

Dear Friends;

Our **2023 SWORD OF THE LORD CONFERENCE, September 25-26** is one month away, and this year's conference is promising to be another good one!

This will be my 30th year as Pastor of Mountain Lake Independent Baptist Church and our 29th year hosting the Western Maryland Sword of the Lord Conference. It would be a blessing to me to have you be a part of this special year!

I trust you already have marked on your calendar! Our lineup this year is power packed, and I believe we have a number of events that will be a blessing and a great help to you, your church, and your workers!

Dr. Shelton Smith, editor of the Sword of the Lord, has been with us each year and is always such a great blessing. Our folks love Dr. Smith like he is one of our own. The Sword has been a very positive influence in my life personally and here at Mtn. Lake in so many ways for many years.

Brother Byron Foxx is founder of Bible Truth Music, Inc. and has been with us many times in the past. He is a tremendously talented musician who loves the Lord with all his heart and has produced some of the most soul-stirring music available. We use his material almost exclusively and have for many years.

Dr. Jeff Fugate pastors the great Clays Mill Baptist Church in Lexington, KY. Clays Mill is a leading church among Independent Fundamental Baptist churches. Dr. Fugate is a powerful preacher and is a great encouragement to many preachers. God is using Brother Fugate in churches and conferences like ours all across our country and I sincerely believe you will find him to be a great help to you in your ministry.

Let me encourage you to bring your family, staff members and church workers. Make this more than just another meeting, make it a time to get away and refresh and recharge. September in Garrett County is absolutely beautiful with the leaves at full color, the active wildlife, and the cool evenings. There is so much to do and see, we sincerely hope that you will make the effort to be a part of this exciting event!

Tuesday Evening at 5:00 p.m. Brother Byron Foxx will hold a special session for your music people. This will be a practical help for song leaders, choir members, musicians, and anyone involved in your church's music ministry.

Then, that evening we invite everyone to join the COMBINED CHOIR with Brother Byron Foxx so please bring the members of your music ministry as they will enjoy the fellowship and opportunity to spend time with Brother Foxx.

The conference begins Monday evening at 7:00 p.m., continues on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday morning begins with a continental breakfast at 9:00 a.m., and we have a great chicken dinner planned for lunch after the morning services.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call me at 301-334-3234 or 301-616-0038, or check out our web site at www.mlibc.org. I am looking forward to seeing you.

May the Lord richly bless you and your ministry!

Sincerely, your friend,