



Little River
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Serving The Church. Serving The Kingdom.

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August 2025 Edition

The “Average” Church

If someone referred to your church as an “*average church*,” would you be offended? Probably not, but in my opinion, you should be! I have never liked the word “*average*.” Someone has defined average as being, “*One step above the worst, and one step below the best.*” Another definition I found said... Average means “*being the run-of-the-mill, mediocre, insignificant, a nonentity.*” (To be honest, I had to look up the word “*nonentity*,” it means, *an unimportant person or thing.*”

I don't know about you, but I have no desire to be the worst; and I see no reason why not to be the best. Sad to say, but there are far too many “*average*” churches today. Jesus said of the church in Laodicean in **Revelation 3:16** “*So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*” Lukewarm may not mean average, but it certainly didn't leave a good taste in the mouth of Jesus.

Philippians 3:14 encourages believers to “*press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*” **Colossians 3:23** urges “*whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.*” These verses suggest a need for diligence and intentionality in all endeavors, not settling for mediocrity

Let me give you a picture of the average Southern Baptist Church. The average Southern Baptist Church:

- Has 381 members

- Of those 381 members, 110, or 29% do not live in the nearby community

- It takes 81 of those 381 members to win 1 person a year to Jesus Christ

- The average SBC baptizes only 8 people a year

- It takes 5 churches to support 1 missionary.

Many churches are like the airplane pilot who came on the loudspeaker and said, “*Ladies and gentlemen, I want you to know that our navigational equipment has malfunctioned. We don't know where we are; and, we don't know where we're going, but we're making excellent time.*”

In Christ Service.

Bro. Bobby



AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 3— Send Relief Sunday
- 4— Mission Board, 7:00 p.m. (Held @ The Way)
- 13— Back to School
- 24— Global Hunger Sunday



The ACP packets will be handed out at the August Mission Board Meeting. Churches are welcome to enter their information online or return the packet to the Baptist Center. I will be glad to enter your information for you. Usernames and passwords to enter in Workspace are provided in your packet if you choose the online method. The due date for completion is September 8th. Please don't hesitate to call me @ (270) 522-7066 with any questions or assistance. Thank you so much for your cooperation!

Shari

Please Remember

The Way Christian Youth Center has offered to host our August Mission Board Meeting. **We will meet at The Way, August 4, 7:00 p.m.** The Way will be providing light refreshments. See you there!

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY

Church	Regular	Special
Bethany	0	
Blue Spring	2,653.85	1,000.00
Buffalo	0	
Cadiz	819.54	
Canton	816.56	295.00
Cerulean	504.00	
Crossroads	283.33	
Delmont	665.60	500.00
Donaldson Creek	761.27	
East Cadiz	604.00	
Hurricane	400.00	
Liberty Point	1,076.78	1,320.00
Locust Grove	923.00	
Maple Grove	400.00	
New Hope	186.42	
New Jerusalem	100.00	
New Light	0	
Oak Grove	271.73	
Ponderosa	608.73	1,350.00
Rock Front	400.00	
Rocky Ridge	322.00	
South Union	214.20	
Wallonia	0	
Misc. Income		2,732.14
Total	12,011.01	7,197.14
		19,208.15
Interest NOW Acc.	2.12	
Deaf Ministry		250.00
Mev Fredenburg Mission Fund		6,947.14
Bust Maintenance Fund		0
Subtotals	12,013.13	7,197.14
Total income		\$19,210.27
Monthly expense		\$28,491.13

Regular Fund	
Beginning Balance	19,382.21
Interest Received	2.12
Gifts	12,210.01
Trans— Contingency Fund	(100.00)
Trans— Van Replacement Fund	
Trans— Building Maintenance Fund	(100.00)
Trans— Mev Fredenburg Fund	20,804.66
Expense Checks Written	(10,947.08)
Ending Balance	\$20,447.26
Treasurer: Louise Fuller 7/25/25	

Happy Birthday

Debra Hardy— 8/15
 Norman Cotton— 8/20
 Cody Choate— 8/28