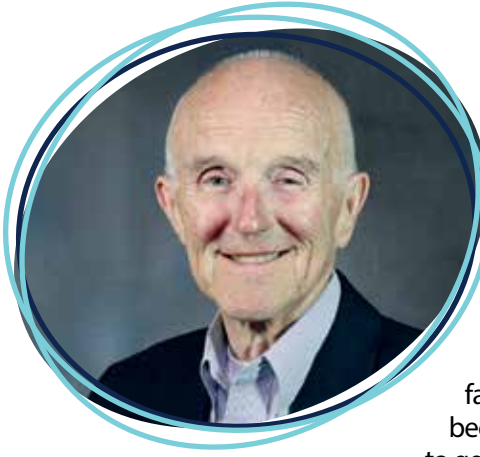


President's Update

Winter 2023



Russell Martin, President

As we rapidly approach the end of 2023, I look back with much gratitude on how the Lord continues to bless the ministries of MBCH. I am also grateful for the many ways in which you have partnered with us to provide preventive and redemptive services and care for children, youth, and families. This work is only possible because you respond to God's call to get involved, so thank you for being obedient to Him.

We don't yet know the final numbers on how many children we will facilitate in reaching permanency this year, but I am pleased to report that through the end of the third quarter 119 children were returned to their biological families, were placed with relatives through guardianships, or were adopted.

Many churches became involved with CarePortal, which is a great platform to provide needed goods for families to reduce the number of children entering foster care or to aid in a child in foster care being able to return home sooner. If your church is not involved, we would be happy to visit with you about how you might become involved.

The youth drop-in center on the Lowe-Frillman Campus in Bridgeton is on the verge of opening to minister to children and youth who are classified as "homeless" in this part of the state. One of the goals is to do assessments and provide services to address safety, health, and well-being, and, most importantly, to share with them the love of Jesus.

As we go through the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas and enjoy special times with family and friends, let's be sure to give praise and thanks to the birth of the Christ child who is the only true source of hope, healing, and restoration.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Presidential Search Update

The Presidential Search Team has been diligently at work and the process is moving along as planned. We are currently conducting interviews of some very fine candidates. We are still accepting resumes, but that window will be closing shortly. We covet the prayers of all Missouri Baptists as we seek the Lord's will and guidance in this matter.

**HOPE
HEALING
RESTORATION**



A GIFT OF \$20
PROVIDES 1/2
HOUR OF
COUNSELING



A GIFT OF \$50
PROVIDES A
CLIENT ONE
WEEK OF FOOD



A GIFT OF
\$100 PROVIDES
NEW CLOTHES TO
A FOSTER CHILD



WHAT CAN YOU GIVE?

WWW.MBCH.ORG/GIVE



Fight the Good Fight...

Finish the Race!



As I look back on 2023 writing this article, on this beautiful Friday, November 3rd, 2023; from the MBCH Foundation perspective I would say the best term to define it would be “newness”. We have brought a lot of newness to our Missouri Baptist constituents across the state, and it is our hope that you have appreciated and enjoyed this newness. We have developed a new logo for MBCH and all its affiliates, new promotional literature, a new programmatic and interactive approach to social media, new banners, new table runners, new events, a new more end-user friendly website, etc. In addition to this, and first and foremost, thanks to the faithful generosity of our donors across the state the financial needs of our ministries have been met, and it is our hope that they will continue to be met as we close out 2023. If you haven’t considered giving, or haven’t given to your MBCH and The LIGHT House please prayerfully consider a year-end gift. MBCH Children and Family Ministries (MBCH-CFM) as well as The LIGHT House still have tax credits available for our donors that would like to make the choice where their Missouri state taxes go, and we will do our best to make that process as easy as we can for our donors as we always have. But is financial support the only way to give?

Today I pulled up our 3rd quarter 2023 MBCH-CFM statistical report, and my heart was stirred. We had several referrals for placement for therapeutic residential care at one of our campuses that we had to turn away, simply because we didn’t have the residential specialist staff to field the referrals. That’s children in Missouri that were unable to be served by your MBCH and sent to other locations where they may, or may not hear of the hope, healing, and restoration offered through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; as well as receive Christ-centered emotional, physical, and psychological care. Wow! I am praying and trusting that God is working in the hearts of 20-25 people in Missouri Baptist life that feel Christ calling them to take up their cross and follow Him to minister to the least of these.

Is it an easy job? No. However, Jesus didn’t promise us that following Him would be easy; in fact He promised it would lead to a cross...your cross, and mine. Paul wrote in Philippians, “My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, assuming that I will somehow reach the resurrection from among the dead.” –Philippians 3:10-11 (CSB). Brother and sisters, there is no way for any of us to get to an empty tomb on Sunday, but through a cross on Friday. As you celebrate Christmas this year with your loved ones think of all those children MBCH-CFM had to turn away, and think on, wherever they are, whether or not they are having the opportunity to be taught the true reason we celebrate Christmas. That God sent His only begotten Son that they might have restored relationship with Him and eternal life now and forevermore.

So, as we close out 2023 please consider giving above and beyond for the least of these; for, in this we know that we are known by Him, and as we look ahead to 2024 consider whether Christ might be calling you to lay down your life for Him daily and take up your cross so that MBCH-CFM can bring hope, healing and restoration to every child referred to residential ministries.

As always, thank you so much for your faithful generosity, year-in and year-out, that makes an eternal difference in the lives of “the least of these”!

James Morrow, Vice President, MBCH Foundation

mbch SUPPORT

Missouri Baptist Children’s Home
11300 St. Charles Rock Rd
Bridgeton, MO 63044
800.264.6224
www.mbch.org/give

Regional Representatives:

Ben King - West/Northwest Region
816.472.9072; ben.king@mbch.org

David McMullin - East/Northeast Region
573.259.3971; david.mcmullin@mbch.org

Joe Nogalski - Southwest Region
816.317.4430; joe.nogalski@mbch.org

Kenny Vawter - Southeast/Central Region
573.241.1113; kenny.vawter@mbch.org

Provide **Healing & Restoration**

mbch **BIRTHDAY OFFERING**

The giving of Birthday Offerings for the Children’s Home has been a regular part of Baptist life for more than 120 years. This offering provides a way for you to celebrate your birthday and an opportunity to share in this ministry.

If you have missed out on this caring tradition, we invite you to join hundreds of other individuals in the Annual Birthday Offering.

If you need any birthday supplies (mugs, pencils, cards, offering envelopes, or banks), order online (www.mbch.org) or call (800) 264-6224.

Volunteer News

We have been so blessed by individuals, churches and businesses who have given their time to volunteer at one of our locations.

Our Springfield office received an amazing renovation with the help of volunteer groups from First Baptist Church in St. Charles and Second Baptist Church in Springfield. (See article on opposite page).

On the Lowe-Frillman Campus we had several youth groups over the summer and fall that came from various states as well as Missouri to help with yard work, demolition and construction, building retaining walls and organizing and cleaning in the campus store. Many of these groups were sent to us by the Send Relief organization. The young people have had great attitudes and really worked hard. One of the young men that came recently asked if they were allowed to work through their lunch break and wanted to stay late.

Individuals and small church groups also jumped right in to help in the campus store as we prepared for the Christmas rush. We have two of our volunteers that have made the toy room their personal mission. They have done an amazing job organizing and staging the room so that the gifts can be easily located and distributed for each child and family. It is fun to watch their excitement each time they come.

We have a young lady who is completing her high school community service hours by working in the campus store. She has helped by organizing part of the toy area and cleaning and organizing the school supply and hygiene sections.

We are currently looking for volunteers for all areas but are especially looking for those interested in volunteering for the Martin Youth Drop-In Center on the Lowe-Frillman Campus. (See the "Project Update" on page 8).

When most of the volunteers come, we share about the programs they are helping in their work. The response is almost always, "We had no idea you all were doing all of that!"

Just since the end of July we have been blessed by almost 200 volunteer hours on the Lowe-Frillman Campus - *thank you, thank you, thank you!*

If you or your group are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at any of our locations, please reach out to Von Hulin at 314-739-6811 ext. 1368 or von.hulin@mbch.org.

Von Hulin, ACSW, LCSW
Outreach Manager/Volunteer & Intern Coordinator

To learn about volunteer opportunities visit: www.mbch.org/volunteer



Thank you to our many volunteer groups that have given so much to bring hope, healing and restoration!



Springfield Office Renovation

Buildings are like people; each has its own history and story to be told. When I first started with MBCH, I wasn't aware of this particular building's history. Once termed "a house of darkness and death," the MBCH Springfield location was previously used by one of the state's abortion providers. The building's image in the community changed drastically in December 2007 when MBCH Children and Family Ministries moved in. Since then, we have been a light in the community dedicated to reuniting families and advocating for children.

In September 2023, 1837 E Cherry St., Springfield, MO once again had new life breathed into it. Our President, Russell Martin, recognized that the office building was overdue for a face-lift and was able to find some amazing people from his church to help do the needed work. Two men, Ken Sivcovich and Stan Norton from First Baptist Church in St. Charles, MO took on three weeks of intensive, hard work to renovate the building. They gathered volunteers from their church to come to Springfield to help with the renovations and worked 10 to 12 hour days. Rob Brewer, with Second Baptist Church in Springfield, MO, was also gracious enough to send volunteers and stopped by to learn about the history of our building, meet employees, and then continued to check in to see if there was anything we needed during this time of transition. (To learn how this former abortion facility became a Baptist office click the QR code or visit: <https://www.baptistpress.com/resource-library/news/abortion-facility-now-a-baptist-office/>.)



Walls were repaired and painted, doors and frames were painted, and new flooring was installed. In addition, the desks and chairs used by the staff were replaced.

We were able to use Second Baptist Church's beautiful facility for training while our office building was being updated and we are extremely grateful to the church for their hospitality.

