



# ♦ EBA LIFE ♦



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## Association Mission Strategist Corner

**Dr. Johnny Blevins**

August is here. Summer has flown by and, hopefully, cooler temperatures are close. As time speeds by, I am reminded of Paul's words to the Ephesians as he exhorts them to "*be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil*" (Ephesians 5:15-16). The call to make the most of our time is one we should take seriously. Time is our most important commodity. It is more important than money. It is also a limited commodity. At some

point our time on this earth will end. As such, we should live wisely and make the most of our time.

The primary way we do that is by doing God's will. In the next verse Paul says, "*So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is*" (Ephesians 5:17). The wise person makes the most of their time by understanding the will of the Lord. I believe it is implied in that verse that understanding will lead to doing God's will. So, if we are wise, we will spend each day seeking God's will so we will make the most of our time.

One area of God's will for our lives is to be on mission. Before Jesus ascended to heaven, he instructed us to "*go therefore and make disciples of all the nations*" (Matthew 28:19). So, as followers of Jesus, if we are going to make the most of our time we should be spending it on that mission. As such, I want to challenge you to join us in some of our disciple-making mission opportunities coming up in our association.

We need people to join our mission trip to Baltimore on October 22-26. There will be opportunity to make disciples through many avenues. We will be assisting Graffiti Church in hosting a Fall Festival as well as ministering to the community in other ways. In addition, there is construction work to do to help complete their building program. It's a great opportunity to be on mission and use your time wisely. The cost is minimal (approximately \$50) but the value will be great. To ask questions or to sign up you can call the associational office (336-835-8433) or email us ([elkinbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:elkinbaptist@gmail.com)).

We also need volunteers for our Toy Store. It will be held December 4-5. We, of course, need people to donate toys but also their time. We need teams to help us set up and take down. We need people willing to serve during the event to welcome and assist those who are shopping. And we need people willing to serve as counselors who will sit down with the clients and lovingly share the Gospel with them. There's a need for all of our churches to be involved and a place for everyone to serve. It is a definite way to make the most of your time. I hope you and your church plan on participating as we are on mission together.

With Paul, I want to encourage you to live wisely by making the most of your time by seeking and doing the will of God. As you do that, I believe God will lead you to be on mission. I hope you will join us on this journey.

*Johnny*



## EBA Churches

Cool Springs  
East Elkin  
Elkin Valley  
Friendship  
Macedonia  
Mineral Springs  
Mount Pleasant  
Pleasant Grove  
Pleasant Hill  
Pleasant Home  
Pleasant Ridge  
Pleasant View  
Poplar Springs  
Rock Creek  
Ronda First  
Union Hill  
West Elkin

## Pastor/Church Anniversaries

### August

Ronnie McMillan completes **15** years as pastor of Ronda First

Tony McCann completes **10** years as pastor of West Elkin



For the month of **August** pray for these churches as well as the pastors & their families:

**Pleasant Ridge—John & Cindy Newton**  
**Pleasant View—Jerry Fugate**

## 2025 TOY STORE

### “CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST”

The Toy Store Team needs your help ~ please promote our toy store during the month of August! Use this time to collect all new toys & money during that month. Bring what you collect to the Elkin Association office in September.

Also, there is a change in the toy store. Starting this year, the association office will NOT be holding the toy store at our building. We will be asking churches to host the store from now on! This year, Elkin Valley Baptist Church agreed to host our 2025 toy store & it will be held on December 4-5.

INCOME	June	Year-To-Date
Church Receipts	4,087.12	21,442.55
Love Offerings	0.00	0.00
Designated Donation/Gift for New EBA Sign	550.00	550.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	0.00	1.06
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4,637.12</b>	<b>21,993.61</b>
EXPENSE	June	Year-To-Date
Associational Communications	0.00	150.00
New Elkin Association Sign	621.69	621.69
Ministry Action Teams	0.00	0.00
Associational Office Expenses	1,398.19	9,332.48
Associational Mission Strategist Compensation	1,787.50	8,612.50
Other Staff Compensation	221.10	2,830.14
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>4,028.48</b>	<b>21,546.81</b>
NET INCOME	June	Year-To-Date
Total Income	4,637.12	21,993.61
Less Total Expense	4,028.48	21,546.81
Gain or (Loss)	608.64	446.80
Checking	10,748.50	
Money Market/Designated	31,114.72	
<b>TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	<b>41,863.22</b>	

## Mission Team Needed

If you are interested in going on a mission trip to Graffiti Church in Baltimore October 22-26, call the Elkin Association office at 336-835-8433 or email them at: [elkinbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:elkinbaptist@gmail.com).

We need people to help with Graffiti Church fall festival and construction work.

The cost is *approximately* \$50 per person.

## Fall Semi-Annual Session of the Elkin Baptist Association November 6, 2025 Union Hill Baptist Church

Our sessions are not only for messengers and pastors, but also for our lay people to attend!

Rev. James Safrit, pastor at Pleasant Grove Church, will be bringing the evening message.

Meal—To be determined at a later time.

## Executive Meeting

The Elkin Association will be having an executive team meeting on October 2 at 6:30 pm. This meeting will be held in the basement of the association office.

If you were elected to serve as your church representative, please plan on attending this meeting.