

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2026

Daviess-McLean Baptist Association



Nathan's Notions

In the newsletter articles for 2026 we will once again focus on the theme of Together for the Mission. Last year we gave attention to the work of the association and how you and your church can help. This year we want to focus on areas of individual churches involved in Together for the Mission and highlight some of our DMBA churches that do an amazing job serving the Lord and honoring Him with what they do. We will look at five different things this year: work, prayer, giving, going, and changed lives.

Work Together for the Mission

Each church has at least one task that Jesus has given them to do in advancing His Kingdom. No matter the task, the motivation behind it remains the Great Commission: "Jesus came near and said to them, 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age'" (Matthew 28:18-20 CSB).

Have you discovered your church's task or work? It could be working with children, developing youth, or discipling adults. It could be serving the community around you. It could be helping to alleviate poverty or injustice. It could be a concentrated effort to evangelize those in your sphere of influence. It could be planting churches. It can be a great number of things that can come from ideas those in your church family think up

through inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Why should we work together? Because we can accomplish more by working together than by working alone. A great way to work together in the association is to find a church or churches that have the same or similar task from the Lord. Find out how you can share resources, share information, and share the workload by working together. We all have the same goal; to see the lost saved and the saved disciplined. There is so much lostness and unchurched people in our counties that we will not run out of people to share the gospel with even if we work together to help another church grow.

If you are a church that has found your task, your work, and you believe you are doing it well, offer to help another church get started or strengthen their ministry. If you are a church that is struggling, be open to receiving help from another church.

By working together, we can see salvations and baptisms increase, more mature church members, and an excitement from serving the Lord permeating our churches. Will you be a part of churches working together for the mission?

We are highlighting a church in this article that has embraced the work God has called them do: Red Hill Baptist Church.

Bruce Schroader, pastor of Red Hill Baptist Church, sent me the following information. "For Red Hill Baptist I would like to highlight that we are situated on the TransAmerica Bicycle Route. This is the route cyclists travel from the Atlantic to the

Pacific Ocean, or Pacific to Atlantic. Some cyclists travel a shorter route such as an Atlantic to Colorado route. Word is out in their social communities that Red Hill is a welcoming place to stay for an evening. At times their stay coincides with our Wednesday service, and they share a meal and Bible study with us. If they stay other weeknights we try and meet them, grill some cheeseburgers and extend some graceful hospitality. We also share the gospel. So far, every cyclist has been very appreciative of the hospitality and graciously listened to our testimonies of coming to Christ and our sharing the gospel. In 2025 we have hosted and shared the gospel with cyclists from France, Germany, Netherlands, and the USA" (Bruce Schroader).

AMS Nathan Whisnant

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Daviess-McLean Baptist Association
September 8, 2025 - Board Meeting, Glenville Baptist Church

Call to Order (7:00) - The meeting was called to order by Bro. Tony Shouse who called Bro. Van Thompson to come give a welcome as the host church.

Welcome, Scripture, and Prayer (7:00) - Bro. Van Thompson welcomed the board and expressed his thanks to the folks of Glenville for the wonderful meal. He offered words of challenge from Ephesians 6:10-13 regarding Spiritual Warfare. "The situation is serious, but the saints are not." This ought not be said of us. Bro. Van shared a testimony entitled "The Fellowship of the Unashamed." Bro. Van opened the meeting in prayer.

Attendance Check (7:06) - Shea Hicks, as clerk, confirmed that as of 7:00 forty-three (43) board members and pastors as well and ten (10) guests had recorded their attendance and that quorum had been met.

Recognition of New Board Members and Staff (7:06) - The following was recognized as a new board member.

- Bobby Gross from Buck Creek Baptist

Approval of the July Minutes (7:06) - A motion was made for the approval of the minutes of the July meeting reports. The motion was made by Andy Crowe and received a second from Conrad Francis and the motion was approved by ballot.

Finance Report (7:08) - Bro. Tom Pelphrey brought a report on behalf of the finance committee. Report was made available on pages 10-15. He noted that spending has been slightly over giving. Page 10 provides the designated funds and noted that \$30,000 was moved from DF9000 (Special Missions) in order to fund the McLean County relief endeavor. All or most expenditures are within budget. Page 12 reflects an excess in maintenance costs that come as a result of repairs. Page 12 also includes allocations for six ministries of the DMBA reflecting \$67,000 of the \$73,300. The report was approved by ballot.

AMS Report (7:14) -Dr. Nathan Whisnant expressed his appreciation to the board for excusing him from the July meeting in order to spend time with his family. His report was made available on pages 24-26, and he shared the following items of note.