In addition, Ron Robinson, pastor of Glenstone Baptist Church, opened the doors to his church and provided housing for the volunteers as well as some meals.

Our Office Manager, Cathy Rowan, was instrumental in keeping the crew going by providing them with plenty of snacks, water, and iced tea, as well as lunches, some of which were homemade. In an effort to show how thankful we were for the work being done on our building, employees made breakfast for the crew and brought in fountain drinks for them. We were also fortunate enough to be able to arrange a lunch with the renovation crew and MBCH staff so we could pray for the crew and express our gratitude towards them.

I don't think we could ever say thank you enough to First Baptist Church in St. Charles and Second Baptist Church in Springfield for the amount of man hours that were put into our building. Together, everyone put in close to 800 hours over a period of three weeks.

Lisa Lowrance, ACSW, LCSW
Springfield Office Program Director



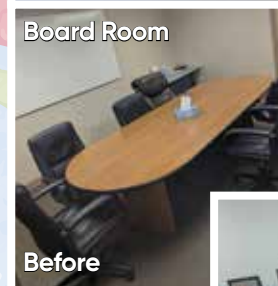
Volunteers



Volunteers with Russell Martin

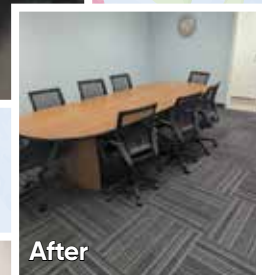


Updated Reception Area

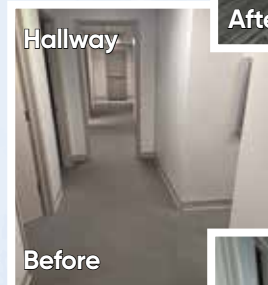


Board Room

Before

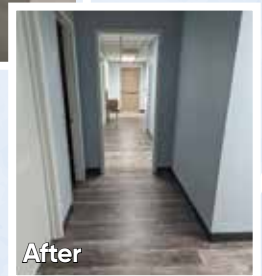


After



Hallway

Before



After

We Love Our Volunteers!



\$30 PROVIDES
A CASE OF
DIAPERS



\$45 PROVIDES
A CASE OF
FORMULA



\$50 PROVIDES
A CLIENT ONE
WEEK OF FOOD

GIVE THE GIFT OF
HOPE

WHAT GIFT WILL YOU GIVE?
www.mbch.org/give



Serving with Love

Our pregnancy services (PS) specialists help women who are experiencing an untimely pregnancy. They do this in a number of ways, including but not limited to teaching parenting skills, nutrition, child development, as well as making community referrals for a variety of needs. These amazing staff often go above and beyond this and step in when tragedy strikes the family.

In a world of uncertainty and upheaval, our pregnancy services specialists stand as beacons of hope and compassion. They walk with women through the most difficult of times, offering guidance, support, and a listening ear.

We recently had a situation where the baby was born with a number of medical issues and was hospitalized for several months. Throughout all of this time the PS specialist was there to support the family in whatever ways that she could.

When tragedy struck, our PS specialist was there, unflinching in her love and support. She became a part of the family, sharing their tears and their laughter, their hopes and their fears.

Despite the tremendous efforts by the medical professionals, the child passed away leaving the family devastated. Not only was the PS specialist one of the first calls the family made after the child passed, she was also the only non-family member invited to the funeral.

In the darkest of moments, our PS specialist was there, her presence a testament to the enduring power of love. She stood with the family, sharing their grief and offering a shoulder to cry on.

The PS specialist clearly represented the hands of Christ throughout their time together but especially that day at the funeral. Pray for all of our staff as they journey alongside our clients regardless of where the road may take them.

Our pregnancy services specialists are truly angels on earth. They walk with women through the darkest of valleys, offering hope, healing, and the love of Christ. We pray for them as they continue to journey alongside our clients, regardless of where the road may take them.

May God bless them abundantly for their selfless love and compassion.

Angels of mercy, hands of Christ,
Guiding women through the darkest night.
With compassion and grace, they impart,
Hope and healing, a fresh start. - unknown



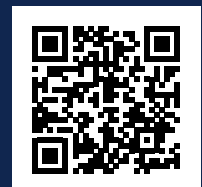
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Mother's & Babies served through CFM and The LIGHT House Pregnancy Services

Client Needs



- Graco Snugride Infant Car Seat
- Graco Pack 'n Play On the Go Playard (with bassinet insert)
- Graco Pack 'n Play sheets
- Sleepsacks (size 3-6 months)
- Sleep Swaddles (size NB and 0-3 months)
- Diaper Rash Cream
- Breast pads
- Reusable Water bottles with lid
- Cozy Socks
- Jesus Story Book Bible (English, Spanish, and Bilingual)
- Bible Stories for Little Ones (Board Book)
- Diapers (sizes 5-7)
- Pull-Ups (all sizes)
- Wipes (non-scented and sensitive)
- Toddler boy fall/winter clothing (sizes 12-24 months)
- Winter hats and gloves for children (ages 6 months-6th grade)
- Baby toiletries
 - body wash
 - shampoo
 - lotion
- Mom toiletries:
 - body wash
 - shampoo
 - deodorant
 - toothbrush
 - toothpaste



Staff Spotlight



Amy Johnson

**Training and Development Director
Bridgeton Corporate Office**

Amy Johnson, a longtime employee of MBCH, was recently awarded the MBCH Employee of the Quarter - East. This award is given to employees who consistently demonstrate excellence in their work and who make significant contributions to the team. Amy is a deserving recipient of this award, and her colleagues are very proud of her.

