

HomeMission Report

OUR TEAM. YOUR HOME. GOD'S MISSION.

ENCOURAGE. EQUIP. EVANGELIZE.

Church Spotlight



**Cox Boulevard &
Killen churches of Christ**

Cox Boulevard church of Christ is in **Sheffield, Alabama**. This active congregation conducts a soul winning campaign for Christ each year. This year, they will be working with the **Barker Mill church of Christ** in **Clarksville, Tennessee**. They also are the overseeing congregation for the **Revive us Again Workshop** held at **Heritage Christian University**.

They have been a great supporter and inspiration to **HomeMission**. Also involved in the Revive us again workshop is the **Killen church of Christ** in **Killen, Alabama**. They also are a generous sponsor of **HomeMission**. They go to congregations during the summer and assist with **Vacation Bible School**. This year, they are working with the **Waverly church of Christ** in **Waverly, Tennessee**. Each year, they ask that **HomeMission** find a congregation for them to assist in church growth. I recently saw members of the **Killen church** in **Michigan**. They help support the **Rogers City church of Christ**, and attended worship with us in **Harbor Springs, Michigan**. Special thanks to both these sister congregations who do so much work in the kingdom of our Christ.

HOMEMISSION444@GMAIL.COM | HOMEMISSION.ORG | 4100 McNIEL AVE. WICHITA FALLS, TX 76308

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2023 Baptisms reported
by HM churches: 134



Our Mission:

HomeMission sets out to train evangelists, rescue struggling congregations, provide onsite training, follow up disaster relief, provide leadership training, send out preachers and resources, and connect congregations and organizations.

From the Director

Dear loved ones in the Lord,

After a year of planning, the first **Revive us Again Shoals** is ready to go.

Many wonderful speakers, teachers, and brethren have worked toward this event: **June 14-17, 2023**. It will be held at the **Heritage Christian University Campus**. They have generously offered the use of their campus for this event. The **Cox Boulevard** elders have agreed to oversee this work. It has been a privilege to work with these brethren in **Alabama**. Pray for the edification of the church to the glory of God.

Special note: For the next two months, we are trying to **raise \$36,000** in order to add another team member to **HomeMission**. He will be communicating our message in the Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas area. If **HomeMission** is to continue, we desperately need this now.

Thank you for your consideration and your participation in the gospel of Christ.

May the Lord bless and keep you all,
Love, **John Orr**

Statistics for May 2023

By the numbers

Baptisms reported by churches this year—134

Churches assisted by Homemission in May—19

Students enrolled in School of evangelism (Night and day) 16

Please keep **HomeMission** in mind when estate planning. Your donations will leave a legacy that will last many lifetimes.

We also encourage you to check with your employer about matching donations to 501c3 organizations. If they participate in matching funds, you can make a tax-deductible donation to **HomeMission** that will be increased by the generosity of your employer.

Visit homemission.org/donate to learn more about how you can support this mission!

West Freeway School of Evangelism



VISIT US ONLINE!

wfsoe.school

May has been very eventful at the school of evangelism. Besides following up on the many converts and contacts made during the April campaign, **Bill Hardy** taught the **Gospel Sharing Ministries method of evangelism**, emphasizing the importance of after care for new converts. He was also able to lend his expertise as not only a gospel preacher but as a psychologist. His lessons on how to recognize what needs to be referred for clinical treatment were particularly valuable for our evangelists.

We are entering our **summer break** but will resume with day classes, evening classes and distance learning in mid-August. **Pray for us.**

Chris Graham, Director

Glenda Graham, Secretary

Director of Operations Report



**Lassen St. church of Christ,
Vallejo CA** (Launch workshop pic)



Jim with elders **Tom
Cunningham(Karen)** and
Stinn McDaniel (Lindita)



Ray Gordon & family (new
preacher at **Bourbonnais (IL)
church of Christ**



**Waverly (TN) church of
Christ, Missions Sunday**

It was a tremendous blessing to be able to visit the **Lassen St. church of Christ in Vallejo CA**, and conduct a Launch workshop. The congregation was engaged and eager to listen, and the eldership has already begun moving on action steps. It is exciting to see what great plans God has for this wonderful, loving group of believers. Among notable evangelist-related activity was follow up with the **Bourbonnais congregation**, who secured a full time preacher (**Ray Gordon**), starting the first of June. The elders are eager to initiate the Launch tools, and brother Ray will be a welcome addition to this warm and caring congregation. It is noteworthy that prior to being hired, he attended the **HomeMission** Launch at the Bourbonnais congregation in April.