- He attended the Daviess County Detention Center training session in order to provide Bible studies to the inmates. He encouraged others to participate in training and be a part of the ministry. Looking for two more.
- VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) meeting was provided to help the DMBA be a help in disaster.
- KY Baptist EQUIP will be September 9th.
- Post-chapel Pizza has started again at Kentucky Wesleyan College.
- Don Mathis will be at the association on September 22nd to preview a Winter Bible study on James.
- See you at the Pole at Walnut Memorial at 6:30 on the last Wednesday of September. Please bring the youth of your church.
- Utica Baptist Church is hosting a Car Show in October.
- Bethabara Baptist will be celebrating their 200th anniversary on October 5th.
- October 12-17 will be Missions trip with 21 signed up.
- October 19th - Bro. Nathan will be preaching at the Myanmar Church.
- Apollo Heights will be celebrating 50th Anniversary on November 2nd.
- The DMBA Annual Revival will be held on November 2nd.

Committee, Ministry, and Program Unit Reports (7:22-7:35)

(7:22) **Baptist Center** - Bro. Nathan shared the Baptist Center Report. Ms. Gail Boling will retire and her last day will be January 2nd. For July the Quarter store received \$924. They gave away 51 food boxes. They received food donations from Pat and three other individuals. Ms. Gail would like to thank all the churches for participating in the monthly itemized food donations. This has worked very well. The pantry is "stocked better than it has been in years." Thank you for the generosity. They received a \$160 cash donation. They gave away 16 cards for new shoes, and they helped a homeless couple with clothes.

(7:24) **Collegiate Ministry** - Bro. Tony Shouse shared that they have started the post chapel pizza back up; this will be the second week and things are "going great."

(7:25) **Trustees** - Bro. Michael Ponton reported that bids were sent out to five companies for repairs to the 3 buildings. Three responses have been received. The trustees will meet to review the proposals and award a bid. The Disaster Relief trailer has been transferred to the DMBA and will be stored at the home of Jeff Free in Livermore.

(7:27) **Camp Schafer** - Ms. Cortney Brown began by providing an update on Wyatt and the progress he has made. She expressed her thanks to the DMBA for prayers, and then praised the Lord for His comfort throughout all of this. Wyatt will still receive treatment for the next 2 ½ years. Camp season was fantastic and held 6 weeks of camp. Camp this year provided "a normal" the family has not been able to have since last October and Wyatt was able to get out and provide lessons in archery and teach and encourage kids. Cortney's sister-in-law stepped in the week of youth camp during her absence and did fantastic and was a great blessing.

Cortney introduced a missionary couple from Malawi and Romania. Ovi and Lita Cornea. Bro. Ovi shared about their ministry "Hope for the Future" in Malawi and Romania. It started here in Hawesville in 1980 when a pastor took on his father-in-law as a "Timothy" and years later was sent out and started an international ministry in Romania in 1993 and then Malawi in 1999. Today, they carry on these ministries. They provide bible clubs in villages, evangelistic camps to 500-600 kids. In 2012, they began the first orphanage and now have 2 orphanages serving and feeding 164 orphans and teaching them God's word. In 2017, seeing the need for education, they began a primary school for over 800 children. The ministry has a Bible School with missionaries from the States who are training future missionaries. They are always looking for villages to start churches. During one visit they were able to share the Gospel with a lady who said she had heard the message 76 years ago in 1949, but no other missionary has ever visited this village. The Romania Ministry has a camp ministry that held 7 weeks of camp and served 1639 campers. The ministry also holds "Mobile Camps" going to different Gypsy villages.

Old and New Business (7:36-8:03) -

(7:37) The Credentials Committee reported the intent of committee to bring a motion to remove Third Baptist Church from the DMBA. This recommendation comes following the committee's communications with Third Baptist regarding their affirmation of "a common statement of faith ACCORDING TO THE 2000 BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE." This recommendation must be made in Annual session. The motion is as reads...

"The Credentials committee of the Daviess McLean Baptist Association recommends to the executive board that we bring a motion to the of the association in October to remove Third Baptist Church from membership in the DMBA."

Bro. Tom Pelphery asked on what basis this decision was made. Bro. Tony Shouse shared that since January the committee has been in contact with the church regarding their affirmation of the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. Bro. Tom asked if there would be a more complete report at the Annual Meeting or if this is the full report. It was noted that the committee's progress has been reported on in the March, May and July meetings. ***(After the Board Meeting, the minutes of March, May and July meetings were reviewed. The committee only reported at the July Board Meeting that this matter would be discussed and voted on at the Annual Meeting).***

The motion was voted on and passed after the Book Link report. The vote was taken at 7:43 pm.

(7:41) Bro. Tony Shouse shared a statement from Book Link. The trailer is full and Karns Grove will be making a delivery in the next few weeks. If churches have books or glasses, please bring them to Karns Grove for the Fall delivery. The association has surpassed the 25 tons level over the 10 years of giving.

(7:44) Bro. Tom Pelphery brought the 2025-26 Annual Budget. Page 29 contains a Joint Recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committees as follows...

"The Personnel and Finance Committees RECOMMEND a change to the method of calculating the DMBA Staff Christmas bonuses to an even 2% of salary. This begins with the 2025-2026 Budget."

The motion was accepted.

The full budget was provided beginning on page 17 and Bro. Tom highlighted the following items of the budget.

- An overall 2.88 % increase and noted this was less than anticipated inflation.
- A 6% raise to staff.
- Page 17 - Designated Funds show who is responsible for each fund.
- Investments have been very good this year and thanks to those investors who oversee these funds.
- The Collegiate Ministry did not receive funds this year due to designated funds available to them.
- The Bible for Inmates has been moved to the Jail Ministry under missions.
- Page 19 - Reflect the 6% increase to staff and bonuses.
- Page 19 - Ministries supported by the DMBA have allocations for the next year. The biggest increase is to the Jail Ministry as it moved from a single project ministry to a year-round ministry.
- Page 22 - The Dental Clinic may have a larger expenditure than years past as a result of future new equipment purchases.
- No funds were allocated for the Party Trailer due to carryover funds available to them.
- This Budget allows the association to do unexpected ministry service such as the McLean County Relief endeavor this year.

Bro. Tom reminded the association of the quote "Where God guides, He provides." **The budget was adopted.**

(8:00) Bro. Tony Shouse reminded the association that the ACP's are due. He invited Ms. Cindy Street to come share about the ACP. Ms. Cindy shared that the ACP's are due by September 15th and are used to create a final association wide end of year report and establish authorized voting messengers for the Annual Meetings in October. Questions have been raised regarding the difference between messengers and board members. The last page of the meeting packet provides an explanation. A report will be run on the morning of October 20th to establish messengers for those meetings.

(8:03) Bro. Tony Shouse shared that Bro. Andrew Harrison has resigned as 2nd Moderator as a result of a new pastorate at Blackford Baptist Church outside of the association. He recommended that due to the Annual Meeting being in session next month, that this position be left vacant. The motion was made by Conner Reed and seconded by Andy Crowe. **The motion was approved by ballot.**

(8:05) Correspondence —

The clerk acknowledged 3 items of correspondence.

1. A thank you note was received from James Chandler of First Baptist of Owensboro who received a scholarship from the Wilson Trust.
2. A thank you note was received from Alma Perez of Calhoun Baptist who received a scholarship from the Wilson Trust to assist in education toward her teaching career.
3. A thank you note was received from Cortney Brown's family following the death of a family member.

Bro. David Stilwell shared that Utica Baptist Church will host their 1st Annual Car Show.

(8:07) - Motion to Adjourn — A motion to adjourn was made by Bro. Robert Carter and Seconded by Bro. Tim Moss. Bro. Tony Shouse closed the meeting in prayer.

THE 2025 ANNUAL BOOK OF REPORTS is available online at www.dmba.org/executive-board-info/ and includes the Annual Meeting Business Minutes. Motion - *"The Executive Board recommends to the Annual Meeting that we remove Third Baptist Church of Owensboro from association with the DMBA due to their stated lack of adherence to the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 as stated in the by-laws of the DMBA."* *Two-thirds votes would constitute 66% of the votes and had been met with 78.125%.*

Greetings, DMBA!

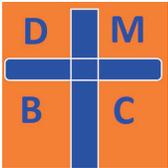
My name is Conner Reed, I am the senior pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, and I have the honor to serve as the moderator this year! The committees have already started meeting and planning for this year of ministry! As your moderator I promise to put my best foot forward and give my all to the association for the cause of Christ!

As we begin this year, I want to bring something to light. The work of the ministry within our association is too large for one person or even church to take on all alone. I want to encourage us as individuals to be involved in the work but also take the work of the association back to your place of worship. Our association is strongest when every church is involved. Being on the inside of meetings I can tell you WE HAVE BIG PLANS FOR THIS YEAR. Plenty of FRESH opportunities to strengthen our fellowship, support one another and most importantly reach our community with the Gospel.

One of my goals this year is to increase participation across the board. I would love to see every church represented in one way or another. As your moderator I am grateful for each of you, and I am excited to see what God will do through our faithfulness in the months ahead! Please begin praying for our association that we will do the work that God would have us to do!

IN CHRIST,

Conner Reed, Moderator



I want to thank all the churches, the Pastors, and the people that have supported me at the Baptist Center while I have been the Director. A special thank you to Bro. Nathan and Cindy Street for all their help, support and guidance during these six years as the director of the center. I will miss being down at the center doing the work and meeting all of the people.

Have a Blessed Day and a Merry Christmas, Gail Boling

January 5, 2026 will be the re-opening of the Baptist Center under the leadership of Penny Lambert.

Meet our new Baptist Center Director:

Penny Lambert, married to Terry Lambert, is a member of a new church plant called CrossView in Owensboro, KY, currently meeting on the Kentucky Wesleyan University campus. They are missionaries and travel to Honduras once a year. Penny and Terry are passionate about building relationships within their community praying, serving, providing provisions, and sharing the Gospel wherever God leads them.

Penny and Terry owned and operated a nonprofit thrift store in Livermore, Kentucky, as well as supported God's House of Hope Food Pantry, where they dedicated themselves to meeting practical needs and supporting local families. From 2009-2022, Penny was also involved in a backpack ministry at Fordsville Elementary, helping ensure students had food and essentials to take home each weekend.

Looking ahead, Penny and Terry are excited to connect with the people in the communities of Daviess and McLean counties, to serve faithfully, and to continue spreading the hope of Christ through love and action.



Baptist Center Food Pantry:

The average cost to feed a family of four a month runs from \$975 - \$1566. Would your church or Sunday school class prayerfully consider donating one of the following items to the Food Pantry once a month for the year 2026?

- 48 cans: mixed vegetables, green beans, corn, green peas, black eyed peas, potatoes, soup, fruit, pasta, tuna, spam, Vienna sausages, chicken
- 48 packages of: ramen noodles, spaghetti noodles
- 48 bottles of: spaghetti sauce, syrup
- 48 boxes of: macaroni & cheese
- 48 jars of: peanut butter, jelly
- 48 boxes of: pancake batter, crackers, cereal
- 48 bags of: white beans, pinto beans, sugar
- 48 cartons of: shelf milk
- 12 boxes of margarine

Each family in need is allowed to get a box 6 times a year.

Sincerely, Penny Lambert, Director

Evangelism Program

The Evangelistic Gathering was a great success, and we were blessed to have Bro. Justin Hunter of Bethel Baptist preach at the gathering. The gathering collected \$2,000 which will help with the McLean County missions. Thank you all for your prayers and for participating with our McLean County brethren. The love shown to McLean County is very much appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted, Evangelism Committee

Finance Committee

Two months of the "new" DMBA year has already passed by the time you read this! The Finance Committee thanks you for your faithful giving throughout 2025 and for your continued support for 2026. We join you in prayer that all our churches will end the year on a positive financial note.

The Finance Committee is navigating a transition as Theresa Hayden of TGH Bookkeeping will be terminating her contract mid-January. Theresa has marvelously served as our financial accounting provider for the last five years. The Committee, along with the Administrative Committee, will be bringing a full report on this transition at the January Executive Board meeting.

Tom Pelphrey, Chair

Jail Ministry Program

With the support of our association, we were able to provide all inmates with a gift bag for Christmas. A 15 minute video call was put on each inmate's personal account. In addition to that, they received a Biblical puzzle book, a couple of pairs of socks, a notebook and flex pen as well as a stamped envelope. Some food items were also included as a treat.

Special thanks to the churches and individuals that have helped by sending donations.

Your support of this ministry is very appreciated. If you'd like to be a part of this ministry, we would love to have you serve with us!

Connie Hardison, Chair

Schafer Baptist Camp & Retreat Center



We are very excited to see what 2026 will hold for Schafer Baptist Camp! Summer camp season is of course scheduled, and a few things are on the books for this winter and spring. We will host our camp program and camp development team meetings in late January. We are ready to see faces that have supported the camp and us for years and also delighted to

meet folks that will be joining us this year. Pray for these teams as we meet to discuss new programs and what projects to take on.

As you are meeting to schedule your yearly events for your congregation, keep us in mind for retreats and picnics. We would love to host you at Schafer Baptist Camp.

Update on Wyatt - He is doing very well. He finished a couple of college classes in December and will continue classes this semester. Tim and I thank you for praying for us and ask that you continue. Wyatt still has treatments at least once a month and some of those are five-day treatments for 2 more years.

Tim & Cortney Brown, Administrators



There are endless opportunities available to individuals and our churches to be on mission for Christ! To include preschool and children - boys and Men, Adults and Students!

This Coming March- **Missions 4 Men Rallies**

5 dates | 5 locations | 2 speakers | 1 Commission

Join us for our Missions 4 Men Rallies, a new approach to getting men involved in missions!

KentuckyWMU Mission Celebration & Annual Meeting - Fri Apr 10th 2026 - Sat 11th

Highland Baptist Church, 511 Mt Eden Rd, Shelbyville, KY

Highlights Include: *Kentucky Send Relief, and IMB Missionaries*. Resource Learning Lab. EBO Extravaganza. Missions Expo. Missions Marketplace (including bookstore & WorldCrafts Market).

If your church would like information, help with an existing or starting a new group, contact.

KY WMU Phone: [502-489-3534](tel:502-489-3534) Email: kywmu@kybaptist.org Facebook: [@KYWWMU](https://www.facebook.com/KYWWMU)

Diane Thacker 270-993 0766

General Association Announcements

CHRISTIAN DENTAL MISSION ANNUAL BANQUET

The Annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 17th at the DMBA conference room. RSVP at 270-684-2377 by Thursday, Feb. 12th.

All current volunteers and their spouses are invited. Anyone interested in learning more about serving in our local dental mission is welcome to attend. Potential roles volunteers can fill are sterilization techs, dental assistants, dentists, hygienists, chaplains and receptionists.

The dental mission serves residents of McLean and Daviess Counties. Applications are screened by the County Help Offices.

COMMUNITY HYMN SING

Location is Eaton Memorial Baptist Church Sanctuary from 2:00 - 3:00pm. There is access to the sanctuary via elevator front right entrance of building. Congregational singing of traditional hymns and traditional selections by a choir will also be presented. Choral rehearsal will begin at 1:15pm each day of singing. If interested in participating in the choir call or text Steve O'Neal at 270-314-3615.

Upcoming 2026 Dates: Jan 27, Feb 24

EATON MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH presents

January 10, 2026 at 6pm.
1225 W 3RD Street, Owensboro

Julius Maddox, Guest Speaker and Brandon Watkins, Worship Leader.

For more information call 270-684-5239



DMBA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The January 12th meeting will be held at Apollo Heights Baptist Church, 2322 Tamarack Rd. Meal at 6:15pm, Call to Order at 7pm.

Voting ballots will be issued only to Sr. Pastors and Church Board Members reported on the Leadership Profile of the Annual Church Profile portal.

Contact Cindy at 270-684-2377 for assistance if needed to update the Church Leadership.

KBC CHILDRENS, YOUTH AND HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE DRILL COMPETITIONS

The KBC Children and Youth Regional Bible Drills are held every Spring. Competitors must qualify on the local Church Level, then Association Level competitions held in March/April to qualify for the Regional Competitions. Drills are given in either the CSB or KJV Bible Version - Green Cycle for 2026. For more information and resources go to -

Children (4th, 5th, 6th grades) www.kybaptist.org/childrens-bible-drill/
Youth (7th, 8th, 9th grades) www.kybaptist.org/youth-bible-drill/
High School Bible Drills and Speakers Tournament -
www.kybaptist.org/high-school-bible-drill-speakers-tournament/
or contact Linda Coulter at kybibleddrill@gmail.com

TRANSITIONAL PASTORS TRAINING

South Central Ky Baptist Association, 6448 Scottsville Rd, Bowling Green on February 9-10, 2026. Cost \$150 includes training materials & lunch on Tuesday. Mon 1pm-5pm; Tues 8:30am-4pm. Speakers: Henry Webb and Dan Garland. Register by calling 270-791-9270 or emailing crab_a_tree@yahoo.com



Daviess - McLean Baptist Association
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Owensboro, KY. 42301
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www.dmba.org



Address Service Requested



JANUARY

- 5 - DMBA offices reopen
- 12 - Executive Board Meeting - Apollo Heights Baptist Church - 6:15pm Meal, 7pm Call to Order
- 21, 28 - KWC Post Chapel lunches. Call Office if willing to host.

FEBRUARY

- 4,11.18.25 - KWC Post Chapel lunches. Call Office if willing to host.
- 9-10 Transitional Pastors Training in Bowling Green.
- 17 - Christian Dental Mission Annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet at DMBA

MARCH

- 11,18,25 - KWC Post Chapel lunches. Call Office if willing to host.
- 8 - Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 9 - Executive Board Meeting - Maceo Baptist Church - 6:15pm Meal, 7pm Call to Order
- 12 - Pastors, Staff and Spouses Annual Appreciation Banquet - TBD



**"CONNECTING CHURCHES TO REACH
 THE WORLD FOR CHRIST!"**

MATTHEW 28:19-20, ACTS 1:8