

Minutes of the 101st Annual Session of the MoArk Association of General Baptists

When Convened March 21, 2015 at the Open Door Church, Holcomb, MO
Kenny Burns, Moderator • Chris Brantley, Vice Moderator
Lisa Hargrave, Clerk • Bryan Johnson, Assistant Clerk

Visit the MoArk Association website www.moarkgeneralbaptist.org

Send announcements or information for the website to: clerk@moarkgeneralbaptist.org

Association Clerk: Lisa Hargrave, PO Box 243, Rector, AR 72461, clerk@moarkgeneralbaptist.org

Presbytery Clerk: Danny Dortch, 1981 Greene Road 807, Rector, AR 72461, dandortch@gmail.com

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Minutes of the 2014 MoArk Association

On Saturday, March 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. Bro. Kenny Burns opened the MoArk Association meeting with a welcome to the 91 registered attendees and with prayer. The business session was opened with the presentation of the written reports from the MoArk Committees. A motion and second was made to accept the reports. This was carried.

The next item of business was the election of Officers for the 2016 MoArk Association. A motion and second was made to elect Josh Carpenter as the 2016 Vice Moderator, Lisa Hargrave as the 2016 Clerk/Treasurer, and Bryan Johnson as the 2016 Assistant Clerk/Treasurer. This was carried.

The moderator recognized and thanked the 2015 officers and the 2015 host church. The business session was closed.

Bro. Kenny Burns introduced Doug Maers of Walk Thru the Old Testament and turned the service over to him. During lunch, the 2015 Memorial Video was presented. The seminar concluded in the afternoon, and the 2015 MoArk Association was dismissed.

THE CONSTITUTION OF MOARK ASSOCIATION

1. This association, when properly organized, shall have a moderator, vice moderator and clerk/treasurer, who shall be chosen by vote of the members present. The duty of the moderator shall be to keep the association in order, state questions fairly, and take the vote; to have liberty of speech as other members provided his seat be filled; to have no vote unless the members be equally divided in which case, he shall have the deciding vote. The duty of the vice moderator shall be to serve as moderator, automatically, if for any reason the moderator is unable to serve. The duty of the clerk/treasurer shall be to keep a fair and accurate record of all proceedings of the association and to take care of all association monies for which he/she is assigned responsibility and to give an annual report. A second vice moderator shall be elected along with the other officers to become vice moderator at the end of the session.
2. This association shall be composed of all ordained persons and such delegates as shall be chosen from the churches to represent them in the association.
3. Each church shall be entitled to three (3) delegates. A quorum shall consist of the delegates representing six (6) or more churches of MoArk Association.
4. Letters from the churches sent to the association shall contain the following information: (1) the number of members presently in fellowship, (2) the number received, (3) the number baptized, (4) the number dismissed, (5) and the names of the deceased since the last regular meeting of the association. Other information may be requested by the association.
5. We agree to do all business by vote of the majority of the members present, except in the reception of members, which shall be unanimous. Since the association is made up of churches, the vote of one delegate may not prevent the reception of a church into membership. A majority of the delegates of one church may prevent acceptance of a new member. In case of a negative vote, the association has the right to require that a reason be given. It has the power to determine the validity of that stated reason. The association may override the negative vote if it determines that an injustice is about to be done.

6. This association shall mother a Presbytery consisting of ordained persons of the member churches and we suggest it meet twice a year.
7. We shall receive no church into fellowship with us who has been excluded from any association until the church has made an honest effort to satisfy the offended body.
8. In a situation where a difference arises between two members in a church and the church acts upon it and settles it, further action by the association is prohibited. However, in the event that any party be aggrieved, that party shall have the right to ask permission of the church to bring the matter to the association for settlement.
9. Any member in good standing shall have the right to act as moderator of the association, when elected by the body.
10. Any minister coming from another association and accepting the pastorate of General Baptist church or churches that belong to this association shall at the first regular session of the Presbytery thereafter have his credentials endorsed by said Presbytery, except in case of loss or destruction, in which case the Presbytery may extend time for recovery of credentials or the securing of a reissue from the ordaining Presbytery or some other Presbytery to which the applicant has subsequently belonged. In case of neglect or persistent refusal to comply with the provision, he will be considered out of order and his work rejected.
11. Any church desiring the ordination of a minister must make application to the Presbytery in writing with recommendation of the same.
12. Any church desiring the ordination of a deacon shall make formal request to the Presbytery for its approval. If the Presbytery approves, he may be ordained at that sitting.
13. Each church that represents in the association shall annually pay per member the amount of dues set by this association.
14. This constitution may be altered by a majority vote of three-fourths of the member composing this body. Any member church that becomes dissatisfied with any part of this constitution or with the Statements of Faith shall be entitled to a letter of dismissal.
15. This association will meet annually on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in March at 9:00 a.m. The exception being when Easter falls on the fourth Sunday in March. In this case the Association will meet on the Saturday before the third Sunday in March. (This provision may be changed by a resolution at any sitting of MoArk Association.)
16. The Executive Board of the MoArk Association of General Baptists shall operate in lieu of the Association when it is not in session to transact business on behalf of the Association. The Association shall have the right to vote on the dissolution of all or substantially all of the assets of the Association and the acquisition of real property and related indebtedness.
17. This body shall be guided by the General Baptist Doctrine and Usage and Worker's Handbook where no rules are found within the framework of this constitution.

