

Semi-Annual Meeting Provides Ministry Updates, Good Food, Fellowship, and Encouragement

The East Central Baptist Association Semi-Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, March 10th, at New Day Baptist Church in Muncie. The evening began with a delicious meal provided by the host church of fried catfish, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls, and cupcakes. Following the meal, the group met in the sanctuary for the business meeting.

Seventeen messengers from 6 of the member churches were present to conduct business. The group approved the minutes from the annual meeting and reviewed the ministry reports (contained in this newsletter). Chris Hubler reported that it was now possible to order a new block party/concession trailer. The Association had voted to purchase a new one at the annual meeting for up to \$7000. Unfortunately, when Covid hit, the trailers were not even available to order. Once they began taking orders this year,

the price had increased considerably. The messengers voted to approve up to \$11,500 for the purchase of the trailer plus pay for supplies to furnish the interior with shelving and cabinets, and pay for gas to pick up the trailer from the distributor.

Team Leaders were voted in for the 2022-23 year beginning in



John Horn shared words of encouragement at the Semi-Annual Meeting, including his personal experience in almost dying in 2019.

(Continued on page 6)

North Delaware Celebrates Racial Reconciliation Sunday

By Dr. Ron Ross

On Sunday, February 27th, North Delaware Baptist Church in Muncie was blessed to have Dr. Henry Wang from the Chinese Community Fellowship of Muncie speak as they celebrated *Racial Reconciliation Sunday*. Dr. Wang, a charter member of the CCF as well as church leader, shared its historical background and an overview of its membership. It was so wonderful to hear of the numerous conversions (over



Dr. Henry Wang

seventy) in just the last few years. Their congregation encompasses Muncie, Marion, Gas City, and Upland and draws students from three campuses, professors from three institutions, and professional business people. Many of the members are university students and when they graduate, they

scattered throughout the United States. Some return to their native country of China where they share the gospel of Jesus Christ with those in need of God's salvation. The message concluded with Dr. Wang sharing how he came to faith in Jesus Christ. It was, indeed, a wonderful service and the North Delaware church family encourages other ECBA congregations to take advantage of having Dr. Wang to share his message of God's goodness and grace.

Inside This Issue

Birthdays/Anniversaries & Upcoming Events	2
The Katecheo	2
Firefighters Appreciation Breakfast	3
North Delaware Surpasses LMCO Goal	3
Associational Ministry Report	4
Church Planting and Trustee Reports	4
Church Health Reports	5
New Day Marriage Retreat	6
February P & L and Balance Reports	7



Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

Have you ever felt so inadequate and "left-out" when comparing yourself to those possessing whatever it takes to be successful with God and others? Probably, all of us have felt that way at times and certainly that must be the feelings of those around us having been born of a different race, of a different language set, or of those with physical disabilities.

Recently, a question from a friend led this writer to consider a couple women mentioned in our Bibles. That question launched a research project into the lives of these two women, and perhaps, that question may be used of God to unpack a new level of concern and compassion for those marginalized by *natural perception*. This writer is encouraging you to consider approaching such folks with a *supernatural perception*.

That original question centered on the Old Testament book of Ruth, and specifically, about the kind of *love* portrayed in those four chapters. For those familiar with the account, the book of Ruth is generally dated

around 1200-1150 B.C. A famine took place in Judah around this time and a family of four left their Bethlehem home to seek food in Moab. Please remember, the land of the Moabites was settled by Moab, the son of an incestuous encounter with Lot's oldest daughter and Lot following the destruction of their city, Sodom. During the next ten years or so in Moab, Naomi lost her husband and two sons, leaving her with her two daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth, both Moabite women. Eventually, things back home received God's blessings in rainfall with bountiful crops. It was time for Naomi to return home, and that she did, with the addition of her daughter-in-law, Ruth. Now in Bethlehem, Ruth became the "*bread-winner*" for Naomi and eventually would be married to Boaz (*her kinsman Redeemer*). To that union was born Obed, the grandfather of David. That means that Ruth, a Moabitess, was the great grandmother of David...WOW!

Now the second woman, Rahab, was a prostitute in Jericho. Many will remember the story of this woman.

She was the one who housed and cared for the Jewish spies. Because of her faithfulness to these men and their God, she and her family were spared from the horrific massacre that took place by the Jewish invasion. History would record that because of her faithfulness, she and her husband, Salmon, became the parents of a son named Boaz (Mathew 1.5), the husband of Ruth, and the great, great grandmother of David and in the lineage of Jesus our Savior.

Truly God is no respecter of persons, and neither should we. Something to consider on this spring morning!

