

 Eastland began as a mission outreach from Metropolis First Baptist in June of 1955. They rented a vacant store building on the corner of 5th and Scott St., in Metropolis, for the purpose of conducting VBS. On the first day, forty-six enrolled and each day it grew in number with a final enrollment of 153! As a result of the VBS growth, First Baptist decided to establish a Mission Church and secured a house and lot at the corner of Third and Frelinghuysen Streets. The new church was named 3rd Street Chapel.

 In 1963, Bro. Louis Brinker became the pastor of the Third Street Chapel and led it to be organized into a church. On September 29, 1963, it became known as Eastland Baptist Church, named by the Loyalty Class of the Chapel. At the organizational service, fifty-six members of First Baptist signed the roll as charter members.

 In July of 1965, the members of Eastland voted to build an addition because of the need for more room, especially in the area of Sunday School. Then, again in 1967, another building program added more space. Eastland had a bus ministry that went all over parts of Southern Illinois and also in the Paducah, KY area. Eastland ranked in the top ten in Illinois for baptisms from 1965-1969.

 Today, Eastland Life Church is continuing to grow and reach people for Jesus under the direction of Pastor Brian Anderson, who was called as pastor in 2005. In recent years, Eastland has helped in organizing a church in Farmington, Missouri and has sponsored a church near Paris, TN. Currently, they sponsor 3 churches in Mexico, and 1 in Metropolis. Eastland also has a sister church named Overflow in McKenzie, Tennessee. The pastor of Overflow is Ryan Anderson, Brian and Robin’s son.

 We are so blessed to have Eastland Life Church in our association as we work together to reach the lost, both locally and around the world.

**Pastor & Wife Retreat**

**February 9th & 10th at Moors Resort**

**Executive Board Christmas Dinner and Meeting!**

Date: Monday, December 4, 2017, Location: Joppa Baptist

Time: 6:00 p.m. Meal (brief meeting & entertainment to follow)

Entertainment by Beth Clanahan

All pastors, board members, council members,

including their spouses, are invited to attend!

***Please RSVP by contacting the UBA Office by Nov. 30th.***

Attention Council Members: There will be a short Associational Council Meeting prior to the main meeting. This meeting will take place at 6:40 in one of thechurch classrooms.

**Church Leadership Training – Monday, January 29, 2018**

6:00pm meal, 6:45pm program “Making Meetings Work”

Leader: Jerry Day

RSVP by calling the UBA no later than Jan. 25th.

**The week of prayer for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering and International Missions is December 3-10. Through your giving, the International Mission Board sends missionaries to un-reached people groups around the world.**

 In 1918, Woman’s Missionary Union (WMU) named the annual Christmas Offering for International Missions after the woman who had urged them to start it. Well over 100 years ago, Lottie Moon, while serving in China, began writing letters challenging the American church to send and support more workers to go there. For 39 years, the Chinese people feared and rejected her, but she refused to leave. Many of the Chinese people eventually accepted her and some accepted her Savior.

 Lottie wrote letters home detailing China’s hunger for truth and the struggle of so few missionaries taking the gospel to the 472 million Chinese. She also shared the urgent need for more workers and for Southern Baptists to support them through prayer and giving. Disease, turmoil and lack of co-workers threatened to undo Lottie’s work, but she helped lay the foundation of what would become the modern Chinese church, one of the fastest-growing Christian movements in the world. Lottie died at the age of 72 – ill and in declining health after decades of ministering to her beloved Chinese, but her legacy lives on. Today, when gifts aren’t growing as quickly as the number of workers God is calling to the field, her call for sacrificial giving rings with more urgency than ever.

**PASTOR/WIFE/CHURCH STAFF BIRTHDAYS**

**Dec. 1 – Trad York, Waldo Baptist**

**Dec. 12 – Holly Blankenbaker, New Beginnings**

**Dec. 12 – John Windings, Metropolis First**

**Dec. 17 – Ben Hottel, Hillerman Baptist**

**Dec. 24 – Sara Forthman, New Hope Baptist**

**Dec. 25 – Janine Williams, Simpson Baptist**

**Jan. 3 – Terry Mathis, UBA Director of Missions**

**Jan. 26 – Matt Snell, Dixon Springs Baptist**

**PASTOR & WIFE ANNIVERSARIES**

**Dec. 24 – Jerry & Elaine Jackson, UBA Moderator**

**Jan. 21 – Marvin & Jill Ballard, Seven Mile Baptist**

**PASTOR CHURCH ANNIVERSARIES**

**December – David Siere, Brookport First, 2003**

 **Frank Forthman, Jr., New Hope, 2005**

**January – Terry Mathis, D.O.M., 1997**

 **David Wright, Joppa Missionary, 2001**

 **David Atwell, Waldo, 2001**

**Pastor of Eastland: Brian Anderson and his wife, Robin**

**This month’s featured church is:**

**Eastland Life Church**

***Church Contributions for Budget***

***(rec’d & deposited in October, 2017)***

Brookport First $ 487.35

County Line $ 400.00

Cypress First $ 54.00

Dixon Springs $ 192.00

Eastland Life Church $ 200.00

Hillerman Missionary $ 738.64

Immanuel $ 436.18

Joppa Missionary $ 826.93

Karnak First $ 1,283.07

Metropolis First $ 2,075.32

Mt. Zion $ 241.02

New Beginnings $ 0.00

New Hope $ 2,476.55

New Salem $ 50.00

Oak Grove $ 70.07

Revelation Road $ 17.00

Seven Mile $ 0.00

Simpson $ 100.00

Vienna First $ 866.66

Waldo $ 466.67

Weaver Creek $ 0.00