MOARK ASSOCIATION RESOLUTIONS

1. Be it resolved that we ask each church to pay out of its treasury \$6.00 per member association dues for its total attendance and that the Clerk send a letter of reminder that the churches have their reports, dues and \$35.00 for meals sent in before the first week in March. In that letter the Association Clerk will advise the various Church Clerks where this money shall be sent. Any church desiring the Association or Presbytery should make that request in writing to the Association Clerk.
2. Be it resolved that the printing of the Association minutes will be at the discretion of the Executive Board regarding number and format, in order to improve efficiency.
3. Be it resolved that we pay the Associational Clerk/Treasurer \$800.00 for his/her services.

4. Be it resolved that we encourage all churches in the MoArk Association to contribute 2% of church income to Camp Allen (if at all possible). This is to be sent to Camp Allen, HC 1 Box 1590, Greenville, MO 63944.
5. Be it resolved that we encourage each church to pay all or at least one-half of the tuition for each camper attending Camp Allen.
6. Be it resolved that we encourage each church to invite a representative from Oakland City University to come and share their college activities.
7. Be it resolved that we give our host church a standing vote of thanks for their splendid work in entertaining the Association, and that the Moderator name the host church.
8. Be it resolved that we give the officers and all who participate in today's program a standing vote of thanks for their faithful service.
9. Be it resolved that the delegation of each church bring to their church leaders or church business meeting a request to support MoArk Home Missions with 2% of church income (if at all possible). Send contributions to Joyce Hughes, 18979 St Rt J, Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-7170.
10. Be it resolved that we encourage all churches in the MoArk Association to use Stinson Press for all Literature purchases and printing needs, if cost effective.
11. Be it resolved that we recommend that our MoArk churches become involved in a "Mission Blitz" ministry in each church's community.
12. Be it resolved that the presiding moderator of the Association will be the alternate delegate for the Council of Association MoArk representatives.

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
July 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
at First General Baptist Church, Kennett, MO**

The following members were in attendance:

Kenny Burns, Moderator
Mark Book, CE Board Rep
Bryan Johnson, Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund Treasurer
Wanda Britt, Member at Large
Danny Dortch, Presbytery Clerk
Paula Richardson, Nominating Committee
Mary Haywood, Member at Large
Wanda Britt, Member at Large
Joyce Hughes, MoArk Missions Rep
Kevin True, Council of Associations Rep
Lisa Hargrave, Association Clerk

Opening prayer was given by Moderator Kenny Burns. The meeting was called to order and members welcomed.

Bro. Burns asked for brief report from the churches represented at the meeting.

Board Reports and New Business:

- The minutes of the previous meeting were examined. A motion and second was made to accept the minutes as presented. This was carried.

- The current financial report of the MoArk Association was examined. A motion and second was made to accept the report as presented. This was carried.
- The CE board presented a written and oral report. A motion and second was made to accept the CE report. This was carried.
- The Missions board presented a written and oral report. A motion and second was made to accept the Missions report. This was carried.
- A written and oral report was given from the Council of Associations representatives. A motion and second was made to accept the C of A report. This was carried.
- Discussion was held concerning the three positions vacated by the passing of Bro. Frank Brown.
- A motion and second was made that Bro. Bryan Johnson will fill the unexpired term of Bro. Frank Brown on the Nominating Committee. This was carried.
- A motion and second was made for Bro. Marston Carpenter to fill the unexpired member at large term of Bro. Frank Brown. This was carried.
- A motion and second was made to accept the invitation of The Open Door Church for the March 21, 2014 Association meeting.
- A motion and second was made to authorize the MoArk Association Clerk/Treasurer to adjust the reporting form to include the meal fee and receive those funds to be issued to the host church prior to the annual meeting. The treasurer will send the host church \$750 for meal expenses prior to the Association meeting. The meal fee to be requested from each church will be \$35.
- A motion and second was made to accept the invitation of the Bethany General Baptist Church for the March 20, 2014 Presbytery meeting.
- A motion and second was made to accept the proposal and provide funding for the Walk Thru the Old Testament program for the 2015 Association. This was carried.
- A motion and second was made to adjourn. The Executive Board meeting was closed in prayer by Charles Richardson.

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
November 4, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.
at First General Baptist Church, Kennett, MO**

The following members were in attendance:

Kenny Burns, Moderator
 Mark Book, CE Board Rep
 Bryan Johnson, Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund Treasurer
 Wanda Britt, Member at Large
 Danny Dortch, Presbytery Clerk
 Paula Richardson, Nominating Committee
 Mary Haywood, Member at Large
 Wanda Britt, Member at Large
 Marston Carpenter, Member at Large
 Kevin True, Council of Associations Rep
 Lisa Hargrave, Association Clerk

Opening prayer was given by Moderator Kenny Burns. The meeting was called to order and members welcomed.

Board Reports and New Business:

- The current financial report of the MoArk Association was examined. A motion and second was made to accept the report as presented. This was carried.
- The minutes of the previous meeting were examined. A motion and second was made to accept the minutes as presented. This was carried.

