

All Churches Represented at Semiannual Meeting

The Semiannual Meeting of the East Central Baptist Association was held on Thursday, March 12 at Old Town Hill Baptist Church in Muncie. All churches and church plants were represented at this meeting, something that had not occurred in quite a while. A fellowship meal was held at 6:00 pm and the meeting began at 7:00 pm. The messengers heard reports and conducted business.

Treasurer, Joe Ryan, presented the February Financial Report. Bill Peters asked about the accessibility of the funds invested at WatersEdge. Joe explained that the association could assess those funds at any time but if they were withdrawn before the maturation date, some interest would be lost but none of the principle.

Administrative Assistant, Pat Storm, shared that all of our churches and church plants had completed their 2025 ACP with the exception of Integris, Muncie Chinese Christian Fellowship, and New Day – Alexandria/Pendleton.

Tim Overton, Church Planting Team Leader, shared that they are prepared spiritually and financially to support a church planted in ECBA; but church planters are needed. He encouraged

all to pray about this and ask God to raise up church planter.

Tami Hubler, Team Leader, provided a written report only, since she was out of the state. Her report stated that 2 applications for mission trip scholarships had been received. Brenda Brooks and Lynn Mitchell attended the Lifeway VBS Preview at Ridgecrest in January. Brenda ordered material and decorations that can be shared by all ECBA churches. So far, 4 churches have scheduled VBS this year.

Association Ministry Team Leader, Sharon Armstrong, was unable to attend but submitted a written report. In her report she stated that she did not feel led to continue as Association Ministry Team Leader and Evangelism Coordinator for the coming year but appreciated all the support and the opportunity to serve these last several years. Education Coordinator, Ron Ross continues to provide educational articles in our monthly newsletter. He also arranged for each pastor to receive a copy of *"The Transforming Power of the Gospel"* by Tim Keller. Disaster Relief Coordinator, Joe Fox, shared that it had been a slow season for Disaster Relief, but

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Old Town Hill Finishes 18th year of Upward League

By Melissa Reynolds

We had an incredible season in our Upward League this year at Old Town Hill!

A total of 119 basketball players and cheerleaders participated, and this marked the 18th year of Upward at our church. What a blessing it has been to see so many kids learning skills, building friendships, and hearing about Jesus through sports.

Our final games were played on February 28, and we wrapped up the season with a celebration on March 1. To celebrate, we had a lot of fun playing Minute to Win It games, including Dice Stack, Crowded Scavenger Hunt, Ping Pong Boogie, and a Rock-Paper-Scissors Championship.

It was a great time for everyone, and we are so thankful for our amazing coaches who were great sports and helped make the day so much fun!



A huge thank you to all of our volunteers and coaches who gave their time each week to make this season possible.

From practices and game days to encouraging our players and cheerleaders, you made a lasting impact on these kids. We truly couldn't do this without you, and we appreciate the heart you bring to serving our Upward families.



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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

The first book of our Bible is Genesis, the book of beginnings or origins, and indeed, the first few chapters include many of these firsts. Among those firsts, are the details of the *heaven* and the *earth*. Have you noticed what was lacking in reference to the "heaven?" Other than the mention and purpose of the sun, moon and stars, we have very little information regarding the solar system.

Another interesting concept takes place on Day 3 with the creation of *plant life* prior to Day 4's creation of the *two heavenly lights*, and then Day 6's *creation of the sea and land creatures*. The reason this action is of significance is two-fold: [1] many believe the *Days of Creation Week* consisted of large periods of time. The study of the

Hebrew language enables students to understand when referencing a listing of "*yom's*" (the word for *day*), that the length of Day 1 determines the length of the other six days. Because plants need light to grow, and with lengthy *days* vegetation would not survive..[2] Day 6 provides insight about "*vegetation*," it would be the food-source for human and animals consumption; **SO** why would God even create animal life if it would also eat plants?

We need to remember our God exists outside the realm of our comprehension. As Sovereign God, prior to the Creation process, determined certain things that would take place in the realm of "*time*." Animals would be necessary for offerings such as the one used to cover the

first couple. Later, offerings were expected under the Old Testament Law, and later the very life of God's only begotten Son of God.

