship and praise our Redeemer. Our next Hymn Sing is April 8 at Mount Olivet. Come join the assembling!

## **Missions Together**

*Kimbre Thrower and Ashley Ulrich, Co-Leaders*

Missions Together will be Sunday, April 6 at 4:30 at FBC Ewing. This month, we will be learning about Fire Chaplains. The Bible Study will focus on Giving as an act of Worship (Acts 17). Planning for the carry-in might be a little tricky – I am thinking smoked meats, subs and chili. Hope to see you there!

## **WMU News**

*Kimbre Thrower, NE Regional Consultant*

WMU Missions Celebration will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 4-5 at FBC Kirksville. The theme is What Joy! You can register online or at the door. For more information, visit [mowmu.org/mc](http://mowmu.org/mc). You will experience missionary speakers, age-level training, breakout sessions, a gift basket silent auction, the MWMU bookstore and so much more! Come celebrate missions!

## **Hands In Service Sewing Group (because we are HIS)**

*Violet Brownell, Sewing Leader*

We continue to meet monthly to sew eyeglass cases for Larry Merry and Vision 3:16 – and we are meeting our goal of 1,000 eyeglass cases every month! Thanks for all you do to help meet this goal! Continue to pray for the ministry and the witnessing that is possible due to this ministry.

We are still making plans for the ministry to moms with preemies in Kampala, Uganda. We will be focusing on knit hats, preemie size receiving blankets, preemie size diapers, and preemie size booties. Any other items that are preemie size we will try to get to Kampala when we send a shipment.

**ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
**FOR APRIL 2025**

*Check back to the [mswsba.org](http://mswsba.org) website for latest updated information throughout the month*

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>DETAILS</u></b>
Apr 1 Tue	7:00 PM	Camp Meeting	Camp Planning Meeting at FBC Ewing. Contact: Barry Pfister 660-734-2080.
Apr 3 Thu	10:00 AM	Ladies Bible Study	Last session for ladies Bible Study at FBC Ewing. Contact: Ashley Ulrich 573-288-4734.
Apr 3 Thu	5:30 PM	Ladies Bible Study	Last session for ladies Bible Study at FBC Ewing. Contact: Ashley Ulrich 573-288-4734.
Apr 4-5		Missouri WMU Annual Meeting	2025 Missions Celebration meeting at FBC Kirksville. For more information about the meeting and to register go to <a href="http://mowmu.org">mowmu.org</a> . Contact: Connie Handyside 660-342-0642.
Apr 4-5		DR Training	To be held in Arnold, MO. Go to <a href="https://modr.org/dr-training/">https://modr.org/dr-training/</a> for more information. Contact: Jill Feldkamp 573-470-1132.
Apr 5 Sat	9:00 AM	Pastors and Wives Prayer Meeting canceled	Pastors and wives monthly Prayer Meeting to meet next in May.
Apr 6 Sun	4:30 PM	Missions Together	Age-level missions classes for all ages from Missions Friends to Adults on Mission. Theme is Fire Chaplains. Carry-in suggestions include smoked meats, subs and chili. Meet at FBC Ewing. Contacts: Kimbre Thrower 573-288-4759 and Ashley Ulrich 573-288-4734.
Apr 8 Tue		RA Congress - Early Registration Date	T-shirts available when you register by April 8. For details go to <a href="http://mowmu.org/rac">mowmu.org/rac</a> .
Apr 8 Tue	7:00 PM	Hymn Sing	Meeting at Mount Olivet. Contact: Mike Kitch 660-956-5591.
Apr 13 Sun		Palm Sunday	Palm Sunday
Apr 14 Mon	7:00 PM	Budget Com Meeting	Meet at FBC Ewing. Contact: Mike Sliger 217-242-7510.
Apr 17 Thu		Maundy Thursday	Day of Last Supper
Apr 17 Thu	6:00 PM to 7 PM	Meetings changed	Council Meeting, Trustees Meeting, and Executive Board Meeting postponed one week due to Maundy Thursday.
Apr 18		Good Friday	Office closed.

Apr 19		Holy Saturday	Easter Eve and Last Day of Lent
Apr 20		Resurrection/Easter	Celebrate our Risen Savior!
Sun		Sunday	
Apr 24	1:00 PM	WMU Meeting	Meet at Durham. Time changed to 1 pm. Contact: Connie Handyside 660-342-0642.
Thu			
Apr 24	6:00 PM	Council Meeting (changed)	Meeting was postponed one week due to Maundy Thursday. Team leaders to meet at FBC Ewing to update the association calendar.
Thu			
Apr 24	6:30 PM	Trustees Meeting (changed)	Meeting was postponed one week due to Maundy Thursday. Meet at FBC Ewing.
Thu			
Apr 24	7:00 PM	Executive Board Meeting (changed)	April 2025 Executive Board Meeting changed to April 24 so as not to meet on Maundy Thursday. Meet at FBC Ewing. All officers, team leaders, committee chairs, pastors, and church Executive Board members invited. Contact: Barry Pfister 660-734-2080.
Thu			
Apr 25-26		RA Congress	Held at the MO State Fairgrounds in Sedalia. For boys grades 1-6 (do not have to have an RA club to participate. For more information go to <a href="http://mowmu.org/rac">mowmu.org/rac</a> .
Apr 28	1:00 PM	Hands In Service Sewing Group	Meet at Durham from 1-5 pm – come when you can. Focus on eyeglass cases. Contact: Violet Brownell 573-248-8870.
Mon			