Aside from evangelist-related activity, May was very busy with the final details of **RUA Shoals** preparations. There will be more to say at a later time, but we have been blessed with a fully engaged overseeing church (**Cox Blvd church of Christ**) and a wonderful host venue (**Heritage Christian University**). Much work was done in May to move us toward a successful RUA workshop. All glory to God.

From the Field



John & Susie Orr finished their launch workshop at **Hopewell Church of Christ** on Wednesday, May 17th. They've set goals and started working on the **Habanero Visitation ministry**. Before class a group of volunteers started work on the Habanero Visitation ministry by going through **church directories** and **visitation cards**. John & Susie are looking forward to great things from this sweet group!



On May 15th, **John & Susie** had lunch with two of the **HomeMission** advancement team members, **Alan Stephens** and **Don Lallathin**. That night, John presented the **Habanero Visitation ministry**. We had two **HomeMission** couples come to that session, **Don & Phyllis Lallathin** and **Dave and Carolyn Miller** as well as **Alan Stephens**. The next morning, they met with two elders from **North End Church of Christ** and presented **HomeMission**.



John & Susie Orr finished their HomeMission launch at **Forney (TX) church of Christ** on Wednesday, May 10th. This close-knit group is excited about the goals they've set for the future. Thanks to **Team Sew** at **Faith Village Church of Christ** for donating items for their **Habanero ministry**.



John & Susie Orr wrapped up their weekend on Sunday, May 21st at the **church of Christ in Harbor Springs**. Campaign members from **Rogers City church of Christ** came over with the preacher to encourage the members here. The workers are from **Killen church of Christ** in **Killen, Alabama**, one of our **HomeMission** support churches. The singing was great and the Harbor Springs members enjoyed having so many there!

From the Field



West Freeway church of Christ had another baptism on May 3rd! A young man, **Nicholas Emmanuel**, came earlier this week and asked for a drink of water and was asked about his salvation. He came back to the building and had a gospel presentation that night. This makes **11 baptisms** and **2 restorations** since that church's door knocking started.



Bridge Avenue church of Christ is rejoicing! They have a new brother in Christ! **John Hallum** obeyed the gospel of Jesus on May 10th and was baptized for the forgiveness of his sins.

John has been driving brother **Juan W.** to church for a while and staying for worship. Brother Juan is in a wheelchair and needs a driver to get to church. Juan's faith and joy regardless of his circumstances is a great encouragement to us.

Andy Downing studied with **John Hallum** using the **Back to the Bible booklets** and then went on to study Acts chapter 2. When he was done, he knew what he needed to do. Praise God!



John & Susie had a unique experience on Sunday, May 28th. John presented **HomeMission** at the **Everman Church of Christ in Fort Worth** during class and preached a sermon on sowing, watering, and God giving the increase.

Since the church is bilingual (**Spanish and English**) he had an interpreter. The singing was unique in that each person sang in their own language while the song leader sang in Spanish. The church members were super friendly and welcoming.



We had a new experience at the **Church of Christ in Harbor Springs, Michigan**. Representatives from 5 area churches met, and we presented a day long **HomeMission** workshop using components of our usual 4-day Launch.

Each congregation came away with ideas for church growth, donations from **Team Sew** from **Faith Village Church of Christ** in **Wichita Falls, TX**, a Habanero Visitation kit, workbooks, and more. Thanks to **Valarie Hosea** from Harbor Springs who planned and coordinated the event. Each attendee also was given a **handmade quilt** made by a local member.