Much can be learned from the Book of Beginnings, but only the *completed work of Jesus Christ has satisfied the Father for the full payment of the believer's sin* ... Jesus is the propitiation for sin (both as the person and the place as described in First John 2 and 4. As we celebrate/celebrated Easter, may we remember the undefinable love of God for all believers!



Upcoming Events In May

May 7—6:00 p.m., Fellowship Meal at New Day Baptist Church - Muncie, 100 N Holland Street, Muncie IN 47303

May 7—7:00 p.m., ECBA Quarterly Meeting at New Day Baptist Church - Muncie, 100 N Holland Street, Muncie IN 47303

SBC Emphasis for May

Focus on Christian Education

May 3—SBC Seminary Sunday

May 7—National Day of Prayer

May 17—Children's Ministry Sunday

May 31—Disaster Relief Sunday



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

Children Help with Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Palm Sunday

By Ceres Beane

During the weeks leading up to Easter, it has long been a cherished tradition at New Day Baptist for the children to collect the Annie Armstrong Offering. Each child is

given a bucket and a mission, and both children and adults eagerly anticipate this special time each year.

Palm Sunday is another beloved tradition. Seeing the pure joy on the

children's faces as they wave their palm branches is a beautiful reminder of the excitement and celebration that filled the streets during Jesus' triumphant entry.



Redeemer Reaches Out to Community with Easter Egg Hunt

It was a cool, sunny day on Saturday, March 28, but nearly 80 children came to Redeemer Baptist Church for their 2nd annual Easter Egg Hunt at noon. Each registered for the hunt and were provided information about the church and activities available for

children. Children were divided into age-level groups to hunt for eggs. Prizes were provided to the egg

hunters. The church volunteers were able to meet new people and invite them to attend the church.



Pastor Paul Storm welcomes families and shares the true meaning of Easter. He also share about the activities available for children at the church.



The Easter Bunny shared that even he knows the true meaning of Easter.



Children are divided into age group and sent to different sections of the church yard to begin the hunt. Prizes were given out, too.

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they are continuing to train people to be prepared for upcoming needs. Besides the beginning orientation class, they will also be providing Instant Command training at Old Town Hill. This opportunity for service does not require physical strength but it handles communication and paperwork that is necessary for their ministry. Additionally, Joe was able to get a tailgate for \$500 for the DR truck that had been missing one for a while now. He also has been to Bloomington to assess the needs for recovery from the recent tornadoes.

Greg Haisley, Trustee Chair, shared that the Association had purchased a new laptop computer for Pat to use, as the old one needed replacement.

Although there was no old business, Pat Storm shared that we were unable to give the \$1,000 we voted to give to the Dawsons to help with the expenses of selling their business on the mission field due to IMB restrictions.

The only new business conducted was the election of Team Leaders for the 2026-27 year. They are Church Planting Team Leader – Tim Overton, Church Health Team Leader – Tami Hubler, and Association Ministry Team Leader – Ron Ross

Following the business portion of the meeting, Chris Hubler shared about his recent mission trip to Cuba. The trip was to Santiago, which has a population of approximately 500,000. In the past they had travelled to other towns but were unable to this time

because of the lack of fuel. Also, their electricity is unavailable about 60% of the time. While there, he helped with a pastors and wives convention, helped celebrate a church's 19th anniversary, and preached at home churches. Many of the home churches host 50-60 people. At the church anniversary celebration, 100 people were saved. Church in this area is nearly an every evening event. It often is the focal point for the community. They provide discipleship training and require that new converts have 6 months of discipleship before they are baptized. Pastors in that area are required to have seminary training. Non-seminary trained men are "missionaries." They have great needs there, but God continues to provide. The government gives them about \$6 a month for food and the people stand in line to get food. The church has been able to also provide food for the people. Since they do not have reliable electricity, they cannot stock any refrigerated items. Chris shared the story of a Tabernacle (shelter home) that was being built. The government allows them to build a "house" and hold church services there, but it must look like a house. They have strict regulations about how it is built. A church was building Sunday School rooms/areas, and the police tried to shut them down. The officer who was leading this shut down had a heart attack and died. The replacement officer allowed them



Chris Hubler, Pastor of New Day Baptist Church shared about his most recent mission trip to Cuba. He encouraged anyone who was interested to join him on his next trip and experience how God is working there.

to continue building. God is at work there. Chris, along with his translators, have seen thousands of people come to know the Lord. Chris said that his mission trips to Cuba always inspire him and ignite an even stronger desire to help people come to know the Lord. He invited anyone to join him on his next trip and see all God is doing to reach the people of Cuba.