Amy has been with MBCH for over 30 years, and she has made a tremendous impact on the ministry. She is a skilled and knowledgeable employee, and she is always willing to go the extra mile. Amy is also a valuable team player, and she is always willing to help out her colleagues.

This past summer, when one of Amy's teammates was out of work, Amy stepped up and took on their additional responsibilities without being asked. She went above and beyond her job duties, and she never complained. Amy's teamwork and dedication are exemplary.

Amy is a true asset to MBCH, and her colleagues are grateful for her hard work and dedication. Congratulations, Amy, on this well-deserved award!

MBCH is sad to bid Amy farewell as she prepares to retire but are so thankful for her years of service to MBCH and the children, youth and families of Missouri.

PROJECT UPDATE

Russell Martin Youth Drop-In Center, Bridgeton, MO

The Martin Youth Drop-In Center was only a dream but that dream has turned into the early stages of reality with the sounds of drilling and hammering, the hanging of drywall, the smell of paint, the scheduled delivery dates for appliances and furniture and the anticipation of approvals for various permits and inspections. We have had a few unexpected issues - a drain issue, ceiling changes as well as a few other issues identified by the building inspector. The contractors and our maintenance staff have been very busy preparing the space on the Lowe-Frillman Campus that will become the Martin Youth Drop-In Center.

We have had numerous conversations with various entities in the community who will play critical roles either as referral sources and/or resources for the young people. Background screenings and trainings for volunteers are underway. Policies and procedures are being researched and written to best meet the needs and safety of all involved.

The Martin Drop-In Center will provide a safe place for homeless or under-housed youth to come in the afternoons to get something to eat, take a shower, do some laundry, watch TV, work on homework or look for a job. Staff and volunteers will assess the needs of the young people and work on building a connection with them.

We anticipate an Open House and Opening in January 2024. Please pray that the construction, permits, and inspections are completed and approved in a timely manner. Pray for the volunteers that have started the background and training process as well as those who are considering becoming a part of this ministry. Most of all, pray for the young people who need this service- we ask that God watch over them and protect them.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about volunteering, please contact Von Hulin at 314-739-6811, ext. 1368 or von.hulin@mbch.org.

Counseling Center

25 Agency
Clients



22 Community
Clients

3rd Quarter

The Bleak Midwinter



ENDURANCE RUN 2024

Join us for the 2nd annual Bleak Midwinter Endurance Run, a timed endurance run on a 4.1 mile loop trail! We are proud to offer four different timed events: a 12, 6, 3, and 1 hour run option. We'll keep it simple and enjoyable for everyone with great support, lots of food, and fun swag. Come get your Crow on a Stick!

Sac River Trails - Springfield, MO January 27, 2024

Registration Fees:

12 Hour Run: \$95

6 Hour Run: \$75

3 Hour Run: \$50

1 Hour Run: \$30

1 Hour Family Hike: \$75

For more information:

417.410.9033

specialevents@mbch.org

www.mbch.org/events

Sign up on
Ultrasignup.com



ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT:

SPONSORED BY:



Ozark Mountain
Goats Trail
Running Club



Church Engagement: *For the Church*

In Matthew 25 where Jesus is sharing about the final judgment, he makes it clear that when we serve the least of these, we are serving Him (Matt. 25:31-40). While many churches desire to serve the least of these in their communities, oftentimes two things are missing. One is the answer to the question of how we can help, and the second is the actual connections to people that make it possible for the church to get engaged. The good news is that when it comes to serving children and families in crisis MBCH can offer the church ways to help along with the connections needed to serve. We work with churches and schools to offer training on how to keep children safe from abuse, and we work with churches to design ways they can serve. We have helped churches design wrap-around foster care ministries, child and family supervised visitation ministries, various types of mentoring ministries, and serving ministries using technology to make connections. All of these ministries are designed to allow the church to meet with and love the least of these right in their community and have the opportunity for relational connections.

Think for a moment. We know that God saw the broken, sinful condition of people in our world, and He moved towards us – not away from us – by sending His son. As believers we should be moving towards hurting people in our world. One of the newer and most exciting opportunities we have begun to offer churches is the option to join a network of serving churches in their region who see and respond to physical needs of children and their families. In order to do this, we utilize a technology platform known as CarePortal. The folks at CarePortal don't do ministry directly, instead they have designed and operate a technology platform. CarePortal defines itself as technology that drives action for children and families in crisis. MBCH is an implementing partner with CarePortal.

By utilizing this technology, MBCH can help your church find opportunities for connections to children and families in crisis right in your community. When you sign up to participate in our CarePortal network, you get notified every time a professional in your community puts a vetted need into the CarePortal system. You then have opportunity to not only meet the need, but have a relational connection. When the people of your church begin to go out from the church to engage with children and families they may be meeting a physical need, but it creates a relational opportunity. Relationships are powerful, Dr. Karyn Purvis states: **Relationships heal what relationships hurt.**

Think about that statement. If someone in your neighborhood has experienced horrible things or trauma in their upbringing or in their relationships, God can use healthy relationships to bring healing. There is no organization better suited to bring hope and healing to children and families in crisis than the church.

I encourage you to consider how your church might serve alongside MBCH and gain opportunities for growth and discipleship as together we serve the least of these. We are always looking for churches to partner with us as we continue to increase the number of children and families we are serving in communities all across the state by engaging with churches just like yours. Contact me at david.burch@mbch.org or visit www.mbch.org/church-engagement.

David Burch, Church Engagement Strategist



MBCH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

This past fall Women's Ministry was so excited to be a part of so many opportunities to minister. We provided a retreat for our girls in our pregnancy services homes, provided teaching segments for a LifeWay Event in Kansas City and welcomed Priscilla Shirer to our state with her Going Beyond Event. Women's Ministry had a presence at this year's women's luncheon during Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's "For the Church" event. I was so blessed to be the guest speaker for this year's BSAAM (Baptist Secretaries and Administrative Assistants in Missouri) conference. They were a joy to be with! It was a privilege to share the ministries of MBCH with the Joy Club at Forest Park Baptist Church in Joplin, South Central Baptist Association, and to be a speaker at Gasconade Valley Baptist Association ministry wives' retreat. After such a busy fall we are now praying and planning for many events in 2024. Please mark your calendars and share the news of these events with other women! See page 15 for a full list of these events as well as other MBCH events.

Wanda Shellenbarger, Women's Ministry Specialist

Stewards of Children *Training*

Stewards of Children® is a prevention training that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The program is designed for organizations that serve youth and for individuals concerned about the safety of children. It is the only nationally distributed, evidence-informed program proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change child protective behaviors.

To schedule a training at your church or organization contact:

David Burch
Church Engagement Strategist
david.burch@mbch.org

BRANSON STARS 2024



APRIL 13, 2024

10 AM - 12 PM

CLAY COOPER THEATER, BRANSON, MO

Branson Stars is a silent auction and benefit concert showcasing some of the best Branson performers. All proceeds from the auction and concert go to support MBCH in its mission of bringing hope, healing, and restorations to children, youth and families in Missouri.

Early Bird Ticket Price \$40 (ends 2/12/24)

For Tickets & Promotional Materials:



www.mbch.org/branson-stars
speialevents@mbch.org
417.410.9033

Interested in donating an item for the Silent Auction?

Contact MBCH Special Events at speialevents@mbch.org or call 417.410.9033

Sponsorship Opportunities are available:

Deadline for sponsorship: March 1, 2024

\$1000

receives name on event, four tickets, preferred seating

\$500-999

receives three tickets and preferred seating

\$300-499

receives two tickets and preferred seating

\$200-299

receives two tickets

\$100-199

receives one ticket

Hope



In recent years Advent has reappeared in many Baptist churches across the state. It is a focus throughout the month of December on specific aspects surrounding the birth of Christ. **Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace.** It is a great time of reflection on these gifts given through the birth of Christ and to remember in all the bustle of the season there are deeper, more impacting things that should get our attention.

One in particular always grabs my attention, **Hope.** The other three get their own songs at this time of year but not as much attention is given to Hope. Several years back a study was done on the impact of hope. How important is it to have even the smallest amount of hope to continue striving and fighting for help and survival? To make a long, tedious study short – wildly important. Hopelessness or the lack of hope drastically reduced the will to survive, premature death and in some severe cases sudden death. It is really a fascinating study as scientists work to understand mysterious deaths and discover in the process that it was hopelessness. The conclusion was simple and one that many Christians are fully aware of – without Hope there is no chance of life.

MBCH brings the one true Hope to children, youth and families throughout Missouri.

Over 2,000 years ago Hope took the form of a baby and brought Life into a dying world. Through the staff, foster families and supporters of MBCH this same Hope comes to the hurting and hopeless in our state.

Your gifts not only help give joy and wonder at Christmas but through gifts to MBCH you are providing larger more impacting gifts than a plastic toy. Hope...through a loving home, warm meals and an understanding family. Healing...through counseling, education, and support. Restoration...care and love grounded in the love and teaching of Christ so that all clients of MBCH can hear the Good News at Christmas and all year long. Your gifts make this happen. Your gifts reach those that had little reason to hope at Christmas. Those coming to us in their deepest need, in a time of crisis. **Will you give this Christmas a gift that is life changing and give the gift of Hope?**

To give: www.mbch.org/give • 800.264.6224

Amanda Evans, Communications Director

Youth & Families Served

1,397

through MBCH &
The LIGHT House



Days of Care

62,137

provided to children &
youth through MBCH
& The LIGHT House



3rd Quarter

MBCH News

Update on Missouri Quilt Festival

September 16, 2023 was the Missouri Quilt Festival where 150+ quilts were auctioned off to raise \$25,315! Thank you to the festival committee and all the amazing quilt donations to raise money to support MBCH! We are excited to announce the date has been set for 2024! Be sure to mark September 21, 2024 for the MO Quilt Festival!



Weston Baptist Church Sew n Sew quilting group

Quilt Donation to The LIGHT House

For the second time this year, the Sit and Sew group from Grover Park Baptist Church donated quilts of various sizes to The LIGHT House. This donation consisted of 45 beautiful quilts that will given out through the boutique at The LIGHT House. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness!



Grover Park Baptist Church Sit and Sew quilting group

New Website

MBCH has launched a new redesigned website at www.mbch.org. The new colors and branding provided a good opportunity to re-evaluate and reorganize the existing site. The redesign will also provide a more streamlined way to communicate pages for events, information and resources.

Digital Newsletter Sign Up

Starting 2024 - Sign up now!

Beginning in 2024 MBCH will be launching a digital newsletter to provide updates, prayer needs and information about the ministry. In order to receive this email you will need to be sure to sign up. You can click the QR code to the right or go to www.mbch.org/contact.



Children & Family Ministries

Needs List

General Items

- Work gloves
- Paint brushes and rollers
- Mp3 players with earbuds
- Bluetooth speakers
- Cross body purses
- Contigo water cups
- Fidget toys
- Wii and Xbox games (rated E)

Household Items

- Bed pillows
- Shower curtains
- Rubber bath mats
- Bathroom rugs
- Small trash cans
- Coffee makers
- Small air fryers

Hygiene items

- Axe cologne sets
- Bath & Body sets
- Black hair care products (Cantu brand)
- Dandruff shampoo

Clothing & Baby Items

- Pajamas (boys, girls, men, women- all sizes)
- Winter coats (adults and children)
- Men's socks
- Diapers
- Pull ups
- Baby wipes

Gift Cards

- \$10 & \$25 increments

Items can be dropped off, shipped or mailed to:
11300 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044.
For questions contact Von Hulin at 314-739-6811 ext. 1368.

Staff Spotlight

Kurt French Maintenance Specialist

Kurt French, a dedicated and compassionate team member, was recently awarded the MBCH Employee of the Quarter - West award.

Kurt recently transitioned from a Residential Specialist to a Maintenance Specialist, but he has not forgotten his roots. He still cares deeply about the clients at Country Haven, and he is always looking for ways to help them and go the extra mile.

Even though Kurt's primary responsibility is now maintenance, he has stepped up to help out with residential shifts on multiple occasions. He has covered shifts from 6:30 am to 9 pm, and he has even dropped what he was doing to help drive the bus. Kurt's willingness to help out has been invaluable to the supervisor at Country Haven.

In addition to his work at Country Haven, Kurt has also worked hard to get the garage at Gebhardt re-organized and cleaned out. He has installed hair washing sinks in two of the bathrooms at Country Haven to make washing clients' hair easier for the staff. Lastly, Kurt has taken on the role of gathering Harvester supplies. It is great to be able to send only one staff member who knows what food and other items might be useful for the campus from the free donations.

Kurt is a true asset to MBCH. He is a skilled and knowledgeable maintenance specialist, but he is also a compassionate and dedicated team player. Kurt is always willing to go the extra mile to help his colleagues and the clients he serves.



Honorariums & Memorials

Honorariums

Pastors Terry Beasley, Steve Howell, Aaron Laskey, and Bryan Allen by First Baptist Church (Cameron)
Carolyn Becker by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Becker (Kansas City)
Sutton & Sawyer Brown by Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Bell (Caruthersville)
Dr. Elmer McCully by Mr. and Mrs. Wayne McCully (Farmington)

Memorials

Bill Allen by Mr. and Mrs. William M. Ronan (Saint Charles)
Bonnie Rauch Allen by First Baptist Church (Farmington)
Curtis Larry Amen by Concord Baptist Church (Saint Louis); Mr. and Mrs. John R. Clark (Saint Louis); "Concord Church, Adult 7 Gathering Class" (Saint Louis); Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Kirkpatrick (Imperial); Mr. and Mrs. Drew Henry (Ballwin); Ms. Judith Mutchler (Kirkwood); Mrs. Genie Amen-Wood (Cameron); Mr. and Mrs. Garry Gilbert (St. Louis); Mr. Eric Brockmeier (Ferguson)
James Anders by Mrs. Joyce Anders (Rushville)
Sara Anders by Ms. Betty Takahashi (O Fallon)
Molly Anderson by Ms. Charlene Anderson (Brookline)
Marilyn Annable by Mr. and Mrs. William M. Ronan (Saint Charles)
Pauline Arment by Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Susie Sees (La Plata)
Robert & Mary Barton, Dorothy Nelson by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown (Louisiana)
Robert & Mary Barton, Erma Brown by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown (Louisiana)
Robert & Mary Barton, Ken Brown by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown (Louisiana)
Marlene Beckel by Ms. Anna Lum (St. Louis)
Roger Bickel by Mrs. Deanna L. Bickel (Saint Charles); Mr. and Mrs. Dan Griessel (Oak Grove); Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Martin (Saint Charles); Ms. Jacquelyn Fletcher (O Fallon); Mr. and Mrs. James W. Boyd (St. Peters); Ms. Diane C. Goodlo (Dona Ana, NM); Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lawson (Ballwin); Ms. Sandra G. Skillett (Broken Bow, NE); Ms. Leianna Moore (St. Peters)
Gene Brown by Mr. and Mrs. John Gleason (Greenfield)
Roxanna Burns by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Robert Joseph Cadwallader by Ms. Doris J. Cadwallader-Turpin (Louisiana)
Jessica Chapman by Mr. and Mrs. Chris Kelly (Imperial)
Lucille Cogdill by Mr. Garnall Cogdill (Strafford)
Bill Cox by Mrs. Janetta Cox (Ozark)
Charles H. Dawson by Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Dawson (Sturgeon)
Gary Dawson by Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan

Dawson; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Davidson (Joplin); Ms. Ella Lankford (Seneca); Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Wooten (Joplin); Mr. and Mrs. Glen R. Davidson (Joplin); Mr. Larry McGuire (Carthage); Mr. Steven L. Taylor (Carl Junction); Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Spencer (Golden); Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Taylor (Webb City); Mr. Howard D. Cooper (Broken Arrow, OK); "Mr. Ralph E. Brock, Sr." (Webb City); American Furniture Classics (Webb City); Ms. Nancy Weber and Ms. Amy Dawson (Bella Vista, AR); The YMCA (Joplin); Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bennett (Oronogo); 4 W Metal Building Supply CO INC (Oronogo); Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harter (Joplin); Mr. and Mrs. Tom Clark (Webb City); Marilyn Clark (Webb City); Mr. and Mrs. George Thullesen (Webb City)
Shelby & Hazel Dehlsapple by Ms. Bonnie Kingsland (De Soto)
John L Epperson by Mrs. Judith Epperson (Lewistown); Quincy Farm & Home Distributing (Quinc, IL)
Shirley Esparza by Mr. and Mrs. Grant L. Townsend (Nixa)
Eric Faircloth by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Faircloth (Park Hills)
Wallace T Glanville by Mrs. Carolyn K. Glanville (Shawnee, KS)
Lance Gordon by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Wayne Greenwood by Mr. Fred Miser (Powell, OH)
Eddie Griggs by Ms. Karla Hausman (Kansas City)
Rose Mary Haynes Groves by Ms. Ann Marie Jaehnig (Sherman, CT)
LaMoine Hamilton by Ms. Sandra Gibson (Richland)
MrAnn Harkreader by Mr. and Mrs. Donald R. Martin (Greenwood, AR); Mr. and Mrs. F. David Muegge (Springfield); Mr. and Mrs. David Harkreader (Canonsburg, PA); Ms. Shirley Watts (College Station, TX); Ms. Billie Robison (Diboll, TX)
CJ Hazer by First Baptist Church (Farmington)
Paul Hill by Mr. Charles D. Hill (Oran)
Carol Sue Houston by "Howell-Oregon Electric Cooperative, Inc." (West Plains); Mr. Brent Boyce (Marshfield); Sho-Me Power Electric Cooperative (Marshfield); Mr. and Mrs. James Ashworth (Urbana)
Louise Johnson by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Ron Kilkenny by Mrs. Ellen J. Harter (Saint Louis)
Barbara Knox by First Baptist Church (Farmington)
John Koffman by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Winkler (Moberly)
Bonnie Leek by First Baptist Church (Farmington)
Joan Lewis by Ms. Linda K. Renno (Waynesville); Ms. Joann Rosipal (Waynesville); Ms. Judy Laughlin

(Waynesville); Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hartley (Richland)
Bill Lough Sr & Billy Lough by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Judy Lovelace by Ms. Judy Lovelace (Elsberry)
Bo Mayfield by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Jacqueline Meador by First Baptist Church (Farmington)
Hubert Newman by Mrs. Betty L. Elston (Winfield)
Rob Newman by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Our Parents by Mr. and Mrs. Larian A. Johnson (Lake St Louis)
Ann Ovanin by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Judy Palmer by Mr. Robert B. Palmer (Kansas City)
Floyd Parnell by Mr. Keith M. McDonald (Joplin)
Lawrence & Nola Pattengill by Mr. and Mrs. Allan Crader (Ozark)
Bertha Pavlakes by Mrs. Vivian House (Saint Louis); Mr. and Mrs. Jim L. Choate (Jefferson City)
Harold & Eula Peterson by Mrs. Linda Hutchcraft (Stanberry)
Harold Ponder by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Lovett (Lilbourn)
Ronnie Ridenhour by Mrs. Deanna Ridenhour (Belle)
Debbie Rofkahr by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Pat Scego by Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Belle)
Helen Shannon by Mrs. Judyth Assad (Hollister)
Gene Slaten by First Baptist Church (Sikeston)
Warren D Stephens by Ms. Sharon Lindsey, Polo); Mr. and Mrs. David Peoples (Rayville); Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Clevenger (Polo); Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth N. Thomas (Polo); Mrs. Barbara Stephens (Polo); Ms. Shauna L. Ramsey (Cameron); Ms. Terri L. Gardner (Breckenridge); Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Shaffer (Kearney); Mr. and Mrs. David K. Misel (Polo); Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Ainsworth (Wichita, KS); Ms. Judy Silkwood (Braymer); Polo Baptist Church (Polo); Mr. Dennis K. Farmer (Polo); Mr. Ed Ostervich (Braymer); Ms. Catherine F. Francis (Perrin, TX); Ms. Sandra M. Smith (Blue Springs); Ms. Mary Jean Weiner (St. Peters); Mr. and Mrs. James Shelton (San Antonio, TX); Mr. and Mrs. Brent Martin, (St. Joseph)
Bill J Taylor by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Taylor (Ozark)
John Titus by Mr. W W Allen (Saint Louis); Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Kapfer (Saint Louis); Mrs. Carolyn Hanna (Saint Louis)
Ellis Lynn Wilson by Ozark Trout Resort (Branson)

Honorarium and memorials received July 29, 2023 - October 31, 2023.

mbch CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Bleak Midwinter Run

January 27, 2024

7 am - 7 pm

Sac River Trails, Springfield, MO

The 2nd annual Bleak Midwinter Endurance Run, is a timed endurance run on a 4.1 mile loop trail! Four different timed events are offered: a 12, 6, 3, and 1 hour run option plus a 1 hour family hike. It is a fun and enjoyable day participants, supporters and volunteers with great support, lots of food, and fun swag. All proceeds go to support the ministry of MBCH! Registration is now open!

For more information contact Special Events:
specialevents@mbch.org
417.410.9033

Register online at: www.ultrasignup.com



Branson Stars

April 13, 2024

10 am - 12 pm

Clay Cooper Theater, Branson, MO

Branson Stars is a silent auction and benefit concert showcasing some of the best Branson performers. All proceeds from the auction and concert go to support MBCH in its mission of bringing hope, healing and restoration to Missouri families.

For more information contact Special Events:
specialevents@mbch.org
417.410.9033

Buy tickets at: www.mbch.org/branson-stars



Golfers For Kids

May 10, 2024

Norwoods Golf Course, Hannibal, MO

For more information:
www.mbch.org/golfers-for-kids
417.410.9033

Strawberry Festival

June 8, 2024 (second Saturday)

First Baptist Church, Arnold, MO

For more information contact Special Events:
specialevents@mbch.org
www.mbch.org/strawberry-festival/
417.410.9033

Berry Festival

July 20, 2024

Macedonia Baptist Church, Springfield, MO

For more information:
www.macedoniabc.com

Missouri Quilt Festival

September 21, 2024

Platte County Fair Grounds, Platte City, MO

For more information follow on Facebook:
"Missouri Quilt Festival"



Women's Ministry Events

Women's Ministry Training Clinic

March 8-9, 2024

Friday, 6-9 pm; Saturday 9 am-3 pm

Cost: \$45 per person (includes lunch on Saturday)

Hotel: \$82/room

Register: www.mbch.org/events

The Gathering Women's Conference

May 3-4, 2024

Friday, 6-9 pm; Saturday 9 am-3 pm

Women's Conference

Cost: \$45 per person (includes lunch on Saturday)

Hotel: \$89/room

Register: www.mobaptist.org

Truth for Girls

August 9-10, 2024

Friday, 9 am - 4:30 pm;

Saturday 9 am-3 pm

Cost: \$45 per person (includes lunch on Saturday)

Hotel: \$92/room; cutoff for rate is 7/9/24

Register: www.mbch.org/events



For more information:
www.mbch.org/events
wanda.shellenbarger@mbch.org
417.529.0724

All of the following events will be held at Americlenn by Wyndham Hotel and Conference Center at 275 Tanger Blvd in Branson, MO.

Call 417.334.8404 to reserve a room and be sure to specify which event you are attending to receive the special rate.



Missouri Baptist Children's Home

11300 St. Charles Rock Road

Bridgeton, MO 63044-2793

THE MESSENGER

Missouri Baptist Children's Home



In this issue:

- **Ministry Updates**
- **Staff Spotlight**
- **Christmas Giving**
- **Volunteer News**

A Cooperative Program supported
entity of the Missouri Baptist Convention

December 2023