The next day we met with the church in Harbor Springs and made future plans. Churches represented in addition to Harbor Springs were **Alpena Church of Christ**, **Cheboygan Church of Christ**, **Atlanta Church of Christ**, and **Beulah Church of Christ**.

Lord willing, **Revive Us Again, Shoals** will be here soon!
If you're within driving distance,
please come!



REVIVE US AGAIN
SHOALS

A HOME MISSION EVANGELISM
& CHURCH GROWTH WORKSHOP

THEME:
HERE AM I
Send Me

JUNE 14-17, 2023
Wed - Fri: 8AM - 8PM | Sat: 8AM - Noon
FRI NIGHT: YOUTH NIGHT & BBQ MEAL FOR ALL

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
3625 Helton Dr. | Florence, AL 35630
(under the oversight of the Cox Boulevard church of Christ, Sheffield, AL)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

KIRK BROTHERS | KYLE BUTT | MATT COOK
WILLIE FRANKLIN | MITCH HENRY
PHIL SANDERS | DEWAYNE TAPSCOTT | ROB WHITACRE

Class Teachers & Topics Listed on Back

Evangelist Reports

JIM LUCAS, JONATHAN ORR & JOHN ORR

April 30-May 3: Launch workshop: **Lassen St. church of Christ (Vallejo CA)**

May 7: **Tiplersville (MS) HomeMission** followup

May 16: Visit to **Faith Village church of Christ to the HomeMission** office

May 21: **Waverly (TN) church of Christ** Missions Sunday - morning sermon, **HomeMission** booth display

Jim Lucas

May was another great month to be a part of **HomeMission**. A lot of planning and man hours go into getting ready for workshops, **Revive Us Again** events, and just every day ideas and happenings as we work to improve every aspect of how we function in **HomeMission**. Many people put in countless hours behind the scenes to make sure all of these things come together smoothly, and most of the time these things go unnoticed and unheralded. But stepping into these different roles this month has really given me an increased appreciation for all the work that goes in behind the scenes by people like **Karen Jones, Becky Swaim, Fara Robertson, April Askew**, and many others who help organize everything we do. We are thankful to all our staff involved in making the evangelism part of **HomeMission** workable and effective!

Jonathan Orr

We began May finishing the campaign at the **West Freeway church of Christ** in **White Settlement, Texas**. 11 souls were baptized into Christ with one restoration. All of these have mentors who are following up with them in study and in encouragement. We then went on to work with the **Forney church of Christ**. This small congregation has three elders & a loving and active group. We did a launch session there. Then, we went to **West Virginia** to work with the **Hopewell church of Christ** in **Wasington county**. This congregation of 100 has 4 elders. Next year will be 150 years in existence. As they were building their original building, someone came by and asked them what they were doing. They responded, "we are building a new church building". The passerby said, "I hope you do well". The name stuck and they have used that name to identify the Lord's church in that area. Again we did a launch session. It went "well", we "hope"! From there we traveled to **northern Michigan** to work with the **Harbor Springs church of Christ**. They are currently down to 3 ladies. But they are trying very hard. One woman is in a study with 19 people at a senior center. We left materials that will help, and in God's timing, many will obey the gospel. We also did the Launch session at their building and several of the **Northern Michigan churches of Christ** attended on Saturday. Besides the Harbor Springs church, we held the launch session for representatives of the **Alpena church of Christ, the Cheboygan church of Christ, the Atlanta church of Christ, the Beulah church of Christ**; all from Northern Michigan. Then on Sunday, we repeated the launch for the **Rogers City church of Christ** with the **Killen church (Killen Alabama)** attending. After this, we travelled to Nashville to meet with some brethren and the elders at the **Concord Road church of Christ in Brentwood Tennessee**. Finally, we went to the **Everman church of Christ** in the **Fort Worth area**. They are a mixed language church with English and Spanish. I had an interpreter while I preached and taught class. We will set up a launch session with them later.

John Orr