The next Association meeting will be Thursday, May 7, at New Day Baptist Church in Muncie. New Day will host a fellowship meal at 6:00 pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.



Dr. Henry Wang moderates the East Central Baptist Association's 2026 Semiannual meeting. At least one messenger attended from every church in the association

ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for February 2026

	Feb 2026	Jan 2026 (PP)	Feb 2025 (PY)	Jan - Feb, 2026 (YTD)
REVENUE				
4000 Church Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4060 New Day	550.00	550.00	500.00	1,100.00
4140 Kingston - Anderson	0.00	266.46	86.38	266.46
4160 North Delaware - Muncie	62.30	156.02	0.00	218.32
4170 Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00	0.00	684.69	0.00
4180 Redeemer - Anderson	0.00	212.80	0.00	212.80
4210 Faith Christian Fellowship	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
4230 Integrus	45.00	110.00	239.00	155.00
4240 Remedy City	105.09	115.37	83.76	220.46
4250 Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	0.00	921.00	0.00	921.00
Total 4000 Church Receipts	762.39	2,331.65	1,743.83	3,094.04
Total Revenue	762.39	2,331.65	1,743.83	3,094.04
EXPENDITURES				
7000 Administrative Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7010 Office & Other Misc. Expenses	1,059.70	368.55	69.00	1,428.25
7021 Insurance	0.00	685.50	0.00	685.50
7090 Payroll	1,089.37	1,067.85	1,024.78	2,157.22
7091 Bookkeeping	64.00	49.50	60.00	113.50
Total 7000 Administrative Ministry	2,213.07	2,171.40	1,153.78	4,384.47
7100 Church Health	0.00	0.00	204.36	0.00
7110 VBS	156.49	307.46	0.00	463.95
Total 7100 Church Health	156.49	307.46	204.36	463.95
7500 Trustee	0.00	0.00	3,201.72	0.00
Total Expenditures	2,369.56	2,478.86	4,559.86	4,848.42
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-1,607.17	-147.21	-2,816.03	-1,754.38
NET REVENUE	\$ -1,607.17	\$ -147.21	\$ -2,816.03	\$ -1,754.38

ECBA Balance Report February 2026

	As of Feb 28, 2026	As of Jan 31, 2026 (PP)	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
1000 ONB	105,292.45	106,899.62	-1,607.17
1010 General Budget (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1011 Discretionary Admin Team (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1020 Disaster Relief (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1025 Mission Building Capital Fund (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1035 Church P&H Fund (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1040 OMC (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 Funds Temporarily Restricted (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1111 Church P&H ROI (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1125 BCMH Temp Restricted (deleted)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 1000 ONB	105,292.45	106,899.62	-1,607.17
1010 WatersEdge Endowment 87745	14,027.90	14,027.90	0.00
1020 WatersEdge Invest 90043901	100,793.98	100,793.98	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	220,114.33	221,721.50	-1,607.17
Total Current Assets	220,114.33	221,721.50	-1,607.17
TOTAL ASSETS	\$220,114.33	\$221,721.50	\$ -1,607.17
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Total Liabilities			0.00
Equity			
2000 Opening Balance Equity	45,107.04	45,107.04	0.00
2200 Unrestricted Net Assets	176,761.67	176,761.67	0.00
Net Revenue	-1,754.38	-147.21	-1,607.17
Total Equity	220,114.33	221,721.50	-1,607.17
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$220,114.33	\$221,721.50	\$ -1,607.17

EAST CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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Plan Now to Attend!

Quarterly ECBA Associational Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2026

New Day Baptist Church—Muncie

100 N Holland Street

Muncie IN 47303

7:00 p.m. Associational Meeting

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal