

Safe in the Storm, ECBA Supports Ministries

The Semiannual Meeting of the East Central Baptist Association started out calm and enjoyable with an Italian meal served by host North Delaware Baptist Church and the business meeting got off to a smooth start. The business portion of the meeting concluded and Dr. Jamison Work, Associational Missions Network Associate for the International Missions Board, began to speak. Suddenly, attendees heard siren warnings. A massive hail storm plummeted the church, the vehicles in the parking lot, and the entire area. The hail damaged church window screens and building siding and trim but, fortunately, did not break any windows. Some of the vehicles were not as fortunate. At least two of them had broken windows from the hail and all of them had substantial hail damage. Later, it was reported that a tornado had touched down just about 1 mile from the church. But, thank God, it did not hit the church and everyone there was safe.

At the business meeting, the 18 messengers representing 7 churches heard reports (which are found in this newsletter). In new business, Tami Hubler made a motion to donate \$500 to the SBC Ministers' Wives Luncheon and the motion was approved. The messengers also voted to help a rapidly growing church in Cuba by donating \$2000 to buy chairs. Chris Hubler shared that he had seen over 300 people saved while he was there and need to provide seating for their

services was great. Tim Overton requested \$500 to aid their worship leader in going to Paris for evangelism efforts during the Olympics and this was also approved. Joe Fox had previously talked about getting "beet juice" for the DR tractor to aid in stability. He had since talked with others who worked in this field and decided that having foam put into the tires was a much better option. This would run about \$2200. The messengers also approved this request.

The team leaders for the 2024-25 year were scheduled to be elected at this meeting. A nominating committee had not been formed so there was no recommendations. Pat Storm made a motion, which was seconded by Chris Hubler, to re-elect our existing team leaders (who all agreed to being nominated) and the motion passed. Currently serving now and for the new year are Tim Overton, Church Planting Team Leader; Sharon Armstrong, Association Ministry Team Leader; and Tami Hubler, Church Health Team Leader.

The constitution and bylaws committee presented

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Dr. Jamie Work, from the IMB, spoke at the meeting.

New Day Baptizes 2 More Believers

On Sunday, March 3 New Day Baptist Church in Alexandria baptized 2 more believers plus they had 2 more professions of faith that same day. They had just baptized 9 the previous week. They are praising God for all He is doing in and through their His people at New Day.



Gabby



Elizabeth

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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

The Easter season is always a special time for all Christians of all faiths. The season is mixed with biblical themes and passages as well as the influences of history and traditions. As Southern Baptists, some churches incorporate aspects of both, scripture and traditions.

For the Jews of Jesus' day, they were very familiar with the **Hallel**. The **Hallel** was a group of Psalms [113-118] conveying praise to God for His Egyptian deliverance. This was most often led by Levitical singers. The "**Great Hallel**" [120-136] conveys thanksgiving and praise for God's provisions of food and rain, and spreads from Egyptian Deliverance to the Messianic era.

With such background Matthew 21.9, 15; Mark 11.9, 10 and John 12.13 link the presence of Jesus Christ in the people's chant of **Hosanna** as Jesus neared their

presence. The word means "*help or save, I pray*" and enables today's reader with the mindset of those present in that day. To them, the Messiah was going to provide freedom from the demands of the Roman Government, and genuine peace to the Jewish Community.

As we know from Bible Study, His entrance into the City was for a bigger purpose. Yes, He was about the "*help and save,*" but on an eternal and spiritual level.

As we contemplate Jesus' provision for sin and His provisions for daily human life, we can shout, "*Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel*" {John 12.13, NASB'95}. Perhaps today, you can meditate on the many reasons to *praise* and *thank* Him!

Please join us in praying for Dale and Deneia Trego and their family as they grieve the loss of their 12 year old grandson, Josiah Michael Trego, who went to be with Jesus on February 27, 2024. Dale is the pastor of New Day Baptist Church—Muncie Campus. Their son, Michael and his wife, Elysha along with their son, Ethan (10), and daughter, Adelynne (1), live in Colorado. Josiah's obituary can be read at [Obituary information for Josiah Michael Trego \(meeksmortuary.com\)](http://Obituary information for Josiah Michael Trego (meeksmortuary.com))

Bible Class Available

Educational Coordinator, Dr. Ron Ross, is offering to teach a Bible class to anyone interested. He needs a minimum of 10 enrolled and the subject matter will be determined by the participants. So far, there has been a suggestion to study the Psalms. To express your interest or to ask any questions, please contact Ron Ross by calling or texting (765) 748-6633 or by email at: rabbiroro62@gmail.com.

(Continued from page 1)

their recommended changes and ask the messengers to review these and be ready to vote on them at the annual meeting. The committee was made up of Chris Hubler, Ron Ross, Dana Jones, and Pat Storm.

The next ECBA meeting is the quarterly meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 9th, at Redeemer Baptist Church. There will be a fellowship meal provided at 6:00 pm and the business meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.



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

Birthdays

May 21—Jeremiah Kinney
(Remedy City)

May 28—Rena Storm
(Redeemer)

Wedding Anniversaries
None

Pastor-Church Anniversaries
None

Upcoming Events In March

May 9—6:00 p.m., Fellowship Meal at Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg Road, Anderson IN 46012

May 9—7:00 p.m., ECBA Quarterly Meeting at Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg Road, Anderson IN 46012

SBC Emphasis for May

May 2—National Day of Prayer

May 5—SBC Seminary Sunday

May 19—Children's Ministry Sunday

NDBC Holds Neighboring 101 Evangelism Training for Women

New Day Baptist Church provided Neighboring 101 Women's Evangelism training in March. The classes meet for 3 weeks, each week at a different campus on March 3rd, 10th, and 17th. This helped the women meet new sisters in Christ and connect with one another. The curriculum was modeled after the new NAMB training, which several of the women will be attending on April 8th & 9th in Alpharetta, GA. They are equipping themselves to reach the lost in their families, neighborhoods,

and also at the Crossover event in Indianapolis during the SBC Annual Meeting.

This is NAMB's description for this training:

You're not just where you are by chance—it's all part of a divine strategy! Whether you're navigating the ins and outs of your neighborhood, hustling at work,

or unwinding in your favorite chill spot, there's a bigger picture at play. This 3 week study is a dynamic journey into the nitty-gritty of making a real impact in the Kingdom where you live, work, and play. Explore hands-on, practical ways to sprinkle love and kindness in



Pastors Chris Hubler and Dale Trego share at the Neighboring 101 Evangelism Training at their Muncie location.



Women from all 3 New Day campuses gather at the Alexandria campus to learn how to share Jesus with others.

your sphere of influence. Gospel conversations are the destination! Brace yourself for a weekly dose of actionable homework that turns insights into everyday application. The following books are not required but are good resources if you'd like more information on sharing the gospel: The Art of Neighboring, The 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversation, and The Gospel Comes with a House.



Be watching for upcoming information on the annual women's GROW (Go Reach Our World) coming up in May at Wasson's Nursery in Muncie. Registration is limited to 30 women.

ECBA Evangelism Ministry Offers Free Evangelism Training

The Evangelism ministry will have an annual training at Old Town Hill on Saturday, April 27th, 2024 at 11 AM. Anyone wishing to learn how to share their faith, or who just needs a refresher on sharing Jesus with others is welcome to attend this one-day training session of "Share Jesus Without Fear." All material will be provided. A light lunch will also be provided.

In essence, learning how to share the gospel and then putting that knowledge to practice is certainly an essential part of the Christian faith and our service to the Lord. How can we be better stewards of the gospel? How can we reach the broken, the hurting and the lost? By being confident in the Word and then sharing that Word with others. There is no other way. Scripture teaches us that "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls" (Proverbs 11:20). Therefore, the challenge is, "To win souls to God, you must love them. To win souls is a battle. To win souls is a competition." To love Jesus, is to love as He loves. The Eternal rewards of the soul winner will be abounding. I promise!

Do you know someone who would benefit from this training? If so please invite them to come. For additional information or to register for this event, please call or text Sharon Armstrong at 765-729-2748.

ECBA Semiannual Reports

Church Planting Report

Tim Overton, Team Leader

ECBA is actively looking for church planters. Please let Tim Overton know if you identify a good candidate.

Church Health Report

Tami Hubler, Team Leader

Missions – A \$500 scholarship was granted to Savannah Kelly for a Spring Break Mission Trip with Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU) at Ball State University. Savannah is a sophomore at Ball State University.

Just a reminder: There are still scholarship funds available for youth and college students. Please contact Tami Hubler for details.

VBS - In January, ECBA sent 6 VBS Directors and Assistants from 3 of our churches (Redeemer, New Day - Muncie; New Day - Alexandria) to the LifeWay VBS Preview event in Brentwood Tennessee. This will be Alexandria's first year hosting a VBS program. A huge thank you to Brenda Brooks for coordinating this training for our ECBA churches. (Just a note, Old Town Hill's director, Sabra Douglas, had planned to go but was unable to at the last minute

due to work.)

WMU - the GROW (Go Reach Our World) Night at Wasson Nursery will be held again this year in May. The date is TBD and will be announced through the ECBA newsletter, ECBA FB page and email.

NATIONAL & STATE EVENTS

SBC Ministers Wives Luncheon - The SBC Ministers Wives Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, June 11th at the Annual SBC Meeting in Indianapolis (Week of June 9th) This year's scripture is "Fear not for I AM with you" Isaiah 41:10. Jacki C. King will be the Key Speaker. Approximately 2000 Pastors Wives are expected to attend. The State Convention of Baptists Indiana is paying the registration fee for Indiana Pastors Wives. Sign up for FREE at scbi.org/events. ECBA's Tami Hubler (Church Health Team Leader and Pastor's Wife at New Day) is serving as Vice President on the SBC Ministers Wives Luncheon Planning Team. Contact her with any questions or if you'd like to volunteer at the event.

Women - The SCBI Transformed Women's Conference will be held on April 12 & 13 at Calvary Baptist Church in Greenwood. Registration is open at SCBI.org/events.

Association Team Report

Sharon Armstrong, Team Leader

Evangelism Ministry Report

Sharon Armstrong

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Educational Report

Dr. Ron Ross, Educational Coordinator

Speaking of education; can you remember the first time you were placed in a class? Perhaps, it was in a Sunday School Class ... you may have mixed emotions about that initial event. Over time you made friends with classmates, and the teacher eventually became a role model to pursue. Perhaps that experience came on the first day you were enrolled in the first grade at a public school, and eventually the dread, fear, anxiety, apprehensions vanished as the new experience became something you actually and generally enjoyed.

As the Education Coordinator for our East Central Baptist Association, the name can and should mean that the members of ECBA churches and missions have desires to learn more about numerous topics in the presence of other members of sister congregations.

In an attempt to forget about our past educational pursuits, what if we were to offer training to any member of an ECBA church or mission at no charge? Would you be

DR Helps with Tornado Damage in Indiana

Immediately following the ECBA semi-annual meeting, ECBA Disaster Relief Coordinator, Joe Fox, left North Delaware Baptist Church and headed to Selma to see the damage caused by the tornado that had just touched down there. The next day the DR team assembled and began helping clean up the area; removing trees that had fallen on homes and clearing fallen trees from properties. The team of 27 trained volunteers also went to the Winchester area and took the Quick Recovery Unit to help feed the people there. They were happy to have a DR team from Illinois that also traveled to help with the clean up.

There are many stories from this service opportunity but one that particularly stood out to Joe happened in Selma. A brick home in the area was fine but the garage and everything



Our DR Team gets our ECBA DR equipment ready to go and help with tornado damage in Winchester.

around it was destroyed. In the yard was a camping trailer where the couple's son lived. He was in it at the time that the tornado picked it up and spun it around before dropping it to the ground. Joe asked the son, who was not injured, if it scared him. He said no, "it felt like someone had their arms around me." Joe told him that it was God.

Semiannual Reports Continued

interested? The place, date and time are at the discretion of those who will form the class.

The Educational Coordinator has a broad educational background as pertains to subject matter, and over fifty years of church ministry experience; thus, the possibility of offering a variety of courses over a period of time is possible. If you are interested in participating in a class, you are asked to contact Ron in person, by phone or by email. Let us prayerfully consider ways of expanding our knowledge in numerous topics and applications. He can be reached at (765) 748-6633 or by email at: rabbiro-ro62@gmail.com.

In 2024, some of our church participated in the Winter Bible Study (the *Sermon on the Mount* from Matthew 5-7) as well as *Sanctity of Life* and most recent *Racial Reconciliation Sunday*. Now, in the month of March — excitement is building as we enter the Easter season and special services. If anyone needs something for the Easter emphasis, please contact the coordinator. That's it for reporting on the educational emphasis!

Disaster Relief Ministry
Joe Fox, Coordinator

Our Disaster Relief Ministry has been relatively quiet for a change. In the last three months, we have built three wheelchair ramps, had a DR training in New Albany, IN, and trained 19 new volunteers. We also have two more ramps that are to be built in early spring.

Also a testimony: I have a neighbor that is an older gentleman. He is very nice *and* very talkative. I do a lot of pre-build for our ramps and have DR equipment in my driveway. It is very visible. Nearly every time I work, Larry wants to come over and talk. At first I was kind of irritated because of being in a rush. I thought about it and it came to me that I was missing an opportunity to share with him. He asked me what I made for doing all this work. This was my opportunity. We would talk and talk, but when I brought up Jesus and what he does, it would end the conversation real quick. This went on for several years and I was able to share more and more. In the meantime, Larry got very sick and he continued to decline. I hadn't seen him for a while and last week his wife called me and told me that Larry had passed away. I had no idea he was that bad. The second thing his wife said was, "Joe, Larry accepted Jesus in his hospital bed two days before he died." Praise the Lord! We all get to see him again. I did not get him saved. All I did was plant the seed, and I'm sure others did, also. That's all we have to do; just take the time to grasp the opportunities God puts in front of us. WE ALL CAN DO IT! PRAISE GOD!!

ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for February 2024

	Feb 2024	Jan 2024 (PP)	Feb 2023 (PY)	Jan - Feb, 2024 (YTD)
REVENUE				
3025 Mission Building Fund	115.00	115.00	115.00	230.00
4000 Church Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4060 New Day	500.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00
4120 Halteman - Muncie	0.00	0.00	141.92	0.00
4140 Kingston - Anderson	64.23	1,440.08	207.39	1,504.31
4160 North Delaware - Muncie	146.60	276.70	287.75	423.30
4180 Redeemer - Anderson	411.30	0.00	194.83	411.30
4210 Faith Christian Fellowship	35.00	35.00	35.00	70.00
4220 Freedom International Ministries	0.00	0.00	905.00	0.00
4230 Integris	225.00	273.00	98.00	498.00
4240 Remedy City	0.00	0.00	161.27	0.00
4250 Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	1,283.88	0.00	0.00	1,283.88
Total 4000 Church Receipts	2,666.01	2,524.78	2,531.16	5,190.79
6100 State Mission Offering	0.00	0.00	3,689.19	0.00
Total Revenue	2,781.01	2,639.78	6,335.35	5,420.79
EXPENDITURES				
7000 Administrative Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7010 Other Expense	10.00	88.00	10.00	98.00
7021 Insurance	0.00	644.00	148.89	644.00
7090 Payroll	1,024.78	1,024.79	906.27	2,049.57
7091 Bookkeeping	126.00	91.20	102.00	217.20
Total 7000 Administrative Ministry	1,160.78	1,847.99	1,167.16	3,008.77
7100 Church Health	500.00	1,401.53	3,399.93	1,901.53
7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7310 Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	859.70	0.00
Total 7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	859.70	0.00
7500 Trustee	0.00	2,049.94	562.17	2,049.94
7700 Miscellaneous	0.00	900.00	0.00	900.00
Uncategorized Expenditure	0.00	315.58	0.00	315.58
Total Expenditures	1,660.78	6,515.04	5,988.96	8,175.82
NET OPERATING REVENUE	1,120.23	-3,875.26	346.39	-2,755.03
NET REVENUE	\$1,120.23	\$ -3,875.26	\$346.39	\$ -2,755.03

ECBA Balance Report February 2024

	As of Feb 29, 2024	As of Jan 31, 2024 (PP)	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
1000 ONB	-9,088.57	-8,440.18	-648.39
1010 General Budget	23,583.85	21,815.23	1,768.62
1011 Discretionary Admin Team	7,493.99	7,493.99	0.00
1020 Disaster Relief	474.28	474.28	0.00
1025 Mission Building Capital Fund	9,957.19	9,957.19	0.00
1035 Church P&H Fund	22,704.92	22,704.92	0.00
1040 OMC	407.84	407.84	0.00
1051 ECBA Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 Funds Temporarily Restricted	7,366.43	7,366.43	0.00
1111 Church P&H ROI	7,363.17	7,363.17	0.00
1125 BCMH Temp Restricted	149,357.73	149,357.73	0.00
Total 1000 ONB	219,620.83	218,500.60	1,120.23
1100 Indiana Baptist Foundation	-281.77	-281.77	0.00
1110 ECBA Endowment	12,930.37	12,930.37	0.00
Total 1100 Indiana Baptist Foundation	12,648.60	12,648.60	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	232,269.43	231,149.20	1,120.23
Total Current Assets	232,269.43	231,149.20	1,120.23
TOTAL ASSETS	\$232,269.43	\$231,149.20	\$1,120.23
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Total Liabilities			0.00
Equity			
20000 Opening Balance Equity	45,107.04	45,107.04	0.00
22000 Unrestricted Net Assets	189,917.42	189,917.42	0.00
Net Revenue	-2,755.03	-3,875.26	1,120.23
Total Equity	232,269.43	231,149.20	1,120.23
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$232,269.43	\$231,149.20	\$1,120.23

EAST CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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Follow us



Don't Miss It!

Quarterly ECBA Associational Meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2024

Redeemer Baptist Church

3230 Lindberg Road

Anderson IN 46012

7:00 p.m. Associational Meeting

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal