

Director of Missions Thoughts: I hope and pray this doesn't sound like I'm discouraged. Because that is not the case. I love Harrison Baptist Association. I am coming up on year 2 as DOM. I am still trying to figure out what we as an association wants. I know what I was told 2 years ago and as we try to put some of those things into the works, there was little or no response. Again this is not a criticism. Seasons of life sometimes change things. But we need a clear vision. I will keep praying and seeking God to bring Ideas to accomplish what I have been told we want.

I believe the vision is simple: We should be "Transforming lives and our communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Our purpose and every church's purpose is to **Isaiah 43: 7**
"everyone called by My name and created for My glory...."

I believe EVERYTHING we do should be building the Kingdom of God. If it is not, we are wasting our time and our resources. We need to ask some hard questions and examine our programs and activities. **We must be willing to change!** Henry Blackaby " You cannot stay where you are and go with God.You cannot continue doing things your way and accomplish God's purpose in His ways... For you to do the will of God, you must adjust your life to Him, His purposes, and His ways."

We must have 5 things happening in our Association and Churches to bring glory to God, Worship, Evangelism, Discipleship, Fellowship, Ministry. If you are thinking worship is music you are missing a very important part and I would say the most important part. Think about this! If your church needs help evaluating this let me know.

Baptist Beacon

A newsletter of the Harrison Baptist Association
An association of 16 praying Churches serving the Lord
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Ezekiel 34:26 I will make them and the places around My hill a blessing. And I will cause showers to come down in their season; they will be showers of blessing.

TAKE Notice IMPORTANT Change VBS Clinic, Will be different this year. It will be a come and go event at the HBA Office April 27 th 9 am - 12 pm.

Greetings from Immanuel Baptist Church! We pray that our sister churches are doing well and that the “good news” of Jesus Christ is spreading throughout your congregation and community! We would love to share a report of all the current happenings in our local body, as well as share some big news in regard to our church leadership!

As with most of you, we are going from a season of slow and steady to a season of fast and full! In February, we hosted our annual Valentine's Day Banquet on **February 17th**, which was a big hit! We had our fellowship hall full of congregants, with a full soup bar for supper and board games at every table. It was a very special night of fellowship! At the end of February, from **Sunday to Monday (02/25-02/26)** we hosted our “24-Hours of Prayer” event, where we had someone praying at our church every hour for 24 hours. If you are looking for a way to incorporate prayer into your church body, we cannot recommend this style of event enough!

From **March 8th-10th**, Pastor Trent took six of our Youth students to Discipleship Now at FBC Trenton. The theme for this year was “Rooted in Christ”, and was also a very fruitful event. Just this past weekend (**March 15th-16th**), Immanuel partnered with Blue Ridge church to host the “Meaningful Marriage Conference”. At this conference, we had three special worship services, and a plethora of workshops, all of which included a variety of speakers and topics, all relating to a more “meaningful” and Christ-centered marriage. The event had roughly 30-35 So far we have roughly 10 men who have been attending classes every other **Sunday** evening, and we hope that others in the association will begin attending as well! This is not just an Immanuel-sanctioned event, as we hope that

people attended all together, and we felt it was a success in its own right!- Big thanks to all who attended/gave up their weekend to be there, and teach!

As with many of you, we are just a week away from Easter! At Immanuel this year, we have a plethora of events that we would love to get the word out about! On **Friday, March 29th** we will be hosting our Good **Friday** services, which will be at Immanuel starting at 6:30 PM. This will be a somber service where we examine the scriptures leading up to Christ's crucifixion. There will be worship and communion served at this service, and we feel it is a great reminder of the price that had to be paid for **Sunday's** victory! On **Sunday** morning, we have a packed, yet exciting schedule, as we celebrate the empty tomb! We will start with a Sunrise Service at 8 AM, a Morning Devotional given by Jeff Ellis at 8:20 AM, Breakfast at 8:30 AM, a **Sunday** School/Easter Egg Hunt at 9:00 AM), and regular services at 10:15 AM. We pray that you all will have a fruitful Resurrection **Sunday** and that at least one will come to know their Savior!

We are also excited to announce that our “Preachers Institute” is up and running! In case you haven't already heard, our church has felt the burden of pulpit supply in our local community, so Pastor Isaac has begun a class he titled “Preacher Institute”, which is geared towards teaching men how to both prepare and preach a sermon. may His face shine upon you and grant you peace! Thank you for your continued prayers as we advance the Kingdom of God in Bethany, MO!
Trent Crawford
Youth/Worship Pastor
Immanuel Baptist Church
Bethany, MO

others will begin attending as well! There is a great need in our association for Pastors, so please consider coming! Please contact our church for more details on when and where.

As for our current sermon series, Pastor Isaac is continuing through the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew on **Sunday** mornings and is about to start

1 Thessalonians in a few weeks. Our Youth is about to start a series through John on the "I AM" statements of Jesus, and our Kid's program is also going through the Book of John.

Finally, one of our Pastors, Trent Crawford, announced in early March that he and his wife Maddie have accepted a campus ministry job as the new Campus Pastor of the Christian Campus House in Maryville, MO on the Northwest Missouri State University campus. They will be leaving on July 15th of this year to take on this new role. Please be in prayer for Immanuel as they go through this transitional period between Pastors!

Be also in prayer for this summer as we will be in full swing of our building project! We will be hosting a plethora of teams throughout the summer as we begin putting together our new addition (full gym, classrooms, offices). If you or your church would like to come and help with this project this summer, please contact Ian or Megan Caley (call our office for their number).

We are praying for you as always. May the Lord bless you, keep you, and along with children heralding in Christ with palm branches. I'm also excited to announce we will be having our Easter Trail scavenger hunt once more.

The Easter trail provides a fun way for individuals and families to experience an Easter activity together from the comfort of their vehicle. A route mapped out for you will take you past

First Baptist Church of Bethany is going strong this spring and I hope you are well. It's nice to see the attendance come back as we all start to get over various sicknesses. I continue to pray for our churches in Harrison County. May we be exceedingly rich in faith with love for our Lord, neighbors, and the truth.

Recently our church had the opportunity to partner with Life Options Pregnancy Resource Center. I praise God and am pleased to announce that in a recent business meeting we were able to give a substantial gift that will soon support a location in Bethany Missouri. Their initial first phase of services will include medical grade pregnancy tests, options counseling, limited 1st-trimester ultrasounds, as well as STD/STI testing and treatment. All services will be free of charge and offered in a safe, confidential, judgment-free atmosphere. Trained, licensed medical personnel will be utilized in the new medical facility. Volunteers will be needed so please pray about serving their ministry. In addition, please prayerfully consider giving or asking your church to help fund this wonderful ministry. Together, let us fight for the unborn and struggling mothers in our community.

We also decided last year to partner with Rock City Church in the Denver Colorado area. Rock City church is a new church plant being led by Pastor Bryson McGuire in one of the least Christian communities in our nation. Please pray for this ministry. The Bible is so poorly read most don't know how to navigate it. It is our prayer God will powerfully use Bryson to make disciples where very few exist. Recently, our church had

different locations where objects, relating to the Easter story, are randomly placed for you to find. Free handouts containing a map, a list of Easter hunt items, and scripture references can be found at the first location in a stand: 21221 Daily Rd., Bethany MO 64424

You may also access this information digitally. Digitally you may listen to the Bible being read, follow the map, and find the items listed at each stop. Simply go to www.fcbethany.org and select the Easter Trail picture. It will navigate you to the digital resources. Easter Trail is active from [March 28th to March 31st](#).

By the time you read this we will have just held our Wildlife Supper on [March 23rd](#). Participants enter for a free drawing for a chance to win outdoors men & women prizes. They also enter wildlife dishes into a friendly competition. To enter their dishes, it must contain one wildlife ingredient. One ingredient must be caught, hunted, or garden grown (spices count). Throughout the years our cooks have presented us with many dishes containing ingredients like: duck, elk, squirrel, deer, crawdad, frog legs, bison, rabbit, catfish, trout, gator and more. Pastor Tim Wilson will be our guest speaker.

Soon our Kingdom Kids will have its final night followed by a family night. The kids will have a chance to share all that they have learned with their families. It will be a fun night and the gospel will be shared. Please pray for these unchurched families with us. Our desire is to see them in church growing as

the joy of inviting Bryson to meet us and he preached from the pulpit on [3/10/24](#). Bryson preached an excellent sermon on Acts 9. May we all 'go' and serve the Lord where he has us.

As a pastor I praise God for the legacy of preachers and ministers who have come out of our church. Two particular young men I am thankful for is Braden Spurling and Matthew Heintz. Already one of these young men has regularly been preaching in our area churches and you may have already met him. The other young man may return this summer for an internship and also be more available to preach in the area.

Please remember these young gentlemen in your prayers.

Our church also has multiple facility updates in the works. Our overall goal is to update our Children's facilities, build a multipurpose building/gym, and eventually update our church sanctuary. Committees have been meeting for both the children's area and the new building. Already we have initial blueprints and prayerfully moving forward First Baptist will soon realize these opportunities. We ask that you be in prayer for us as we seek the Lord's will in our church family.

This year we will have our Easter Service at 10:30am on Easter. We will also have our special easter worship program held the week before on Palm [Sunday](#). The FBC Bethany choir will lead a family together on Sundays.

May God bless you mightily in the Lord. May you have a very Happy Easter!

Pastor Ryan Kunce

HBA Birthdays & Anniversaries

Melbourne Baptist Church

Hello from Melbourne. We're excited about what God is doing.

Spring is always exciting. As new life begins, and God's creation comes to life. Are we waking up spiritually?

Here are some things we are looking forward to:

Our youth Bible Drill is going well. March 24th Our Church Bible Drill for our Youth will be at 5 PM. March 31st Easter we will be having our Easter Breakfast and Remembering Easter with the Lord's Supper during our Morning service. April 7th 2 PM @ Immanuel will be the Associational Bible Drill Youth will follow the children We are proud of our Bible Drillers and all who make that possible. **April 28th 4 PM** We will be hosting a speaker from Creation Ministries. Telling the truth about creation from Genesis and truths from the Bible not the Falsehoods being taught in our world. We Encourage all to come young and old alike. This Spring let's begin with a new comment to reach more for Christ. As creation wakes up, let's wake others up to the truth. If you're not going anywhere, come and join us.

Sundays:

Sunday School - 10:00 AM

Worship - 11:00 AM

At Melbourne we believe in the Power of prayer and prayers are being answered. Which is faith in action.

Pastor Brian Rhodes

Wednesday:

Wednesday 6:30 pm

Short Devotion and we pray.

April

4 Brad & Sherry Walker
5 Stephen Williamson
8 John Mohler
9 Carol Buntin
14 Chris Ward
19 Robert and Jenny Skeens
23 Lydia Kunce
25 J.C. Davis
27 Nick Wilson

May

2 Dwight & Lisa Schell
3 Sarah Worley
5 Ron Smith
6 Wendy Wilson
12 Bridgette Kunce
12 Brad Walker
13 Lizzie Joyce
15 Julie Kunce
15 Casey & Sheri Joyce
17 Posie Wilson
21 Trent & Maddie Crawford
23 Trent Crawford
26 Sherry Walker

Creation Ministries International

PO Box 350, Powder Springs, GA 30127 USA

Phone: 1-800-6161-CMI Fax: 770-439-9784

E-mail: US@creation.info Web: **Creation.com**

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MEDIA RELEASE EDITORIAL for PUBLICATION

Get Answers!

Does God exist? How can anyone believe in religion when science has neither a need nor a place for God? Is evolution happening today? If God is a God of love, why do we suffer and die?

Creation Ministries International is coming to your area soon with answers to these important questions. Come and hear Keaton Halley expose the bankruptcy of the evolutionary myth. You'll be amazed to see how weak the scientific evidence for evolution is.

This is an issue that affects *everyone*. Evolution teaches us there is no need for God, there is no spiritual realm, and there is no afterlife. According to the theory, spirituality is just an evolutionary trick of the mind!

The Bible gives a very different picture about the nature of these things. At this presentation, you will learn how the scientific evidence, when properly understood, confirms the details of the biblical account. At the same time, we will answer many of the Big Questions.

To find out more:

Date: Sunday April 28, 2024

Time: 4:00pm - Creation: What's the Big Deal?

Venue: Melbourne Baptist Church

33949 E 395th, Gilman City, MO 64642

END

[February 25, 2024](#). The celebration included a special worship service and a SURPRISE afternoon reception at 2pm. Deacon Jordon Crouse opened the morning service with the Welcome and shared with Bro. Richard that he was going to have an unscheduled day off in recognition of his 30 years of dedicated service. Two congregational hymns, "How Great Thou Art" and "Trust and Obey" were led by worship leader, Janert Crouse with accompanist, Braandi Cook. Praise and prayer time was led by Deacon Dirk Schwartzkopf. At Special Music/Family Time, Lifeline Band sang "When We All Get to Heaven." Some video pictures prepared by Chasidy Finney of church memories was shown during the morning service. Then Jordon asked Bro. Richard came forward, joined by his wife, Barbara, for a special presentation. Chairman of Deacons, Bob Washburn along with the other Deacons, Jordon, Dirk and Brian Finney came forward and Bob read and presented a special wooden plaque to Bro. Richard for his 30 yrs. of dedicated service to Zion Church. Bro. Richard thanked everyone and expressed how blessed they felt to have had this opportunity to serve at Zion the past 30yrs. and looked forward to what God has in store for the future. Then Jordon introduced Brian Finney as the special speaker to deliver the morning message as a tribute to Pastor Rogers. At the close of the invitation, members of the congregation came forward to congratulate and give hugs of appreciation to Pastor Richard and Barbara. Lots of happy tears were seen. At the afternoon Surprise celebration, 11 picture boards, prepared and displayed by Janet and Janice Crouse on easels in the church foyer featured highlights of the earlier years of their ministry here at Zion, including Hillbilly Theatre, Branson Retreats, their 25th Wedding Anniversary Reception at Zion, his first baptism, participation in Cancer Relay for Life, Gospel Jubilees and others. A beautiful full-length poster, designed by Montgomery Willits, was also displayed in the foyer on a table for everyone to sign. A video prepared by Chasidy Finney was played in the sanctuary throughout the afternoon service. Jordon Crouse opened the afternoon service with welcome and prayer. Then he shared a brief history of a lot of the things we used to do as a church through the years to the present. Lifeline band, represented by Jordon Crouse, Mary Sue Francis, Staci Willits, Terry Francis, Cheyenne Francis and Brandi Cook sang several songs for the special music. DOM John Mohler brought an inspirational message

Beacon News-Zion

Happy Spring from everyone at Zion! As many of you know there has not been any news from Zion this past year. After 20+ years as a Beacon writer, I felt led to share that opportunity with someone else. At this time, no one is serving in this position. However, upon request, I was asked to share this special edition from Zion in recognition of Pastor Richard Roger's 30yrs. years of service in our church, as of Feb. 27, 2024. His devoted wife, Barbara, has also faithfully served by his side for all these years. I will share more about that later in this article.

This past December, several from Zion along with the Cainsville Community and DOM John Mohler presented a drive-thru live Nativity on [December 9](#), beginning at the Cainsville School and concluding at the American Legion Grounds. It was well attended, despite it being a cloudy, cold day! We filled 77 Christmas shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child and several boxes were filled online with additional donated money. [Sunday](#), Dec. 10 was our annual Ugly Christmas Sweater [Sunday](#) and each one present received a bag of candy. Pastor Richard and Barbara presented each family with a "Believe" Sleighbell Christmas Ornament with attached Scripture message. Several went caroling at Pearl's I in Princeton and in the Cainsville community that afternoon. Two new members, Chesney Ishmael and Zeb Schwartzkopf were baptized on Dec. 17 after their earlier salvation decisions. Then we all enjoyed our annual Christmas dinner following the morning worship. January seemed to be dominated by all the snow and extreme wind chills. However, the first [Sunday](#), we were blessed by the baptism of another new member, Cade Claycomb, after his previous decision to accept Jesus as his Savior. We are so happy for these young people who have decided to follow Jesus and be baptized. Regular [Sunday](#) services were canceled due to the drifted snow and extreme wind chills on Jan. 14 and resumed again on the 21st and 28th. Bro. Richard continued his sermon series on the book of Ephesians which he began late last year and is ongoing. On Superbowl [Sunday](#), a large group of our congregation attended a Super Bowl Party hosted by Mike and Veda Flowers. A good time of food, fellowship and fun was had by all! The highlight of February was the celebration for Pastor Rogers and his wife, Barbara, recognizing their 30 yrs. of dedicated service to our church on Harrison Baptist He then presented Bro. Richard with a certificate from

Association in recognition of his 30 yrs. of service at Zion. Bro. Rogers is the third longest serving pastor in our association. The Deacons then presented him with a personal high-tech device to assist him with sermon notes and many other features to make his life as pastor more convenient. The congregation was invited to share any memories they would like to. A closing song, "Less Like Me" was shared and then a closing prayer and blessing on the refreshments was given. Everyone was invited to join the honored guests for a reception in the basement fellowship area. This month, Bro. Richard is continuing his sermon series in Ch. 5 & 6 of Ephesians with the conclusion of this series coming soon. [March 17](#), Missy Krogel came forward, desiring to follow up her salvation decision with baptism and church membership. Her baptism will be held soon and everyone welcomed her as a future member following the service. Zion is hosting a presentation of the Living Lord's Supper, [March 30](#) at 6pm. DOM John Mohler, along with Dirk Schwartzkopf and Jordon Crouse from Zion are among the cast and some soloists & others will be participating. Refreshments will be served following the presentation. Everyone is welcome to join us for this moving presentation and refreshments to follow. Easter services are planned as follows: Sunrise service, 8:30am, Carry-in breakfast at 9am, Worship service at 10am with an Easter egg hunt for the children, following the morning worship service.

We have several ongoing activities on a weekly and monthly basis: [Sunday](#) School-9:45am and Morning worship-11am,, Cainsville Encounter Post-6:20 pm every [Monday](#) evening with everyone welcome. [Thursday](#) evening Bible Study with carry-in meal at 6pm, followed by Bible study at 7pm. Monthly Deacon mtg., 6pm on [first Wed.](#), followed by bus. mtg at 7pm, Birthday & Anniversary carry-in dinner on [1st Sunday](#), following morning worship, Men's Community Prayer Breakfast on [first Saturday](#) at 7am and Ladies Carry-in Brunch and devotional time on [third Saturday](#) at 10am. Upcoming future happenings will include Graduation Recognition in May, Vacation Bible School in the summer and our annual Gospel Music Jubilee in August. May God bless all our churches in the HBA.

Submitted by Janice Crouse