

Annual Meeting Provides Fellowship and Ministry Report Updates

The East Central Baptist Association's Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, September 18 at Kingston Avenue Baptist Church in Anderson. The church provided an Italian meal at 6 PM, allowing time for fellowship and catching up with each other. The meeting began at 7 pm with a welcome and prayer from Bill Peters, in the absence of Kingston's pastor Tim Overton who was in Texas. Dr. Henry Wang moderated the meeting where attendees were updated on ECBA ministries (reports included in this newsletter). The group also heard reports from the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana (SCBI) given by Scooter Kellum, SCBI Team Leader for Church and Leader Mobilization and from the Baptist Foundation given by Brian Boone, President.

Under old business, the association unanimously

accepted the credentials committee proposal to accept the Chinese Christian Fellowship as a church in our association. They had been



Dr. Henry Wang moderated the annual meeting.

a church plant of Halteman Village Baptist Church prior to its closing and were already established as non-profit organization under their own 501c3. Other old business included the association's direction to place \$100,000 into an interest bearing certificate of deposit but the

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New Day Baptist Church Ministers in South Dakota

By Tami Hubler

The New Day Baptist Church mission team recently returned from a powerful trip to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, a nearly 3.5 million-acre territory that is home to the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe. The size of Pine Ridge is equivalent to the state of Connecticut. It is rich in Lakota heritage and history, yet faces severe economic and social challenges. Despite these hardships, it remains a place of resilience, cultural pride, and deep community ties.

Our six-member mission team partnered with **Chanku Waste Ranch**, a **NAMB SendRelief ministry** located on the reservation, to serve children and

teachers in four of the reservation's sixteen schools. It was the first time that the ranch had been able to serve in the schools on this scale. Over the course of

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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

The New Testament book of James is believed by many to have been written around A.D.48 by the half-brother of Jesus Christ, just eighteen years after Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. The opening paragraph provides the writer's name, status with God and Jesus Christ, as well as the recipients of the letter. The Early Church was comprised of Jews who had responded to the Holy Spirit's call to justification. During the early years of the church in Jerusalem, Jewish neighborhoods began turning on their once loved neighbors. The persecution became so violent that the Christian Jews were forced to flee to distant areas of refuge. It was to these Jewish believers that James' letter was written and sent.

Paragraph two deals with the conditions these readers were facing, and James' instructs them to *"consider it all joy when they encountered various trials, knowing that the testing of their faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing"* [James 1.2-4]. Picture yourself in that situation. You read the opening words of this letter. You realize this letter was written by Jesus' half-brother, so it has to be right, but as you read, you wonder how much he knows about being away from

family and friends. You realize your new neighbors know nothing about the relationship you have with Jesus Christ, and that may contribute to the loneliness, sadness, and worry you are experiencing. On a side note, the Apostle Peter (around A.D. 63) writes some of these same people, and in the second paragraph, he uses that same Greek word to denote their struggles; however, in his fifteenth paragraph [1 Peter 4.7-11], he again uses that word to denote God's sovereign mercy. Briefly, Peter encourages those First Century believers by explaining whatever the problem one encounters, God is faithful and always on time, providing the grace that matches that challenge.

Today, you may be encountering a challenge, but according to God's infallible Word, He has promised to match your challenge with His grace. Let me explain -- the word *"various"* has different meanings, and one of those meanings is the word *"variegated,"* like the multi-colored yarn a knitter might use. God's timing and solution are beyond our ability to understand. Take God at His Word and exercise faith which He supplies. God is wanting you and me to trust Him day by day in every blessing or challenge ... the solution is up to Him. Remember, God is sovereign and in control of us.



Birthdays

November 15—Jama Marlow (North Delaware, Muncie)

November 24—Tim Overton (Kingston, Anderson)

Anniversaries

None

Pastor-Church Anniversaries

None

Upcoming Events In November

Thursday, November 13—6:00 pm, ECBA Fellowship Meal, Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg Road, Anderson IN 46012

Thursday, November 13—7:00 pm, ECBA Quarterly Meeting, Redeemer Baptist Church, 3230 Lindberg Road, Anderson IN 46012

SBC Emphasis for November

November 2—Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

November 9—Orphans and Widows Sunday

November 30—December 7—Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

More New Day Baptist Church Mission Trip to South Dakota

(Continued from page 1)

the week, the team conducted vision screenings for **752 students and teachers**. New Day purchased one of the two screening devices used—an investment of \$10,000—making this mission effort possible. In fact, our church was the first to provide these screenings at Pine Ridge, setting an important foundation for ongoing care. The vision screening week was part of Chanku Waste Ranch's **September Wellness Ministry**, which provides



Chanku Waste Ranch, the first, occurring in 2024, was focused on construction projects. With God's guidance, the team plans to return in 2026 to build on the relationships and work already begun. Team members were Pastor Chris Hubler, Tami Hubler, Dan and Rhonda Arnold, Sherri Hughey and Deb Robinson.

If you'd like to learn more about this ministry—or if you're interested in joining the team for the next mission trip—please contact **Tami Hubler** for more information.



both dental and vision resources to the community. Results from the screenings will be shared with parents, and a mobile eye truck along with optometrists will follow up by writing prescriptions. Eyeglasses will then be distributed to the schools—ensuring that children and teachers alike receive the care they need. During the week, the team was able to attend a Pow Wow, attend a new church plant service and explore the Badlands.

This was New Day's second trip to



remember, the ECBA has scholarships available to help you financially on your next mission trip!



More Annual Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

treasurer had been unable to do this so the association directed the new treasurer and/or assistant treasurer to take care of this.

New business included accepting the recommendation of the nominating committee for the new slate of officers for the 2025-26 year. All previous officers except for the treasurer had agreed to continue serving. Joe Ryan from Remedy City Church was voted in as the new treasurer. They also accepted the Resolutions and Arrangements committee report (included in this newsletter). Additionally, the moderator



Scooter Kellum shares the SCBI report at the annual meeting.

named the new financial committee as Joe Ryan, Pat Storm, and Dana Jones.

Following the business portion of the meeting, Nan Orr shared about her Cuban Mission trip (included in this newsletter). She had received a scholarship from ECBA for this trip. The evening ended with prayer by Dr. Ron Ross.

New Day Muncie Has Remarkable Turnout for Fall Festival

By Deneia Trego

New Day Baptist Church in Muncie held its annual Fall Festival on Friday, September 26 from 6:30 – 9:00 pm.



The event saw a remarkable turnout, reflecting God's favor and our blessings. With over 200 attendees, the kids had a blast in the

bounce house, played games, and enjoyed face painting, while adults savored the music by Mountain Laurel.

There was a dunk tank provided by Ring for Service Auto Repair and a bounce house. Food was served using the ECBA Concession trailer. Most importantly, we reached out to the community providing free food, fellowship, and fun and walked amongst the crowd explaining how the gospel

of salvation is free. The men of the church wore shirts that said "Eternal" on the front and "Security" on the back, which also sparked conversations.



Evangelism Report

During this past associational year, the Evangelism ministry had the opportunity to teach a six week evangelism class on "Share Jesus Without Fear" to an average of 15 people during the fall quarter at Old Town Hill Baptist Church. The Lord used this to bring a salvation confirmation of a church member.

Although there is nothing new to report for this past quarter, we are planning an evangelism training during the Spring of 2026. This will most likely be a one day workshop at Old Town Hill Baptist Church.

Disaster Relief Report

Disaster Relief continues to be an active and needed ministry. We began the Associational year serving in Georgia, cleaning up from flooding with 17 volunteers; 7 from our association. The first quarter of 2025, we were called out to West Virginia. Five people from our association were a part of the 17 volunteers working to tear out floors and walls destroyed by the flooding river. We also continued work on a home in Winchester that was damaged by tornado. Additionally, we helped a woman in LaPorte who had recently lost her leg and lost her daughter in a car accident by making her trailer more handicap-accessible.

Spring was very busy with tornados in Bloomington, Michigan, Madison County



Education Ministry Report

With seven churches and two missions, one would assume a vital ministry for all involved would cover the area of education. Brian Herbert made a comment about the topic of *learning* by stating that -- "the CAPACITY to learn is a gift; the ABILITY to learn is a skill; and the WILLINGNESS to learn is a choice."

On the basis of observance, one would quickly conclude the overwhelming choice is *we know enough to continue on unhampered!*

The current ECBA Educational Coordina-

tor is uncertain as to why we even have such a ministry. Over the past two years, two associational members have requests classes to be offered, but the feasibility of a class is dependent of class size. In order to offer free classes, we need to have a minimum number of students, and we have not reached that number.

If anyone has suggestions that would improve the vitality of the educational ministry, please share those suggestions with the Coordinator as soon as possible.

and Delaware county. During the summer we built 2 wheelchair ramps and worked on a home on the Ohio River for flood tear-out. We also spent 3 weeks in Milwaukee WI for flood recovery during August and September. Additionally, we have 2 more wheelchair ramps also scheduled.

Training is essential for this ministry. We just did Disaster Relief Training in Peru, one in Southern Indiana and another in Eastern Indiana. We will be conducting another training in Hobart on October

11th.

The equipment provided by our association allows us to safely help others through this ministry. As it is used, it requires repairs and replacements and we are thankful for the association's commitment to this ministry. Not only does this ministry help those experiencing disastrous upheavals in their lives, it also gives us opportunities to share the gospel and to see people come to know the Lord as we serve as the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need.

Resolutions and Arrangements Report

Resolution 1. Resolution of Thankfulness and Appreciation to the host church

WHEREAS the messengers to the sixty-second annual meeting of East Central Baptist Association have enjoyed worship, encouragement, food and fellowship with believers of the Body of Christ, we acknowledge the hospitality of Kingston Avenue Baptist Church; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we express our gratitude for providing a meal and hosting this annual meeting.

Arrangements

The Resolution and Arrangements Committee, Pat Storm, Ron Ross and Dana Jones recommend the following 2025-246ates, times and places for meeting of the East Central Baptist Association:

Quarterly Meeting:

Thursday, November 13, 2025
Redeemer Baptist Church
3230 Lindberg Road
Anderson IN 46012
Pastor: Paul Storm

Semi-annual Meeting:

Thursday, March 12, 2026
Old Town Hill Baptist Church
3000 S Burlington Drive
Muncie IN 47302
Pastor: Bruce Reynolds
Speaker: TBD

Quarterly Meeting:

Thursday May 7, 2026
New Day Baptist Church - Muncie
100 N Holland Street
Muncie IN 47303
Pastor: Dale Trego

Annual Meeting:

Thursday, September 24, 2026
New Day Baptist Church - Alexandria
202 W Tyler Street
Alexandria IN 46001

ECBA Moderator's Report

Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (NIV)

God's plans have been planted in his people's hearts and amplified through church activities. It has been an exciting year for our ECBA community. All of our member churches have clear visions of God's plans for them. Individual units have fired all cylinders through the year to execute God's plans. The journey of doing God's work has brought joy to us and encouragement to others.

I wanted to highlight some of our member churches' wonderful activities last year. Our New Day Baptist Church worked on multiple fronts through their member campuses. Specifically, Pastor Chris Hubler took his team to Cuba to interact with the local people. All the help provided and the Gospel shared were well received by the Cubans. And, Tammy Hubler led the Woman's Missionary Union to extend God's love to a much needed women population.

Our North Delaware Baptist Church has a strong spiritual foundation signified by Dr. Ron Ross' teaching. Dr. Ross has been very generous to move beyond his church and share his profound knowledge of God's words in every single issue of our great ECBA newsletters. Those articles have inspired many of us enjoying reading the newsletters.

Our Redeemer Baptist Church has hosted many of our ECBA meetings. However, their hospitality is second to their commitment to impacting their local Anderson community. Many families and their children are touched by them and are moving closer to God.

Our Old Town Hill Baptist Church continues to serve the great Muncie area and beyond. God appears to have a unique plan for the church. It has been a tradition that the leadership team from the church has devoted much of their time and resources to the Disaster Relief mission. Huge hurricanes such as Helen and Milton destroyed many homes in states like Georgia and North Carolina last year. Our Disaster Relief team had always been one of the first responders available in those affected areas. Also, the church has used sports as a unique outreach tool to attract the younger generation. Their basketball and pickle ball ministries have been effective and successful to bring many young people from the local community together.

Remedy City Church in Muncie is a young church but has experienced healthy growth these years. The church benefits from having a sharp focus on campus ministry. As the church locates near the Ball State campus, many Ball State college students therefore have been invited to their Sunday services and become part of the church group.

Finally, many of our member churches continue to organize their annual vacation bible schools for the lovely children in Indiana in June. Outcomes were very impressive. Children loved the creative activities and they got the chance to move close to God.

In fact, there are many more good things happened last year within the ECBA. Those things definitely are deserved a mention here in this report. However, we are short of space. The most important thing that this report wants to indicate is that our churches and people put God's plans in hearts and revealed them in actions.

Blessings

Henry Wang

Church Planting Report

We are prepared to spiritually and financially support a church planter in ECBA. We need church planters. Please pray for God to raise up workers for the field. If you know of someone who God may be calling to start a new church, please reach out to Tim Overton.

Nan Orr Shares Missions Trip Report

Thank you to the East Central Baptist Association for sponsoring my trip to Cuba with scholarship money. I went to Cuba with Pastor Chris Hubler and Becky Galbreath from New Day Baptist Church. We joined with Great Commission Ministries. This was my first trip to Cuba and my first international mission trip. I thought I was going to bless the people of Cuba little did I know that I was the one who would receive the blessing.

We are talking about visiting a country that is experiencing an economic crisis, with shortages of food, fuel, medicine, and other essential every-day items. Regular power outages are a common occurrence. We did not have a day when the power did not go out for at least a few hours.

While Cuba may be poor by our economic standards, they are so very rich in their passion for Jesus. During our seven days in Cuba our team of six from Great Commission Ministries held twenty-five Evangelistic Friend Day Worship

Services in 23 Baptist Churches throughout eastern Cuba. There were 146 first time confessions of faith. A Pastor Family Fun Day was held on a private island giving pastors' families a time of rest and relaxation. Also, a Pastor and Wives Conference was held. A tote bag was given to each Pastor's family containing very hard to get items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, Tylenol, and deodorant.

Each of the 25 services that were held were standing room only. Some were outdoors where we worshiped with the roosters crowing. The worship through music was always amazing in each location. Even though the words to the songs were foreign to me, I could just feel the presence of the Lord's spirit. I might add that Cuban's are very loud when they worship!

The church is the sole source of socialization for most Cubans. There are people at the church seven days a week. Pastors and their families live at the

church. The three of us from New Day Baptist Church stayed at Rio de Dios (River of God) Church with Pastor Alex and Selene Fiffe.

Just imagine if your Pastor announced that your church was having a bring a friend worship service with a foreign missionary speaking this Thursday night, how many excuses would we each have not to attend? Are we really rich or are we poor in the things that really matter for eternity?

My trip to Cuba made me realize how much I take for granted and how spoiled we are in the US. I will never throw away another zip-lock bag without remembering how valuable they are in Cuba. They get reused over and over. You would never find one in the trash. I was left with a life changing memory of my Cuban brothers and sisters is Christ who may not have much food on the table but they are so rich in the things that matter in the Kingdom of God!

Church Health Report

In 2025, the East Central Baptist Association saw continued growth and commitment in the areas of **VBS and missions**, two key markers of healthy and engaged churches. The year **tried to begin with January VBS training sessions**, but those plans were cut short due to the snowstorm that ravaged much of the southern United States. However, our dedicated VBS team did not let this setback slow the work. Instead, they gleaned learnings from online resources and from previous years of experience to ensure that leaders and volunteers were still equipped with excellence. Local churches then carried that preparation into the summer months through creative, gospel-centered VBS events that reached into their communities. These gatherings not only taught biblical truth but also built bridges for ongoing relationships with families who may not otherwise step into a church. (See the VBS Report for more details.)

Missions also remained at the heart of our work. Through **mission scholarships**, we were able to support an individual on an **IMB trip to Cuba**, allowing our association to take part in what God is doing globally through the faithful witness of His church. Additionally, our annual **GROW (Go Reach Our World) event** sold out once again. Hosted at **Wasson Nursery in Muncie, Indiana**, this event gathered leaders and members together to focus on missional living here at home. Through registration fees, over **\$1,000 was raised for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**, demonstrating the desire of our churches to see the gospel advance across North America.

From **ECBA discussions earlier in the year**, one recurring theme was the shared desire of churches to reach their local communities with the gospel. In response, the **Church Health Team is actively looking for churches who need**

support in holding local missional and evangelism events. If you are a church looking to hold such an event, please **contact Tami Hubler** to discuss resources available through the ECBA, as well as a **\$1,000 NAMB Evangelism Grant provided through the SCBI** to assist your church in reaching their communities.

The Church Health Team is deeply grateful for all who served, gave, and prayed throughout 2025. Together, we are seeing God at work in our association. As we look ahead, we are expectant for an exciting year in 2026, trusting God to open new doors for ministry and to strengthen His church for the work ahead. **Let us continue working together, united in prayer and action, to strengthen our churches and boldly share the hope of the gospel with our neighbors and the nations.**

Vacation Bible School Report

This year has been a busy year for our

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ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for August 2025

	Aug 2025	Jul 2025 (PP)	Aug 2024 (PY)	Jan - Aug, 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	550.00	550.00	500.00	4,400.00
4140 Kingston - Anderson	255.76	0.00	101.52	872.17
4160 North Delaware - Muncie	121.77	186.59	192.50	2,014.84
4170 Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,143.46
4180 Redeemer - Anderson	802.96	0.00	250.02	2,331.33
4210 Faith Christian Fellowship	150.00	150.00	35.00	1,200.00
4230 Integrus	111.00	236.00	393.00	1,269.00
4240 Remedy City	0.00	106.16	95.72	689.33
4250 Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	0.00	0.00	0.00	957.88
Total 4000 Church Receipts	1,991.49	1,228.75	1,567.76	25,878.01
Total Revenue	1,991.49	1,228.75	1,682.76	25,878.01
EXPENDITURES				
7000 Administrative Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7010 Other Expense	69.00	69.00	83.00	1,401.69
7021 Insurance	0.00	672.75	0.00	2,214.85
7090 Payroll	1,024.79	1,024.79	1,024.79	8,198.30
7091 Bookkeeping	38.50	91.60	6.00	402.21
Total 7000 Administrative Ministry	1,132.29	1,858.14	1,113.79	12,217.05
7100 Church Health	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,067.98
7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7310 Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	1,820.00	9.11
Total 7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,820.00	9.11
7500 Trustee	0.00	0.00	2,184.58	3,929.74
Total Expenditures	1,132.29	1,858.14	5,118.37	21,222.88
NET OPERATING REVENUE	859.20	-629.39	-3,435.61	4,655.13
NET REVENUE	\$859.20	\$ -629.39	\$ -3,435.61	\$4,655.13

ECBA Balance Report August 2025

	As of Aug 31, 2025	As of Jul 31, 2025 (PP)	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
1000 ONB	1,315.42	-568.57	1,883.99
1010 General Budget	17,550.09	18,574.88	-1,024.79
1011 Discretionary Admin Team	7,493.99	7,493.99	0.00
1020 Disaster Relief	-12,658.09	-12,658.09	0.00
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	6,248.36	6,248.36	0.00
1125 BCMH Temp Restricted	149,357.73	149,357.73	0.00
Total 1000 ONB	209,243.88	208,384.68	859.20
1100 Indiana Baptist Foundation/WatersEdge	13,563.29	13,563.29	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	222,807.17	221,947.97	859.20
Total Current Assets	222,807.17	221,947.97	859.20
TOTAL ASSETS	\$222,807.17	\$221,947.97	\$859.20
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	173,045.00	173,045.00	0.00
Net Revenue	4,655.13	3,795.93	859.20
Total Equity	222,807.17	221,947.97	859.20
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$222,807.17	\$221,947.97	\$859.20

Church Health Report Con't.

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churches trying to reach children in our communities through Vacation Bible School. We had four churches in our association that held VBS this year. Redeemer averaged 39 children per night. New Day in Alexandria averaged 35 per night. New Day in Muncie held a 3-day VBS and averaged 15 children per day. Old Town Hill has preschool though adults and averaged approximately 100 per night. We have shared materials that we purchased by the Association.

Open Positions:

- Discipleship/Sunday School Coordinator
- Men's Ministry Coordinator
- Music Coordinator
- Prayer Coordinator
- Youth Ministry Coordinator

The Church Health Team still has open positions and continues to seek passionate individuals to fill those roles. Applicants must be a member in good standing with an ECBA church and commit to hosting one event per calendar year.

ECBA Officers and Leaders 2025-26

Moderator: Henry Wang

Vice Moderator: Paul Storm

Clerk: Cndi Oakley

Assistant Clerk: Pat Storm

Treasurer: Joe Ryan

Assistant Treasurer: Pat Storm

Parliamentarian: Ron Ross

Trustees: Greg Haisley, chair; George Euchert, Roger Hargis, Trent Sanders, Joe Fox.

Church Planting Team Leader: Tim Overton

Church Health Team Leader: Tami Hubler

VBS Coordinator: Brenda Brooks

WMU/Women's Ministry: Tami Hubler

Associational Ministry Team Leader: Sharon Armstrong

Education Coordinator: Ron Ross

Disaster Relief Coordinator: Joe Fox

Evangelism Coordinator: Sharon Armstrong

EAST CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

c/o Pat Storm

8900 W County Road 950 N

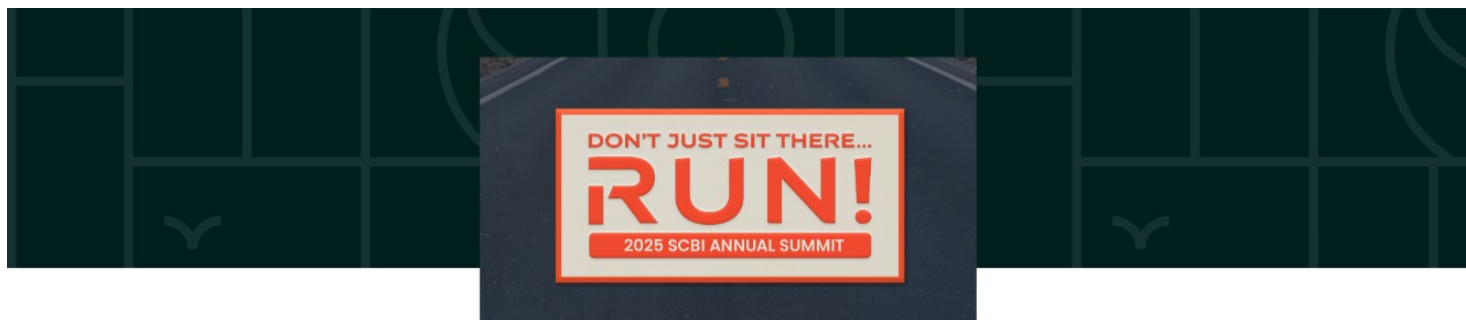
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Follow us



October 27-28, 2025

LOCATION

Highland Lakes Camp & Conference

1591 W Highland Lakes Baptist Camp N

Martinsville, IN 46151

WHO IS THE EVENT FOR?

All SCBI Churches