

Annual Meeting Celebrates that “We Are Better Together”

The 59th Annual Meeting of the East Central Baptist Association was held on Thursday, September 23rd, 2021, at 7:00 pm at Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie. Seventeen messengers from 5 member churches and their church plants were present to conduct business.

Prior to the business meeting, Old Town Hill hosted a dinner. The attendees enjoyed pulled pork barbeque sandwiches plus sides and desserts. More importantly, they also were able to enjoy the relaxed fellowship of people from their sister churches. In addition, they got to celebrate Disaster Relief Coordinator and Trustee Chair, Joe Fox's, birthday by singing “Happy Birthday” to him. Instead of a cake, Joe's wife, Darla, made his favorite apple caramel nut pie.

The business meeting began with a welcome and prayer from host pastor, Bruce Reynolds. Moderator, Greg Haisley, called the meeting to order. Messengers were officially seated and the semi-annual meeting minutes plus team and committee reports were provided in the Annual Book of Reports. (Team and committee reports are included in this newsletter.) Ryan Strother, the new Executive Director for the

State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, could not attend but sent a video message especially for the ECBA. John Horn, SCBI Church Development Strategist Church & Leader Development, shared a report from the state.

Under old business, Tami Hubler reported that she was continuing work on a brochure about our association to help our churches and their members know more about the association and its purpose. New business began with the election of officers for the 2021-22 year. The nominating committee, Brad Storm, Tim Overton, Bruce Reynolds and Greg Haisley, presented their recommended slate of officers but did not have a nomination for moderator. Greg Haisley called for nominations from the floor but there were none. Voted in for the 2021-22 year were: Moderator – none; Vice-Moderator – Bill Peters (Kingston); Clerk – Melissa Ousley (Redeemer); Treasurer – Jon Nichols (Halteman Village); Assistant Treasurer – Pat Storm (Redeemer); Parliamentarian – Jon Nichols; and Trustee – Jearme Ousley (Redeemer). Team leaders for the 2021-22 year were voted in at the Semi-Annual

(Continued on page 5)

New Day Muncie 5th Annual Fall Festival Draws 240 Attendees

By Pastor Dale Trego

The 5th annual fall festival for New Day Muncie was held Friday, September 24th. We had 240 people attend. Not only did God provide the people, He gave us beautiful weather. The day was perfect!

The children had fun pumpkin painting, face painting, jumping in bounce houses and taking hayrides. The adults relaxed and enjoyed the Mountain Laurel Bluegrass Band and some even went on a hayride. For some, it was their first adventure. But the most important part of the night was being able to share Jesus with everyone to whom we spoke.



All set up for the Fall Festival at New Day Baptist Church in Muncie

We practiced intentional ministry to the attendees.

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature, Mark 16:15. Tell everyone about Jesus!

We're already looking forward to next year.

See more pictures on page 4.

Inside This Issue

Birthdays/Anniversaries & Upcoming Events	2
The Katecheo & Evangelism Report	2
Church Planting & Education Ministry Reports	3
New Day Fall Festival	4
Moderator, Trustees, Church Health Reports	5
Arrangements & Resolutions, D R Reports	6
2022 Budget	6
Redeemer Ladies Bible Study Groups	7
August P & L and Balance Reports	7



The Katecheo

As you read this month's article, ask yourself this one question - *"What is my greatest need?"* The responses to this question will be about as numerous as the number of persons actually reading the article. In reality, we are actually four persons. We are, first, the person we believe we are. We are, secondly, the person others believe we are. Thirdly, we are the person we believe others believe we are, and finally, we are the person God knows we are (and what we should be). This is truly what matters.

This reality is not new; it has always existed, even in Eve. Gradually, over time what was once viewed as sin became tolerant and then accepted and practiced. Older readers can remember the time when there were no televisions, when the telephone was "party-line" service, and there were no credit cards. Sundays were a time for worship and even nonbelievers honored that practice. Today it is just another day and, regrettably, even professed Christians treat the day as ordinary. One is prone to ask, *"who's fooling who?"* — while the Bible clearly describes these common practices as those practiced in the *"the last days"* (2 Timothy 3.1-9).

Times change, people change, customs change, laws change, nations change, health conditions change, norms change, the acceptable changes, BUT God's Word never, ever changes. We are experiencing a revolt against the

Word of God and God's judgment is about to fall unless we return to the Truth of His Word.

This month on October 31, we hopefully will honorably celebrate *"Reformation Sunday,"* an international event for Bible-believing Christians to honor the events

that brought amazing results to the then practices of the organized church. We need change and hopefully you will challenge your church family to celebrate this special time in Church History.

Evangelism Report

By Sharon Armstrong, Team Leader

It will be my fervent prayer this year that the Lord will provide a lady to come along beside me to learn about the Evangelism Ministry. What are the qualifications? The individual must be on fire for Christ and whose greatest desire is seeing others come to know Him. Please join me in this prayer.

This year, for those who are willing, the Evangelism ministry is available to speak at any church within the Association about Evangelism and share what the Evangelism Ministry is all about. Evangelism is simply witnessing for Jesus. This ministry exists to teach others how to speak boldly of their faith and to share the love of Christ without fear. Better still, Evangelism is simply being a part of what God is doing in the world in reconciling others to Him. After all, Evangelism is eternal.

Beginning September 26th, the Evangelism ministry will begin teaching an eight week class on how to share the Gospel. This class will be held at Old Town Hill each Sunday at 6:00 pm and is open to all members of the Association. There is no expense in taking this class. All materials will be provided for each individual. The material that will be presented is *Share Jesus Without Fear*. This class will be offered again in the spring of 2022 at Old Town Hill.

Upcoming Events

Monday, October 25,—State Convention of Baptists in Indiana Annual Summit—Registration 8:00 a.m. First Session 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. Second Session 2:00 p.m.— 5:30 p.m. Highland Lakes Baptist Camp, 7805 State Road 39, Martinsville IN 46151

SBC Emphasis for October

Month of October — *Cooperative Program Emphasis*

October 3 — *Personal Evangelism Commitment Day*

October 10 — *Global Hunger Sunday*

October 17-24 — *Week of Prayer for Baptist Associations*



Please pray for our pastors and their wives on these special occasions.

Birthdays

None

Wedding Anniversaries

October 25—Dale and Deneia Trego (New Day, Muncie)

Church Anniversaries

October—Jim Marlow, North Delaware Baptist Church, Muncie, 16 years.

October 4—Jearme Ousley, Redeemer Baptist Church, Anderson, 1 year

Church Planting Team Report

By Jeremiah Kinney, Team Leader

1. This year, no new church plants were started and no spending from the church planting budget was made.

Collegiate ministry fruit via church planting:

2. Remedy City Church, a plant from 2013 that transitioned to full church status several years ago, is now running a collegiate ministry that is:

a. reaching about 30-40 students per Sunday.

b. reaching about 20-30 in men's and women's weekly mid-week groups and discipleship cohorts.

c. the weekly women's group launched this year. The men's group is in year two.

d. a new men's Bible study is being launched at this time. (All of these mid-week groups take place in a student's home or

apartment)

e. ECBA granted \$2600 in March to assist with pastoral salary support and the costs of a monthly lunch/door-to-door outreach in college rental neighborhoods.

f. In April, over the course of three Sundays, six young men were baptized by Remedy City at Halteman Village Baptist Church.

g. In the spring, one other young man who was discipled in part through our mid-week meetings, was baptized in his home church.

h. On September 12, three students were recently baptized by Remedy City at Halteman Village Baptist Church, two young men and a young woman. Two of those students joined the church. The other one finalized his surrender to Christ through the Good Friday and Easter services

of Remedy City.

i. In all, between January and September, 11 students have joined Remedy City and 4 adults (two married couples over age 40) who were invited by RCC BSU students

j. One couple was married this summer, with pre-marital counseling through Remedy City, having met at RCC.

k. The weekly men's group is planning an urban missions trip over their Fall Break (Oct 8-12) to Gary, IN to partner in community outreach with sister church Ross Baptist Church in Gary. Substantial funding is being provided through Pastor Chris Hubler of New Day Baptist Church, who will also be coming on the trip. So far, 18 men are signed up to go.

Education Ministry Report

By Dr. Ron Ross, Education Coordinator

This year's annual report carries the regular practice of sharing various articles of interest to pastors and/or church leaders. These articles are shared for the purpose of presenting a variety of issues helpful to those in pastoral leadership positions. Though there is virtually no response being sent to the sender, it is not determined whether the content of the articles are doing what the sender desired.

EMPHASIS: To quickly review the year of denominational emphasis, stress was placed on the importance of the Winter/January Bible Study, which was a study on I, II, and III John, followed by the Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. February emphasized Racial Reconciliation

Sunday, in which some of our churches participated. March gave emphasis to Substance Abuse Prevention, a very timely emphasis. April emphasized both Baptist Doctrine Study as well as SBC Seminary Sunday, with the emphasis in May being Christian Home Week studies. July honored Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday, while August dealt with social Issues Sunday and Disaster Relief Appreciation Sunday. As common, September deals with Anti-Gambling Sunday, while October denotes the importance of remembering World Hunger Relief Sunday.

PREVIEW: In the remaining calendar months of 2021, may we all remember that our SBC Executive

Committee has recommended these beneficial emphasis for approval and messengers to the annual gathering of Southern Baptists have approved their recommendations. It behooves us all to take advantage of these emphasis in order to make our congregants more aware of the needs around us and the ways of meeting such needs.

SUMMARY: As local church-leaders, we understand that Christ promised to "build His Church" and He has instructed us to assist others in their personal development "in Christ." It is for that reason that our ECBA Education Ministry exists. Please let the coordinator know how he might assist you at a time of educational need.

More Pictures from New Day's Annual Fall Festival



1st hayride of the night.



Mountain Laurel Bluegrass Band provided music for the event.



The food is ready and everything is set for all the guests.



Face painting artists Lily, Christi, Earlene.



Praying for the people who will attend the Fall Festival.



It wasn't just the kids who enjoyed the hayride. Donna Hicks is excitedly waiting for her turn.



Dylan Trego enjoying his last bite of food while listening to music.



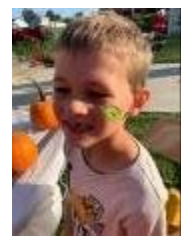
Belinda, Brooke, & Tammy made sure there was plenty of cotton candy all night.



Pastor Harrison Williams waiting on the music to begin.



Creative face painting was a hit with the kids.



Case Trego liked his face painting.



Sitting patiently while her face is being painted.



The kids especially enjoyed pumpkin painting.



Church Health Team Report

By Tami Hubler, Church Health Team Leader

WMU – Tami Hubler, New Day, Coordinator; Carol Mohler, New Day, Assistant:

Due to Covid constraints, ECBA WMU plans for local events were cancelled. However, ECBA WMU supported the state events such as Transformed Women's Event and Missions Lifeline.

Tami Hubler was voted in at the SCBI WMU Business meeting as the Vice President for the State of Indiana.

Plans for an ECBA Mission focused event are being made for 2022.

A reminder that there is a Youth Missions Scholarship available from the ECBA. Interested churches can contact Tami Hubler.

Men's Ministry - Joe Fox, Old Town Hill, has accepted the Men's Ministry role. The Men's Ministry held a Men's Conference this year called "Get Out of the Cave". There were 50 men who attended - an overwhelming success! Plans are in place for another Men's Conference in 2022.

VBS/Children's Ministry - Brenda Brooks, Redeemer, Coordinator: Due to Covid, VBS Training presented by Lifeway was done virtually on January 23, 2021. There were 5 VBS Directors from ECBA that took the training. It was followed up by an in-person training on March 6th at Redeemer Baptist Church. There were 6 people who attended from 4 different churches. Director T-Shirts and other materials were handed out. Lunch was provided.

Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson held VBS June 7th - 12th. They had 45 children attend and had 41 workers. There was 1 decision made. Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie had VBS June 20th - June 24th. They had 122 attend and 39 workers.

New Day Baptist Church in Muncie held a one day VBS on June 26th. They had 8 children and 12 workers.

Brenda Brooks and Tami Hubler along with 3 VBS Church Directors will be attending the 2022 VBS Preview Event in Nashville, TN on January 8th, 2022.

There are still open positions within the church health team. If interested, contact Tami Hubler for more information on the role(s).

Moderator's Report

By Greg Haisley, 2019-21 Moderator

Well, the last year has been a strange continuation of the year before, but the Lord is faithful, and still worthy of our service! As I reflect on this past year in the life of the ECBA, I think of all the faithful Pastors and laypeople that continue to persevere for the Gospel. The social climate hasn't been very conducive to widespread evangelism and outreach efforts, but we know the mission has not ceased. We will press on toward the mark, and finish our race set before us.

Let us be reminded that God is faithful in the good times, but He is also faithful when things are seemingly more difficult. I hear from others, and my own experience has been, "numbers" are down or stagnate, and it seems increasingly difficult to build godly momentum in our local Churches. Discouragement can be an all-too-real thing for leaders to deal with, but we must stand firm on our Biblical convictions and remind one another God is not done with us yet, and this is but a small bump on the road of eternity. Every Gospel conversation we have matters. Every prayer we pray for God to move in lives matters. We **MUST** press on and be creative in how we can reach people in such odd times—the Gospel is too important for us to get complacent over. 2 Corinthians 4:7-9 comes to mind as I consider the present times:

"Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us. We are pressured in every way but not crushed; we are perplexed but not in despair; we are struck down but not destroyed."

So, let us be reminded of our renewed mission and purpose to further the Gospel in East Central Indiana. I know God has continued to be faithful to us, and it is our great joy to continue to walk in faith with, and for, Him. May this coming year be one of increased blessings, but also increased joy and obedience to the Word of God.

Trustees Report

By Joe Fox, Trustee Chair

We have added a goose-neck trailer to our ECBA property assets. This was gifted to us by Old Town Hill Baptist Church. This trailer was much needed for our disaster relief team to transport the tractor to various sites.

The only other property change this year was the decision to replace the Block Party Trailer. Covid has affected availability in purchasing a new trailer. Right now, it looks like we may be able to order one by the end of the year.

Annual Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

meeting. They include: Church Health – Tami Hubler (New Day); Church Planting – Jeremiah Kinney (Remedy City); and Associational Ministry – Sharon Armstrong (Old Town Hill).

Also in new business, the association accepted the gift of the gooseneck trailer donated by Old Town Hill Baptist Church. The 2022 budget was presented and accepted as well as the arrangements and resolutions committee report.

The evening ended with "Dare to Share." Several people shared about the things they had seen God do through our association this past year. Even with Covid issues, we had successfully held a men's retreat and 5 of our churches were able to hold VBS. Remedy City's ministry to BSU students continues to grow. Disaster Relief has helped people in so many ways, both at home and in other states. Treasurer, Jon Nichols, shared how even with some unexpected Disaster Relief expenses, we were able to pay for everything within our current income. Together the association has been able to minister in ways that individual churches could not; we are better together. The evening closed with prayer by the new vice-moderator, Bill Peters.

Disaster Relief Report

By Joe Fox, Disaster Relief Coordinator

Following is a summary of our Disaster Relief Ministry for this past year:

October 2020: We took 11 people to Ritter, Louisiana for a week. While we were there, we worked on 12 homes and removed tree debris.

November 2020: We held an Intro to Disaster Relief training at Highland Lakes.

2021

January: We worked on 2 homes in Newton County, Indiana. They required mold remediation and total rebuilds on the inside. We worked for 5 weeks on this project.

March: We held an Introduction to Disaster Relief training in Northern Indiana.

June: We responded to floods in southern Indiana and did 2 mud-outs in Sunman,

Indiana. We also responded to a wider spread flood in Madison, Indiana.

July: In response to the Madison, Indiana flooding, we attempted to contact 68 home owners that were affected by the flood. We were able to do mold remediation in 38 of the homes.

August: We started a rebuild on a home in Madison that had extensive damage; floors, walls, bathroom, kitchen, and furnace had to be completely redone. We did a small mud-out in the basement of another home in Madison.

September: We are working on another home in Sunman, IN. We replaced the laundry room from ground up, including the roof. We are in process of putting dry wall in the front room.

We went to a SBC church in Southport, Indiana and cut trees for a neighbor of the

church.

We did a mud-out in Fort Wayne and will be going back this month to do a rebuild of dry wall, replace flooring in the home, plus rebuild the kitchen and bathroom.

We held another Disaster Relief training on September 18.

I was invited to 2 churches to talk about Disaster relief and have done so this month.

We've had several opportunities to share the gospel and lift people up in prayer plus pass out Bibles.

We also had someone whose brother we had previously helped reach out to us and ask us to remember him in prayer. He did not accept Christ while we were working on the home, but is talking about it now and asking for prayer.

Arrangements and Resolutions

The Resolution and Arrangements Committee recommends the following 2021-22 dates, times and places for meeting of the East Central Baptist Association:

Event: Quarterly Meeting
Date: Thursday, November 11th, 2021
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Meal - 6:00 p.m.
Location: Redeemer Baptist Church, Anderson

Event: Semi-Annual Meeting
Date: Thursday, March 10th, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Meal - 6:00 p.m.
Location: New Day Baptist Church, Muncie
Speaker: John Horn

Event: Quarterly Meeting
Date: Thursday, May 12th, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Meal - 6:00 p.m.
Location: Halteman Village Baptist Church

Event: Annual Meeting
Date: Thursday, September 22nd, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Meal - 6:00 p.m.
Location: North Delaware Baptist Church, Muncie
Speaker: Jearme Ousley

APPRECIATION TO HOST CHURCH

Whereas the messengers to the fifty-ninth annual meeting of East Central Baptist Association have enjoyed worship, encouragement, and fellowship of the believers of the Body of Christ we acknowledge the hospitality of Old Town Hill Baptist Church; now therefore be it

Resolved, that we express our gratitude for their hosting this annual meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MARY FULLHART

Whereas Mary Fullhart has served East Central Baptist Association in many capacities including but not limited to women's ministry, clerk, assistant clerk, team leader, nominating;

Whereas she served our state and national WMU organizations faithfully;

Whereas she has served as a trustee for denominational entities;

Whereas she advanced the cause of missions in our Association through many means not the least of which were several On Mission Celebrations; and

(Continued on page 7)

2022 ECBA Budget

	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
Income		
4000 · Church Receipts	40,000	38,000
Expense		
7000 · Administrative Ministry		
7010 · Other Expense	1,200	1,200
7021 · Insurance	4,000	4,000
7090 · Payroll	8,800	9,684
Total 7000 · Administrative Ministry	14,000	14,884
7100 · Church Health	8,000	8,000
7200 · Church Planting	6,000	6,000
7300 · Associational Ministry	6,400	6,400
7400 · Baptist Collegiate Ministry	-	3,000
7500 · Trustee	5,600	13,500
	40,000	51,784

(Continued from page 6)

Whereas Mary passed into the presence of Christ Jesus on November 19, 2020; now therefore be it

Resolved, that we rejoice in Mary being home but grieve the loss of her presence among us and acknowledge the debt we owe to her love of missions for the Kingdom of God.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AMOS RODGERS

Whereas Amos Rogers faithfully served East Central Baptist Association as a Pastor of Gaston Baptist Church, trustee of the Association, and faithful member of North Delaware Baptist Church;

Whereas Amos passed in to the presence of Christ Jesus on December 3, 2020; now therefore be it

Resolved, that we proclaim "Well done, good and faithful servant"

Redeemer's Ladies Bible Study Grows and Reaches Out to Those in Need

Redeemer Baptist Church's Ladies Bible Study concluded their study of "Seasons of a Woman's Life" by Lois Evans with a pitch-in dinner on Monday, August 30th at the church. This session combined both groups that had been meeting since June. The original Bible Study group met on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Because of additional interest, they also began offering a study session on Monday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

The group not only studies the Bible but also reaches out with various projects. Currently, they are working



Redeemer's 2 Ladies Bible Study Groups meet together for last session and make mats for the homeless.

on making sleeping mats made out of plastic shopping bags for the homeless.

On September 27th, they began a new study. The Monday morning group is studying the book of Romans. The Monday evening group is studying the book of Ruth.

East Central Baptist Association Balance Report August 2021

	Aug 21	Jul 21	\$ Change
1000 · ONB			
1010 · General Budget	41,092.14	44,181.51	-3,089.37
1011 · Discretionary Admin Team	7,493.99	7,493.99	0.00
1015 · BCM Rent Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00
1016 · BCM Capital Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
1020 · Disaster Relief	474.28	474.28	0.00
1025 · Mission Building Capital Fund	8,087.19	7,857.19	230.00
1035 · Church P&H Fund	6,297.89	6,297.89	0.00
1040 · OMC	1,307.84	1,307.84	0.00
1051 · ECBA Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 · Funds Temporarily Restricted	19,892.33	19,892.33	0.00
1000 · ONB - Other	302.26	302.26	0.00
Total 1000 · ONB	84,947.92	87,807.29	-2,859.37
1100 · Indiana Baptist Foundation			
1110 · ECBA Endowment	12,431.18	12,431.18	0.00
1111 · Church P&H ROI	3,496.31	3,496.31	0.00
1120 · Church P&H Fund	19,223.09	19,223.09	0.00
1125 · BCMH Temp Restricted	149,357.73	149,357.73	0.00
Total 1100 · Indiana Baptist Foundation	184,508.31	184,508.31	0.00
TOTAL	269,456.23	272,315.60	-2,859.37

ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for August 2021

4170 · Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00
4180 · Redeemer - Anderson	368.00
4190 · First - Montpelier	80.00
4210 · Faith Christian	260.00
4230 · Integris	0.00
4240 · Remedy City	147.01
Total 4000 · Church Receipts	1,996.47
Total Income	1,996.47
Expense	
7000 · Administrative Ministry	
7090 · Payroll	770.55
Total 7000 · Administrative Ministry	770.55
7500 · Trustee	4,085.29
Total Expense	4,855.84
Net Income	2,859.37

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Week of Prayer for Baptist Associations

October 17—24



Please Pray for our East Central Baptist Association