Upcoming Events In April

April 8-9—Transformed Women's Retreat at Faith Family Church 508 W Green St., Frankfort IN 46041. Visit <https://scbi.org/events/transformed/transformed-north-central2/> for more details.

SBC Emphasis for April

April 10 —Personal Evangelism Commitment Day

April 17—Easter Sunday

April 24—Baptism Sunday



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

Birthdays

April 10—Sharon Jones, Faith Christian Fellowship, Anderson

Wedding Anniversaries

None

Pastor-Church Anniversaries

April 26—Jeremy Cowin, First Baptist Church—Montpelier, 7 years

April 27—Chris Hubler, New Day Baptist Church—Pendleton Campus, 9 years

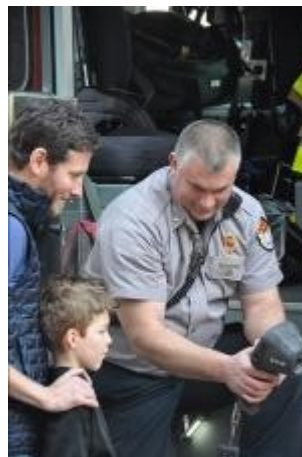
Remedy City Uses NAMB Funding to Host Appreciation Breakfast

Remedy City hosted a firefighters appreciation breakfast on Saturday, March 5th with North American Missions Board (NAMB) funding received through the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana

office. Approximately 20-30 firefighters attended the event. Remedy City was able to present the gospel and gift each first responder with engraved trauma shears. Pastor Jeremiah Kinney met the fire chief at

the breakfast and is looking forward to developing a long-term strategic relationship with the group.

See pictures from this event below.



North Delaware Surpasses LMCO Goal

The North Delaware Baptist Church family set a goal of \$400 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (LMCO) for International Missions. Although they regretted not sharing this earlier, they wanted to praise God for his faithfulness in encouraging believers to give and overwhelmingly supersede their goal. They collected \$1,254.52!!! That was more than 3 times the goal that was set! Thank you, North Delaware, for generously responding to this offering which helps share the gospel throughout the world.

Associational Semi-Annual Meeting Reports

Ministry Team Leader Report

Sharon Armstrong, Team Leader

Ron Ross and Joe Fox, as faithful servants of The Lord, have agreed to continue in their current positions for the upcoming 2022/23 calendar year as Education Coordinator and the Disaster Relief Ministry respectfully. As the Evangelism Coordinator and Ministry Team Leader, I will faithfully continue to serve in my current ministry roles for the upcoming 2022/23 calendar year as well.

Evangelism Ministry Report

Sharon Armstrong,
Evangelism Coordinator

I have had the privilege to teach "Share Jesus Without Fear" at Old Town Hill for several months. It's always amazing to me see how God brings people to the knowledge of just how important it is to share their faith. There have been the very young and the not so young attend the classes. It doesn't matter the age of the person to God EVER! God meets everyone where they are at no matter their spiritual level of understanding. He has only a requirement; and that is faithfulness to Him, He helps us with the rest. One of the youngest individuals I have ever had the privilege to teach "Share Jesus Without Fear" was an eleven-year-old girl at OTH. She has forever made a lasting impression on me because of her love for The Lord, the Gospel and the unsaved. She shared her faith, she led someone to The Lord, and she gave God the Glory! It is pretty awesome to witness a child make it all so simple. As of date, sixteen individuals have either deepened their



SCBI's John Horn shared a message of encouragement.

faith in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ through this training or have, for the first time, become equipped to share their faith with

boldness and without fear. Currently, two professions of salvation have occurred because of the faithfulness of The Lord and those willing to proclaim His message to the unbeliever. All Glory to the King of Kings! Scripture Spotlight: Matthew 5:14-16.

Education Ministry Report

Dr. Ron Ross, Education Coordinator

The apostle Paul directed his young "son in the Lord" to "preach the Word" [2 Tim 4.2]. He had previously [2 Tim 3.16-17] stated "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness; SO THAT the man or woman of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

The Educational Ministry of ECBA is based on that instruction to Timothy. In an era where the very essence of Scripture is being challenged daily, the man and woman of God must rely on the totality of God's Word. Certain educational degrees can assist the student of Scripture to interpret God's Word in light of the various hermeneutical principles; however, the student must realize the real Teacher is God's Holy Spirit.

Our Educational Coordinator continues to share numerous articles on a wide spectrum of topics, he believes to be beneficial to those shepherding the people of God. As most church leaders are aware, our Convention has greatly altered the SBC calendar of events. In the process, we no longer calendar such events as the *Baptist Doctrine Study*, *Christian Home Week*, *Social Issues Sunday* and *Anti-Gambling Sunday*. It appears that the lack of interest by churches in these areas of study led to the dismissal of these crucial topics of study.

Since most of our ECBA churches are dependent on outside generated materials for church studies, such as *Experiencing God*, *The Mind of Christ*, *Lifeway Materials* along with non-SBC materials, it is of concern to

our Educational Coordinator. With that stated concern, this Coordinator is willing to formulate materials for our ECBA congregations desirous of such studies. If interested in such materials, contact him by phone at (765) 748-6633.

Due to technical problems, the Coordinator is currently unable to send out weekly materials to the ECBA churches. Hopefully, this glitch will be corrected in the next couple weeks, so that the materials can continue to be distributed.

Disaster Relief Report

Joe Fox, Disaster Relief Coordinator

The Disaster Relief Team is currently working on a home in Anderson with mold damage. We are beginning to focus more on opportunities in our local communities. We are also working on 3 wheelchair ramps, one in Anderson, one in Daleville and one in Muncie.

There will be a Disaster Relief training available on March 26 in Clay City, Indiana.

Trustee Report

Joe Fox, Trustee Chair

The only thing that the trustees are currently working on is the purchase of a new block party/concession trailer. Covid had shut down production of them and we had not been able to even order one. They are now taking orders but the cost has significantly increased. This will be addressed in new business.

Church planting report

Jeremiah Kinney, Team Leader

Jeremiah Kinney is now leading the executive board church planting committee for SCBI as well as chairing ECBA church planting. He hopes to launch a series of associational conversations about planting throughout the state. Stay tuned for ECBA's invitation to get involved.

No other news to report.

Associational Semi-Annual Meeting Reports

Children's Ministry / VBS

Brenda Brooks, Coordinator

- LifeWay VBS training in Nashville was cancelled due to bad weather. Brenda Brooks, Tami Hubler, Deneia Trego and Tammy Trego were slated to attend.
- LifeWay provided online training to replace the Nashville event.
- 2022 VBS materials have been ordered and received. Contact Brenda Brooks to reserve your date, if you have not already done so.
- Currently, we have 3 churches who are planning to host VBS: Redeemer, Old Town Hill, and New Day in Muncie.

Women's Missionary Union

Tami Hubler, Coordinator

ECBA Events:

WMU is planning a time of fellowship at Wasson Nursery on Thursday, May 26th. The theme is Col 2:7 (NASB) "having been firmly rooted and now

being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed and overflowing with gratitude".

Plans are also being made in the second half of the year for an easy sewing event to make women's hygiene items to be sent to 3rd world countries where women do not have easy access to such items.

State Level - SCBI Events:

Transformed Women's Conference:

March 11-12 Graceland Baptist Church, New Albany IN

April 8-9 Faith Family Church, Frankfort IN

Registration: early bird \$55 / \$65

Missions Lifeline:

August 13th | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
@ Calvary Baptist Church in Greenfield, IN

Registration: \$5.00

Missional engagement in our world is a central focus in the life of the local church. Hear from missionaries and key missions leaders as they tackle topics that will help propel you as you reach out and share Christ. Come experience a variety of breakout conferences that will be offered for adults who are looking for ways to be more active in missions and lead their church to become more missions-minded. Children Birth-6th grade will journey to the Philippines and learn all about how God is at work through our IMB Missionaries serving there. They'll enjoy crafts, snacks, games and incredible stories as they hear about the work in the Philippines.

Missions Scholarships: As the world lifts up opportunities for International Missions, remember that ECBA has created an International



2022 Vice-Moderator, Bill Peters, was voted in to fulfill the vacant moderator position for the remaining year.

Missions scholarship program for participating ECBA churches' High School Students. The goal is to invest our resources in High School youth to further the gospel and solidify their faith by sending them on a life-changing International mission trip prior to college and other world influences. Please reach out to Tami Hubler for more information.

Men's Ministry

Joe Fox, Coordinator

A **Men's Fellowship/Retreat** are currently being planned for the 2nd half of the year.

Open positions

We are still seeking people who feel called to the areas of Youth, Music, Sunday School/Discipleship, and Prayer to be an ECBA coordinator in these areas. If you sense God calling you to serve, please contact Tami Hubler, 765-356-3648.



(L-clockwise) Chris Hubler, John Horn, and Greg Haisley enjoyed some of the delicious food prepared by host church, New Day—Muncie.



Messengers from 6 member churches reviewed reports and conducted new business.

"Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage" Retreat at NDBC

New Day Baptist Church held a Marriage Retreat on Saturday February 19 called "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage". The retreat was held at the Alexandria campus with 32 individuals in attendance; couples and singles, young and old. Pastor Alex Beane led the retreat which was quite the success - full of humor and truth with a mix of teaching from Pastor Mark Gungor and Pastor Alex. As an active chaplain in the National

Guard, Pastor Alex has held this retreat for the troops for many years. Please keep Pastor Alex, his wife, Cerness, and their 3 small children in your prayers during his upcoming year deployment to the Middle East.



Semi-Annual Meeting

Continued from page 1)

September. The group approved the nominating committee's recommendation to have Tami Hubler continue as Church Health Team Leader, Jeremiah Kinney as Church Planting Team Leader, and Sharon Armstrong as Associational Ministry Team Leader. The committee was made up of Greg Haisley, Tim Overton, and Nathan Watson.

The ECBA also voted to have Joe Veal of You Turn Ministries speak at the May quarterly meeting and give \$400 to his ministry plus pay his travel expenses. You Turn Ministries was begun in 2004. Their website states, "The heart of You Turn is to discover where God's Spirit is at work and join Him there with holistic gospel ministry. This ministry consists of providing practical needs such as clean water and orphan care, proclaiming the good news to those who have never heard, and preparing indigenous church leaders to multiply

and extend the kingdom of Jesus Christ through healthy church planting to the glory of God." Joe recently preached revival services at Integris Church in New Albany.

Additional business included a motion that was approved to have Bill Peters fill the unexpired term of moderator (which was currently vacant). Also, the group approved a motion to have the moderator appoint a three person ad hoc committee to investigate and present at the annual meeting the possibility of hiring a Director of Missions for ECBA and to develop a job description for the position.

Following the business meeting, John Horn, Church Planting Team Leader for the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, spoke. John shared about the first church in the book of Acts and how it exploded with growth and people began complaining. He shared their example of how good leaders assessed the situation and embraced change. He said, "If we ever get to the point that we are not willing to

change, we are not wanting to be involved in what God wants to do." John also shared his personal experience in 2019 when an error during surgery caused him to "die" 3 different times. But God was not finished with His work for him here and he completely recovered. Because he had received too much epinephrine, the nurses called him "epi-man" and gave him a t-shirt with "epi-man" on the front and "Knocked down 3 times...but not out for the count" on the back. This event only strengthened his resolve to share the gospel.

John also shared that there were evangelism funds still available for our churches. Each church can apply for up to \$2,000 to host an event that shares the gospel and the church follows up on it. Just contact him about applying for the funds.

The next Association meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 12th, at Halteman Village Baptist Church in Muncie.

East Central Baptist Association Balance Report February 2022

	Feb 22	Jan 22	\$ Change
1000 · ONB			
1010 · General Budget	41,526.69	42,938.49	-1,411.80
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	8,662.19	8,662.19	0.00
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	85,957.47	87,369.27	-1,411.80
1100 · Indiana Baptist Foundation			
1110 · ECBA Endowment	12,820.47	12,820.47	0.00
1111 · Church P&H ROI	5,726.44	5,726.44	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	187,127.73	187,127.73	0.00
TOTAL	273,085.20	274,497.00	-1,411.80

ECBA Profit and Loss for February 2022

Income		
	4000 · Church Receipts	
	4060 · New Day	0.00
	4120 · Halteman - Muncie	155.84
	4140 · Kingston - Anderson	154.70
	4160 · North Delaware - Muncie	291.15
	4170 · Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00
	4180 · Redeemer - Anderson	864.87
	4190 · First - Montpelier	82.00
	4210 · Faith Christian Fellowship	0.00
	4230 · Integrus	78.00
	4240 · Remedy City	153.44
	Total 4000 · Church Receipts	1,780.00
Total Income		1,780.00
Expense		
	7000 · Administrative Ministry	
	7090 · Payroll	835.16
	Total 7000 · Administrative Ministry	835.16
	7100 · Church Health	1,419.40
	7500 · Trustee	937.24
Total Expense		3,191.80
Net Income		-1,411.80

EAST CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

c/o Pat Storm

8900 W County Road 950 N

Middletown IN 47356

Phone: 765-623-3940

Email: ecba@theecba.org

www.theecba.org

Follow us



Plan Now to Attend

Quarterly ECBA Associational Meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2022

Halteman Village Baptist Church

4100 N Oakwood Avenue

Muncie IN 47304

7:00 p.m. Associational Meeting

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal