

ECBA Semiannual Meeting Held in March

East Central Baptist Association held their Semiannual Meeting at Redeemer Baptist Church in Anderson on Thursday, March 13th at 7 PM. There were 15 messengers from 6 of the cooperating church present.

Moderator, Dr. Henry Wang, led the group through approval of the meeting minutes and reports. **Church Planting** Team Leader, Tim Overton, reported that they are spiritually and financially prepared to plant a church but are looking for candidates to plant a church and asked the group to let him know if they are aware of anyone. **Church Health** Team Leader, Tami Hubler, reported that 2 people were sent to the LifeWay VBS Director training in Nashville, TN but the training was cancelled due to inclement weather. She attended the WMU January Board meeting in Birmingham, Alabama in January along with 3 individuals from Indiana. She was excited to report that the ECBA Missions Scholarship has been extended to include adults. There are also plans in progress to hold another GROW (Go Reach Our World) event in May at Wasson Nursery. Additionally, New Day Baptist Church is planning a missions trip to South Dakota in September where they will assist with construction and vision screening. She encouraged anyone who was interested in joining them to contact her. **Association Ministry** Team Leader, Sharon Armstrong, shared that she has continued to teach "Share Jesus without Fear" at

Old Town Hill and is willing to teach it at any of our churches. Dr. Ron Ross continues to provide Education Ministry articles to our pastors but computer problems halted this while it was in for repairs. Joe Fox told about some of their Disaster Relief efforts in West Virginia where ECBA had 5 of the 17 volunteers who helped with the flooding damage. Joe also helped with a Disaster Relief Certification Training in Granger, IN. Jeremiah Kinney was not present but sent a written report about the **Collegiate Ministry** to Ball State. They are seeing 15-25 students attend their church and some of them getting involved in small groups. They are also planning a BSU baseball outing this spring. **Trustees** chair, Greg Haisley, reported that the building deed has been legally transferred to Faith Christian Fellowship. There also have been repairs completed on the Disaster Relief truck's transmission, along with some repairs on the DR trailer.

Under new business, the messengers approved changes made to the Associational Meeting Objectives, removing the setting of mission offering goals since this was being done at individual churches. Based on comments that our current budget was difficult for many to understand, a motion was made to establish a task force to review it and make recommendations for changes. The moderator appointed Greg Haisley, Stephanie Ross and Ron Ross to this task force. Additionally, Chris Hubler made a motion that was approved to have the treasurer put \$100,000 of ECBA funds into a CD so that it would be earning interest.

New Day Baptist Baptizes 6 at Alexandria and Muncie

The first weekend in March was baptism Sunday at New Day Baptist Church according to Pastor Chris Hubler. Their Alexandria Campus baptized 5 people on that Sunday. Following in believer's baptism to publicly declare their faith and commitment to a life in Christ were Breanna Dowden, Shelby Covington, Jesse Smith, Spencer Stinger and Airyanna Stinger. Then at the end of the month, New Day Baptist Church in Muncie baptized one more. Angie Porter made a public declaration of her faith as she was baptized by Pastor Dale Trego on March 30. See pictures on page 4.

Inside This Issue

The Katecheo	2
Birthdays/Anniversaries & Upcoming Events	2
OTH Upward and Pickleball Ministries	3
New Day Baptisms	4
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	5
September P & L and Balance Reports	5



Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

Spring has certainly sprung, and we are nearing the Easter Season. For many believers the Easter Season is their favorite time of the year; it certainly is for this writer. Interestingly, all four Gospels record the resurrection with some variations. At this point, the student needs to inquire as to the variations. Obviously, Matthew writes for the Jewish reader; Mark, for the Roman; Luke, for the Greek; and John, for the Church in Ephesus.

Matthew's (28.1-15) account begins with a time reference *"after Sabbath as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week."* Mark (16.2-8) simply states, *"And very early on the first day of the week ... when the sun had risen,"* with Luke (24.1-8) saying, *"But on the first day of the week, at early dawn,"* and John (20.1-10) describes, *"on the first day of the week ... came early to the tomb, while it was still dark,"*. The point of each description is the timing of the eye-witness accounts. The women came to the tomb to anoint the body of Messiah. They were saddened by the sight of a tampered seal – the seal-stone was moved and an angelic announcement – *"He is not here, He has risen."*

Picture this scene – the Apostles are elsewhere; the women are there with their spices believing His body would be where it had been laid. Obviously, the women did not comprehend His words about a resurrection on the third day, and with the attitude of unbelief by the men when it was announced that He had risen, at least two of

them ran to the site to see if the words were true. And then, the appearances – to the women, the disciples traveling to Emmaus, some other disciples, and His apostles. Jesus understood the frailty of human flesh ... believers would need a personal spiritual presence of God to fight the tendency of faithlessness.

At that point, one would think as people realized His resurrection, they would certainly believe and become one of His own, but not so. Jesus' own words recorded by John (6.65) state, *"For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father."* In order to reframe this vitally important matter we turn our attention to Matthew's record in chapter 13.1-17, where Jesus provided instruction regarding His use of parables. Everyone heard the same message; however, some had no idea as to what His words meant. Jesus explains to His disciples, some have been chosen to understand by the Father and some have not.

In our day, the design of God has never changed. The message goes forth, most reject, some make professions of faith, and some believe. Time is of essence – those rejecting continue to reject, those making professions many times fizzle out, but those who believed with the inner indwelling of God's Spirit grow and produce the *"fruit of God's Spirit."* The believing exhibit the resurrected life provided by the Savior, the Only Begotten Son of God.



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

Birthdays

May 21—Jeremiah Kinney
(Remedy City)

May 28—Renae Storm
(Redeemer)

Wedding Anniversaries

None

Pastor-Church Anniversaries

None

Upcoming Events In March

May 8—6:00 p.m., Fellowship Meal at
Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg
Road, Anderson IN 46012

May 8—7:00 p.m., ECBA Quarterly Meeting at
Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg
Road, Anderson IN 46012

SBC Emphasis for May

Focus on Christian Education

May 1—National Day of Prayer

May 4—SBC Seminary Sunday

May 18—Children's Ministry Sunday

Old Town Hill Wraps Up Another Upward Ministry Season

By Melissa Reynolds

Old Town Hill wrapped up another fantastic Upward Basketball and Cheerleading season with 97 kids participating! Our celebration and awards night was filled with laughter and excitement as coaches and kids competed in Minute to Win It games — a fun twist that everyone enjoyed. Most importantly, after the games, the gospel was shared, and we rejoice that 30 kids responded to the invitation. We are incredibly grateful for the dedicated volunteers who made this season such a success.



Old Town Hill Begins Pickleball Ministry

By Melissa Reynolds

Here are some snapshots from our first pickleball lesson! We had an amazing group of people who generously shared their time and expertise to help us learn the game. It was a fantastic experience, and we had a blast picking up new skills!

We're excited to keep learning and will be opening it up to the community in May — free of charge!

Come join the fun this week and throughout April: Mondays & Fridays, 6-8 PM, and Saturdays, 9-11 AM. See you on the court!



New Day Baptist Church Baptisms



Breanna Dowden



Shelby Covington



Jesse Smith



Spencer Stinger



Airyanna Stinger



Angie Porter

ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for February 2025

	Feb 2025	Jan 2025 (PP)	Feb 2024 (PY)	Jan - Feb, 2025 (YTD)
REVENUE				
3025 Mission Building Fund	0.00	0.00	115.00	0.00
4000 Church Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4060 New Day	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
4140 Kingston - Anderson	86.38	153.48	64.23	239.86
4160 North Delaware - Muncie	0.00	330.90	146.60	330.90
4170 Old Town Hill - Muncie	684.69	8,289.22	0.00	8,973.91
4180 Redeemer - Anderson	0.00	470.79	411.30	470.79
4210 Faith Christian Fellowship	150.00	150.00	35.00	300.00
4230 Integris	239.00	230.00	225.00	469.00
4240 Remedy City	83.76	154.38	0.00	238.14
4250 Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	0.00	957.88	0.00	957.88
Total 4000 Church Receipts	1,743.83	10,736.65	1,382.13	12,480.48
Total Revenue	1,743.83	10,736.65	1,497.13	12,480.48
EXPENDITURES				
7000 Administrative Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7010 Other Expense	69.00	609.63	10.00	678.63
7021 Insurance	0.00	672.75	0.00	672.75
7090 Payroll	1,024.78	1,054.29	1,024.78	2,079.07
7091 Bookkeeping	60.00	19.00	126.00	79.00
Total 7000 Administrative Ministry	1,153.78	2,355.67	1,160.78	3,509.45
7100 Church Health	204.36	371.27	500.00	575.63
7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7310 Disaster Relief	0.00	9.11	0.00	9.11
Total 7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	9.11	0.00	9.11
7500 Trustee	3,201.72	727.02	0.00	3,928.74
Total Expenditures	4,559.86	3,463.07	1,660.78	8,022.93
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-2,816.03	7,273.58	-163.65	4,457.55
NET REVENUE	\$ -2,816.03	\$ 7,273.58	\$ -163.65	\$ 4,457.55

ECBA Balance Report February 2025

	As of Feb 28, 2025	As of Jan 31, 2025 (PP)	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
1000 ONB	-22,232.90	-21,840.88	-392.02
1010 General Budget	38,109.38	38,038.01	71.37
1011 Discretionary Admin Team	7,493.99	7,493.99	0.00
1020 Disaster Relief	-11,232.67	-8,737.29	-2,495.38
1025 Mission Building Capital Fund	9,957.19	9,957.19	0.00
1035 Church P&H Fund	22,204.92	22,204.92	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	6,929.24	6,929.24	0.00
1125 BCMH Temp Restricted	149,357.73	149,357.73	0.00
Total 1000 ONB	208,361.15	211,177.18	-2,816.03
1100 Indiana Baptist Foundation/WatersEdge	12,943.10	12,943.10	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	221,304.25	224,120.28	-2,816.03
Total Current Assets	221,304.25	224,120.28	-2,816.03
TOTAL ASSETS	\$221,304.25	\$224,120.28	\$ -2,816.03
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	171,739.66	171,739.66	0.00
Net Revenue	4,457.55	7,273.58	-2,816.03
Total Equity	221,304.25	224,120.28	-2,816.03
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$221,304.25	\$224,120.28	\$ -2,816.03

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

By Tami Hubler

Jesus commanded us to: *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,* (Matthew 28:19). His command is for all of us to obey but you can expand your impact by supporting those on the mission field in North America through giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

This offering was started in 1895 by Woman's Missionary Union® (WMU) to benefit the work of the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board). In 1934, it was named in honor of Annie Armstrong, a bold missions advocate and WMU's first national executive leader. Today, more than \$2 billion has been donated by Southern Baptist churches and individuals to support thousands of missionaries in church planting and compassion ministries. Because of this sacrificial giving, millions of lives have been and continue to be transformed by the power of the gospel.

Fast Facts

- Amount of NAMB budget provided by Cooperative Program: 35%
- Amount of NAMB budget provided by Annie Armstrong Easter Offering: 50%
- Year offering started: In 1895 by WMU®
- Amount given in 1895: \$5,000 +
- Year offering named after Annie Armstrong: 1934
- Total offering gifts to date: Over \$2 billion

You can give through your local SBC church or online by credit card or check. You can also text **ANNIE** to **888123**. (Reply **STOP** to cancel, **HELP** for help. Msg&data rates may apply. Terms & privacy.) Checks can also be mailed to North American Mission Board, P.O. Box 116543, Atlanta, GA 30368 (note in the memo line: Annie Armstrong Easter Offering). Gifts are accepted all year.

For resources, missionary stories and much, much more, go to AnnieArmstrong.com.

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

ECBA Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Redeemer Baptist Church

3230 Lindberg Road

Anderson IN 46012

Fellowship Meal 6:00 PM

Meeting 7:00 PM