- The CE board presented a written and oral report. A motion and second was made to accept the CE report. This was carried.
- An oral report was given concerning Camp Allen activities.
- An oral report was given from the Council of Associations representatives. A motion and second was made to accept the C of A report. This was carried.
- No news to report with the Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund.
- The Nominating Committee gave an oral report. A motion and second was made to accept the report. This was carried.
- An oral report was received from the Missions Board. A motion and second was made to accept the report. This was carried.
- Reports were received from the churches represented in the meeting.
- A motion and second was made to adjourn. The Executive Board meeting was closed in prayer by Bryan Johnson.

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
March 3, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.
at First General Baptist Church, Kennett, MO**

The following members were in attendance:

Kenny Burns, Moderator
 Mark Book, CE Board Rep
 Bryan Johnson, Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund Treasurer
 Danny Dortch, Presbytery Clerk
 Joyce Hughes, MoArk Missions
 Mark Walker, Presbytery Moderator
 Paula Richardson, Nominating Committee
 Mary Haywood, Member at Large
 Marston Carpenter, Member at Large
 Kevin True, Council of Associations Rep
 Kim Hellebusch, Youth Director
 Lisa Hargrave, Association Clerk

Opening prayer was given by Bryan Johnson. The meeting was called to order and members welcomed.

Board Reports and New Business:

- The minutes of the previous meeting were examined. A motion and second was made to accept the minutes as presented. This was carried.
- The current financial report of the MoArk Association was examined. A motion and second was made to accept the report as presented. This was carried.
- A motion and second was made to make the following updates to the Resolutions:
 1. Change the \$20 meal fee to \$35.
 4. Change the addressee name to Camp Allen, instead of Junior Burnett
 12. Delete the following: “and the presiding vice moderator of the Association will be the alternate delegate for the Camp Allen Board MoArk representatives.”
 This was carried.
- A motion and second was made to accept the written Nominating Committee Report. This was carried.
- The MoArk Mission board presented a written report. A motion and second was made to accept the report. This was carried.

- The Christian Education Board presented a written report. A motion and second was made to accept the report. This was carried.
- The Christian Education Board requested an increase in the disbursement amount from the annual dues of the MoArk Association. A motion and second was made to increase the disbursement amount to 20% for the CE Board. This was carried.
- A motion and second was made to accept the written Youth report. This was carried.
- A motion and second was made to accept the written Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund report. This was carried.
- A written report was given from the Council of Associations representatives. A motion and second was made to accept the C of A report. This was carried.
- A prayer request was presented from the family of Chris Brantley. The prayer was led by Mark Book.
- Oral reports were received from churches represented at the meeting.
- Dismissal prayer was given by Kim Hellebusch

MoArk Financial Report January 1, 2014-December 31, 2014

Date	Num	Description	Memo	Amount	
		Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2014			\$18,869.61
1/7/2014	496	Clerk Fees		(\$800.00)	\$18,069.61
2/6/2014	DEP	Church Dues		\$3,596.00	\$21,665.61
2/6/2014	DEP	Presbytery Website 1/2 support		\$150.00	\$21,815.61
3/5/2014	DEP	Church Dues		\$3,888.00	\$25,703.61
3/22/2014	497	Dr. Franklin Dumond		(\$300.00)	\$25,403.61
3/22/2014	498	Laurie Wall		(\$300.00)	\$25,103.61
3/22/2014	499	Tyler Feller		(\$300.00)	\$24,803.61
3/22/2014	500	VOID	Void	\$0.00	\$24,803.61
3/22/2014	501	Roger Levan		(\$100.00)	\$24,703.61
3/22/2014	502	Josh Carpenter		(\$250.00)	\$24,453.61
4/4/2014	503	Reimbursement Lisa Hargrave	Copy expense for Assoc.	(\$117.58)	\$24,336.03
4/8/2014	DEP	Church Dues		\$2,034.00	\$26,370.03
4/15/2014	DEP	Church Dues		\$780.00	\$27,150.03
4/15/2014	504	MoArk Youth	20% of Incoming Dues	(\$2,059.60)	\$25,090.43
4/15/2014	505	MoArk Missions Board	19% of Incoming Dues	(\$1,956.62)	\$23,133.81
4/15/2014	506	MoArk Christian Education Board	15% of Incoming Dues	(\$1,544.77)	\$21,589.04
4/15/2014	507	Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund	2% of Incoming Dues	(\$205.96)	\$21,383.08
5/12/2014	508	Camp Allen	Gift 10% of Incoming Dues	(\$1,029.80)	\$20,353.28
4/15/2014	509	Reimbursement Kevin True	C of A Meeting Expenses	(\$185.00)	\$20,168.28
4/15/2014	510	General Association Dues	75¢ per member	(\$1,282.50)	\$18,885.78
6/12/2014	DEP	Refund: Clay County Electric		\$24.92	\$18,910.70
7/11/2014	511	Walk Thru The Bible	Deposit for Spring 2015 Association	(550.00)	\$18,360.70
11/24/2014	512	My Church Website	Association Website Annual Fee	(309.00)	\$18,051.70

2014 Church Growth Reports

Church	Total Members Last Year	Conversions	Baptism	Deaths	Total Members This Year	Worship Attendance
Bethany	103	3	3	4	94	89
Blue Cane	13	0	0	0	13	13
Blue Cross	21	0	3	1	22	28
Calls Chapel	18	1	0	0	18	17
Campbell First	87					
Cappadocia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corning First	55	9	9	2	42	55
Forest Grove	76	4	2	0	72	65
Grace United	132	10	8	2	138	130
Gravel Hill	10	0	0	0	10	10
Hitts Chapel	107	1	1	0	108	124
Hopewell	30	0	0	2	30	19
Johnson's Chapel	63	3	0	0	64	31
Kennett First	38	1	1	4	34	40
Lynn Oak	80					
Malden First	130	12	14	3	137	196
Maple Grove	18	2	2	0	18	18
Marmaduke First	55	0	0	1	55	27
Morris Chapel	15	0	0	1	14	9
Mt. Zion	19	0	0	0	20	21
Open Door	43	38	28	0	52	78
Piggott First	130	4	6	6	112	145
Rector First	201	12	7	3	181	126
South Canaan	59	0	2	3	58	34
Southaven	43	12	4	3	45	64
Stanfield	35	0	0	1	36	40
Sunnyvale	109	2	1	2	123	108
Trailers Chapel	20	1	2	1	21	18
Union Home						

2014 Church Financial Reports

Church	Dues	Sr. Pastor Pay Package	Christian Education	Evangelism	Missions	Unified Giving	Other Expenses	Total Expenses	Total Income
Bethany	564.00	\$42,980.00	\$12,694.00	\$21,886.00	\$6,960.00	\$4,806.00	\$54,431.00	\$143,757.00	\$124,294.00
Blue Cane	78.00	\$7,800.00	\$434.50	\$600.00	\$5,787.00	\$1,800.00	\$3,260.59	\$19,682.09	\$19,627.53
Blue Cross	132.00	\$7,200.00	\$932.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$104.00	\$0.00	\$8,236.59	\$18,246.87
Calls Chapel	108.00	\$10,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$10,852.37	\$22,452.37	\$24,304.00
Campbell First	528.00								
Corning First	252.00	\$14,715.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,275.00	\$5,089.00	\$30,450.00	\$53,029.00	\$53,029.00
Forest Grove	432.00	\$12,000.00	\$3,234.32	\$0.00	\$5,082.42	\$2,234.95	\$13,472.50	\$36,024.19	\$64,550.16
Grace United	828.00	\$68,000.00	\$18,910.00	\$7,760.00	\$1,200.00	\$8,738.82	\$30,000.00	\$134,608.82	\$193,931.54
Gravel Hill	60.00	\$6,500.00	\$387.00	\$0.00	\$1,552.00	\$1,150.00	\$500.00	\$10,089.00	\$31,695.00
Hitts Chapel	648.00	\$38,020.00	\$4,281.85	\$17,067.44	\$24,509.00	\$10,938.00	\$90,631.89	\$185,448.18	\$195,555.10
Hopewell	180.00	\$9,300.00	\$1,688.88	\$0.00	\$175.73	\$0.00	\$24,644.41	\$35,809.02	\$0.00
Johnson's Chapel	384.00	\$18,550.00	\$3,597.17	\$5,930.30	\$8,519.40	\$5,312.75	\$24,474.58	\$66,384.20	\$72,633.42
Kennett First	204.00	\$20,800.00	\$2,672.46	\$8,389.80	\$1,950.00	\$7,503.11	\$30,279.13	\$71,594.50	\$80,895.08
Lynn Oak	522.00								
Malden First	822.00	\$66,973.00	\$17,900.00	\$4,160.00	\$3,608.00	\$6,694.00	\$123,398.00	\$222,733.00	\$222,733.00
Maple Grove	108.00	\$3,750.00	\$957.26	\$300.00	\$7,300.00	\$2,365.70	\$6,197.78	\$20,870.74	\$17,990.70
Marmaduke First	330.00	\$7,800.00	\$722.07	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$600.00	\$14,103.56	\$25,625.63	28.46.47
Morris Chapel	84.00	\$7,800.00	\$613.65	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$7,116.88	\$16,280.53	\$14,882.93
Mt. Zion	120.00	\$15,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,183.25	\$0.00	\$34,021.21	\$34,021.21
Open Door	312.00	\$45,248.00	\$6,328.00	\$16,497.00	\$6,223.00	\$1,500.00	\$88,182.00	\$163,978.00	\$164,730.00
Piggott First	672.00	\$40,000.00	\$8,705.87	\$3,120.93	\$2,108.40	\$2,026.08	\$0.00	\$55,961.28	\$149,628.00
Rector First	1,086.00	\$58,664.81	\$10,819.67	\$3,046.68	\$12,986.57	\$6,000.00	\$77,184.81	\$168,702.54	\$144,934.75
South Canaan	0.00	\$11,675.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$827.00	\$4,445.17	\$28,181.80	\$45,428.97	\$45,345.51
Southaven	270.00	\$43,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,700.00	\$1,400.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00	\$149,100.00	\$146,125.00
Stanfield	216.00	\$19,300.00	\$603.50	\$3,775.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,679.25	\$32,740.00
Sunnyvale	738.00	\$42,000.00	\$4,275.00	\$7,400.00	\$11,375.00	\$16,400.00	\$20,000.00	\$101,450.00	\$204,957.00
Trailers Chapel	126.00	\$9,100.00	\$716.80	\$0.00	\$600.82	\$1,778.94	\$5,739.55	\$17,936.11	\$18,779.20
Union Home									

2015 Church Directory Reports

Bethany

- Pastor:** Bryan Johnson, 17904 CR 102, Campbell MO 63933, (573) 276-7400, (573) 276-2513, bryanj44@bpsnetworks.com
- Clerk:** Sherry King, 2284 State Hwy H, Bernie, MO 63822 (573) 276-3050 kingfarms@bpsnetworks.com
- Youth Director:** Brandon Gough, 18401 St. Hwy J, Malden, MO 63863, (573)990-7403, brandon_gough21@yahoo.com
- S.S. Supt:** R.J. Riddle, 17586 CR 527, Bloomfield MO 63825, (573) 934-3144, srddlrij60@hotmail.com
- Treasurer:** Michele Mittag, 17745 CR 102, Campbell, MO 62933, (573) 281-5304, mittagm@helenachemical.com

Blue Cane

- Pastor:** James Dortch, 810 W. 7th, Rector AR 72461, (870) 595-4102
- Clerk/ Treas:** Danny Dortch, 1981 Greene 807 Rd., Rector, AR 72461 (870) 595-4101, dandortch@gmail.com
- S.S.Supt:** Leroy O'Neal, 311 N. Ash, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 595-3001

Blue Cross

- Pastor:** George Haygood, 106 W. Franklin, P.O. Box 173, Marmaduke AR 72443, (870) 450-2802
- Clerk:** Sandy Merrell, 245 Gr. Rd 536, Marmaduke AR 72443, (870) (870) 476-3993
- Youth Director:** Amy Roush, Kimberly Gregory, PO Box 244, Paragould AR 72451, (870) 450-9536, (870) 239-5114, amydroush@hotmail.com
- S.S. Supt:** John Grony, 1208 Daniel Dr., Paragould AR 72450, (870) 236-2899
- Treasurer:** Patsy Gregory, P.O. Box 244, Paragould AR 72451, (870) 215-8431, (870) 239-5114

Calls Chapel

- Pastor:** James Turner, 109 S. Stewart St., Rector, AR 72461, (870) 595-2459, (870) 545-4216
- Clerk:** Shirley Ward, 13002 Hwy 90, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 522-3265
- S.S. Supt:** Jerry Carnett, 295175 State Hwy 53, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 717-0689
- Treasurer:** Francis Parrish, 698 Frisco Lane, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-3214

Campbell—Information from last year's report

- Pastor:** Darren Baker, 102 Meadow Ct., Puxico, MO 63960, (573) 222-3335, (573) 776-3423
- Clerk:** Dawn Hogan, 615 N. Main, Campbell, MO 63933, (573) 246-3228, (573) 785-4930, dawn.hogan@sbcglobal.net
- Youth Director:** Terry Jackson, 309 Woodlawn, Campbell MO 63933, (573) 344-5819
- S.S. Supt:** Terry Jackson, 309 Woodlawn, Campbell MO 63933, (573)344-5819
- Treasurer:** Shirley Armstrong, 1114 E. Haynes, Campbell MO 63933, (573) 246-2079

Corning

- Pastor:** Don Dingus, 2800 Trowbridge Dr., Paragould, AR 72450, (870) 240-8222, (870) 335-5925, prchdon1@yahoo.com
- Clerk:** Shelby Burkheart, 1109 5th St, Corning, AR 72422, (870) 215-3590, dsb-burk@yahoo.com
- Youth Director:** Shelby & David Burkheart, 1109 5th St, Corning, AR 72422, (870) 215-3590, dsb-burk@yahoo.com
- Treasurer:** Cynthia Coleman, 308 Crafton St., Corning, AR 72422, (870) 857-6627, (870) 215-1082, rlcoleman@centurytel.net
- Sr. Adult Ministry:** Peggy Archer, 1215 Basil, Corning, AR 72422, (870) 857-6363, (870) 215-1203

Forest Grove

- Pastor:** Todd Millburn, 46 Sundale, Paragould, AR 72450, (870) 476-1680, ToddMillburn44@yahoo.com
- Clerk:** Wanda L. Lee, PO Box 293, Cardwell, MO 63829 (573) 654-3483
- Youth Director:** Angie Ellington, 1647 County Rd. 607, Cardwell, MO 63829, bljimom@hotmail.com
- S.S. Supt:** Rick Watkins, 801 Baywood, Paragould, AR 72450 (870) 240-3195
- Treasurer:** Pat Vaughn, 1156 U.S. Hwy. 412, Cardwell, MO 63829 (573) 654-2188

Grace United

- Pastor:** Josh Carpenter, 1000N. 75th St, Paragould, AR 72450 (573) 421-8577, (870) 239-8184
pastorjoshhc@gmail.com
- Clerk/Treas:** Shannon Jackson, 684 Greene Rd. 810, Marmaduke, AR 72443, (870) 273-6137, (870) 268-7806,
sjackson@teleflora.com
- Youth Director:** Brian & Dusty Brown, 3403 Friendship Road, Paragould, AR 72450, (870) 476-1279, (870) 476-5757, bpbrown21644@hotmail.com
- S.S. Supt:** Jeannie Price, 3503 Friendship Road, Paragould, AR 72450 (870) 236-2313, (870) 476-2313,
office@graceunitedgbc.com
- Sr. Adult Ministry:** Janet Burkheart, 2103 Mimosa Drive, Paragould, AR 72450 (870) 239-3089

Gravel Hill

- Pastor:** Randy Dalton, 2303 CR 347, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-3601
- Clerk/Treas:** Vernell Bradshaw, 1115 N. 4th Ave., Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-2322
- S.S. Supt:** Otis Book, 646 Royal Rd., Piggott, AR 72454 (870) 598-3609

Hitts Chapel

- Pastor:** Charles Richardson, 1191 CR 347, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-3279, (870) 598-2595, (870) 634-6853,
office@hittschapel.org
- Associate Pastor/Youth Director:** Kim Hellebusch, PO Box 132, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 344-8770, (870) 598-2595 khellebusch@hittschapel.org
- Youth Director:** Michelle Smart, 752 E. Miller, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-4156, msmart@malden.k12.mo.us
- Clerk:** Brenda D. Smart, 816 CR. 344, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-8317, rexbrenda@icloud.com
- S.S. Supt:** Howard Young, 573 E. Chief, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-3363
- Treasurer:** Joy Lynn Lambert, 1505 CR 359, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 634-7084

Hopewell

- Pastor:** Boyd Wicker, 77 CR 453, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 544-2679
- Clerk:** Bessie Fielder, 687 CR 472, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 544-0206
- Youth Director:** Pam Chronister, 706 State St, Greenway, AR 72454 (870) 783-0206
- S.S. Supt:** Linda Gearhart, 200 Milde Cove, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-5340
- Treasurer:** Linda Poole, 891 N. Second Ave., Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-3055, dpoole402@yahoo.com

Johnson's Chapel

- Pastor:** Lavone Smart, 6204 Hwy 139, Greenway, AR 72430, (870) 529-3321, lavonesmart@hotmail.com
- Clerk/Teas.:** Rosemary Purvis, 11418 St. Hwy A, Senath, MO 63876, (573) 717-0120, memex3@live.com
- Youth Director:** Michelle Hufford, 14675 CR 520, Senath, MO 63876, (573) 738-3145 mhufford73@yahoo.com
- S.S. Supt:** Brian Hufford, 14675 CR 520, Senath, MO 63876, (573) 738-3145
- Treasurer:** Mary Beth Haywood, 14696 CR 532, Senath, MO 63876, (573) 738-2380, mbhaywood@wildblue.net

Kennett First

- Pastor:** Marston Carpenter, 140 North Ballard, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 783-2119, pastormarston@gmail.com
- Clerk:** Shirley Sells, 1920 Lynndale Street, Kennett, MO 63857, (573) 888-4251, slsells@clgw.net
- Youth Director:** Janet McElwrath, 3501 Biscayne, Kennett, MO 63857, (573) 888-6492
- S.S. Supt:** Steve McElwrath, 3501 Biscayne, Kennett, MO 63857, (573) 888-6492, (573) 888-9119, steve@deltains.net
- Treasurer:** Pat Brown, 225 Clayton Ave., Kennett, MO 63857, (573) 888-9733, pat9733@att.net

Lynn Oak—Information from Last Year's Report

- Pastor:** Randol Wiseman, 39414 Kimber Dr., Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-5412, (573) 448-3617
- Clerk:** Scott Stoelting, 31020 CR 322A, Clarkton, MO 63837, (573) 225-3459, scott.stoelting@newwavewcomm.net
- Youth Director:** Kathy Richardson, 33071 CR 327, Clarkton, MO 63837, (573) 448-3921
- S.S. Supt:** Ronnie Barnes, PO Box 534, Clarkton, MO 63837, (573) 448-3287
- Treasurer:** Sherry Nuckles, PO Box 423, Clarkton, MO 63837, (573) 448-5349, csnuckles5960@sbc.global.net

Malden First

- Pastor:** Stewart-Allen Clark, 601 Barrett Dr, Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-5174, (573) 276-3354, stewart.allen@fgbcmalden.org
- Associate Pastor:** Howard Winberry, 40256 CR 129, Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-3695, (573) 281-6689, howard@fgbcmalden.org
- Student Pastor:** Denver Jackson, 2548 St. Hwy 153, Parma, MO 63870, (573) 707-0361, (573) 276-3354, denver@fgbcmalden.org
- Clerk:** Joyce Hughes, 18979 St Rt J, Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-4370, (573) 276-7170, msjoyann55@yahoo.com
- S.S. Supt:** Chuck Provance, 33419 CR 327, Clarkton, MO 63837, (573) 276-8594, (573) 448-5373, cpfarms@bpsnetworks.com
- Treasurer:** Clark Duckett, 601 Barrett Drive, Malden, MO 63963, (573) 276-4002, (573) 276-4558, cduckett@sbcglobal.net
- Sr. Adult Ministry/Assoc. Pastor:** Jim Cowsert, 203 S. Beckwith, Malden, MO 63863, (573) 281-9931, jimcowsert@yahoo.com

Maple Grove

- Pastor:** Otis Dunn, 200 N. Almar St. #1, Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-6671
- Clerk/Treas:** Moyra Crain, 25166 St. Hwy. 25, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 792-3535, moyradean@nwcable.net
- S.S. Supt:** Rick Casper, 26677 St. Hwy. 25, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 792-3429

Marmaduke First

- Pastor:** Kenneth Hargrave, PO Box 243, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 595-4933, HargraveKL@gmail.com
- Clerk:** Penny Johnson, 1708 Reynolds Rd., Paragould, AR 72450 (870) 476-5771
- S. S. Supt:** Kenard Johnson, 1708 Reynolds Rd., Paragould, AR 72450, (870) 476-5771
- Treasurer:** Velma McCrory, 702 N. 5th St., Marmaduke, AR 72443, (870) 450-3678, vfmccrory@hotmail.com

Morris Chapel

- Pastor:** Jared Hancock, PO Box 54, 21299 Hwy. 51, Fagus, MO 63938, (573) 300-3560, hancockjared7@gmail.com
- Clerk/Treas:** Joshua Hancock, 21299 Hwy 51, Qulin, MO 63961, (573) 328-4821
- S.S. Supt:** Larry Melton, 4490 Hwy 62, Corning, AR 72422, (870) 259-3538

Mt. Zion

- Pastor:** Martin Goode, 106 Gregory St., Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-4716, martingood@sbcbglobal.net
- Clerk:** Virginia Walker, PO Box 145, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 792-3272

- S.S. Supt:** Terry Gregory, PO Box 124, Clarkton, MO 63837, (573) 448-3015
- Treasurer:** Toni Presley, 1881 CR 246, Malden, MO 63863, (573) 276-8690, tonipresley@ymail.com

Open Door

- Pastor:** Kenny Burns, 604 E. Fourth St., Rector, AR 72461, (870) 595-4901, kennygennyburns@yahoo.com
- Clerk/Youth Director:** Kim McCormick, 28609 State Hwy 25, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 792-3845, (573) 344-1163 countrykidcare83@yahoo.com
- Children's Church Director:** Deana Houart, 26443 St Hwy 25, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 792-3207, (573) 888-7688, houart4@newwavecomm.net
- Treasurer:** Christine Fredrick, P.O. Box 50, Gibson, MO 63847, (573) 792-3324, (573) 281-8372, ccf617@gmail.com
- Administrator:** Kevin True, 406 State Hwy 25, Holcomb, MO 63852, (573) 792-3321, (573) 888-7769, ktrue@newwavecomm.net

Piggott First

- Pastor:** Chris Brantley, 2225 Magnolia, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 634-7197, (870) 598-3261 pastorchri@gmail.com
- Clerk:** Pat Poole, 1000 Frisco, Piggott, AR 72454 (870) 598-7701 pgpoole@centurytel.net
- Youth Director:** Michele Holcomb, PO Box 321, Piggott, AR 72454, (870)598-7776, tholcomb@centurytel.net
- S.S. Supt:** Roy Stender, 1181 Homecrest Dr., Piggott, AR 72454 (870) 324-1973
- Treasurer:** Debby Haywood, 905 W. North, PO Box 158, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-3608, debby598@yahoo.com

Rector First

- Pastor:** Brad Gilbert, 519 McNabb St, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 324-1796, (870) 595-3825, pastorbradgilbert@gmail.com
- Clerk:** Shelley Cornelison, 809 E. 7th St., Rector, AR 72461 (870) 595-3914, shelley.cornelison@gmail.com
- Youth Director:** Mike Scott, 919 W. 4th Street, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 215-5882, pennyscott94@yahoo.com
- S.S. Supt:** Ruth Hicks, East 8th St, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 595-1060, (870) 595-3825
- Treasurer:** Sandra DeMent, 369 CR 429, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 595-3640, (870) 783-0440, sandrad2022@hotmail.com
- Sr. Adult Ministry:** Sonny & Sandra Brown, 1104 W. 4th St, Rector, AR 72461, (870) 595-2507

South Canaan

- Pastor:**
- Clerk:** Margaret Murphy, 1005 S. Oak, Campbell, MO 63933, (573) 246-2272
- Youth Director:** Patricia Todd, 29885 St Hwy B, Campbell, MO 63933, (573) 344-7912 pcollies@aol.com
- S.S. Supt:** Ken Oxley, 32493 State Hwy 53, Campbell, MO 63933-6374, (573) 246-2074, (573) 276-7759
- Treasurer:** Danny Bradshaw, Danny Bradshaw, 24006 Cty Rd 412, Holcomb, MO 63852 (573) 344-1386 cottonman72@yahoo.com

Southaven

- Pastor:** Don Gregory, 166 Fawn Cv., Hernando, MS 38632, (901) 487-2265, don_gregory@bellsouth.net
- Clerk:** Sandy Davis, 3325 Maple Hollow Cv., Southaven, MS 38672 (901) 487-6784, sandra.davis@dcsms.com
- Treasurer:** Ann Ward, 532 Windridge, Southaven, MS 38671 (662) 342-0512

Stanfield

- Pastor:** Andy Evans, 202 E. 3rd St., Gideon, MO 63848, (573) 448-3742, andyevans@semo.net

- Clerk:** Shelby Brown, 206 Anderson, Gideon, MO 63848 573-448-5205
- S.S. Supt:** Martha Ellsworth, 3150 St.Hwy. 153, Gideon, MO 63848 573-448-5116
- Treasurer:** Nancy Grissom, 5687 W. Hwy 162, Gideon, MO 63848 573-448-3293, nsgrissom@yahoo.com

Sunnyvale

- Pastor:** James Hamlett, 1000 Hwy 246, Parma, MO 63870, (573) 990-7253, (573) 276-2819
sunnyvale1@bpsnetworks.com
- Clerk:** Gene LaFerney, 617 Monroe Ave, Campbell, MO 63933, (573) 246-3329, gene.laferney@sbcglobal.net
- Youth Director:** Ron & Terri Owens, 13081 CR 678, Bernie, MO 63822, (573) 225-2001, (573) 225-0081
ronsmotorworks@gmail.com
- S.S. Supt:** Janice Nichols, 17026 S. Co. Circle Dr., Bernie, MO 63822, (573) 293-4298, jnichols@bpsnetworks.com
- Treasurer:** Ange Baugus, 43778 State Hwy 25, Malden, MO 63863 (573) 276-3684 angebaugus@gmail.com

Trailers Chapel

- Pastor:** Loran Johnson, PO Box 47, Pollard, AR 72456, (870) 544-2245, (870) 598-4183, loranjohnson@live.com
- Clerk:** Marie Hillyer, 381 Baja Lane, Piggott, AR 72454, (870) 598-3948
- S.S. Supt:** Cody Culver, 115 Maple. St, Pollard, AR 72356, (870) 598-4627
- Treasurer:** Gerald Runyon, 7581 Hwy. 139, Pollard, AR 72456, (870) 544-2371, grunyon@centurytel.net

Union Home

Nominating Committee Report

The following are the nominees for 2015-2016:

Vice Moderator: Chris Brantley

2nd Vice Moderator: Josh Carpenter

Clerk/Treasurer: Lisa Hargrave

Assistant Clerk/Treasurer: Bryan Johnson

Executive Board Members at Large: Wanda Britt, Mary Beth Haywood, Marston Carpenter

Nominating Committee Members: Kenneth Hargrave (5 year term expiring 2020)

MoArk Mission Board: Loran Johnson (filling open position expiring 2018), Joyce Hughes (5 year term expiring 2020)

MoArk Christian Education Board: Shannon Jackson (3 year term expiring 2018), Janay Householder (3 year term expiring 2018)

Council of Associations: Josh Carpenter (3 year term expiring 2018)

Camp Allen Board: Kevin True (3 year term expiring 2018), James Turner (3 year term expiring 2018)

Auditing Committee (standing): Kevin True, Susan Richardson, Terry Owens

Associational Youth Director: Kim Hellebusch

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Bryan Johnson 2015

Paula Richardson 2016

Shawn Parker 2017

John Prince 2018

James Turner 2019

MoArk Mission Board Report

The MoArk mission Board has no new requests for new church establishment assistance since Hope Church, Rector, AR. The Board is pleased to announce that both of its most recent new church plants, Hope Church, Rector, AR and Open Door Church in Holcomb, MO are now completely financially independent of this board. We are very proud of the work of each church and continue to pray for their vibrant ministries.

Our only current expenditure is our ongoing monthly support of the Arkansas home Mission Society.

We will be meeting later this spring to review a ministry assistance request from Open Door Church. They are beginning a ministry called Freedom house later this year. This is a substance rehabilitation ministry that will serve our area well.

While it is the primary goal of this board to support mission work, here and abroad, it has always been within the scope of this board's ministry to be assistance to established churches as well. Please help us educate our churches regarding this vital service available to them.

MOARK ASSOCIATION MISSION BOARD

FINANCIAL REPORT

FYE: 12/31/14

BEGINNING BALANCE	1/1/2014	\$ 5,139.44
INCOME:		
MoArk Association	1,956.62	
Churches	9,064.33	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 11,020.95
EXPENSE:		
OPEN DOOR	(6,400.00)	
AR HOME MISSIONS	(4,800.00)	
Hyde's Termite HOPE CHURCH	(155.15)	
	TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>\$(11,355.15)</u>
ENDING BALANCE	12/31/2014	<u><u>\$ 4,805.14</u></u>

Submitted by Charles Richardson and Joyce Hughes

MoArk Christian Education Report

The MoArk Christian Education Board met on June 23 and August 5, 2014. Officers elected for the 2014-2015 year are: Bryan Johnson – President; Steve McElwrath – Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer- Mark Book

At the June meeting survey results for the October 2013 workshops for the "My Hope America" workshop and the "Growth Groups" were reviewed. Responses for both workshops were favorable, but the My Hope workshop had slightly more favorable responses. Brother Mark shared the survey results from the 2014 MoArk Association workshops. Responses were favorable for the "Surprising Insights, Youth and Children's ministry" workshops. These were offered in a cooperative effort with the Christian Education Board. The Board decided to help the Moderator with the Association workshops in March 2015 rather than do a February workshop in addition to the Association.

At the request of Moderator Kenny Burns the MoArk Christian Education Board hosted Dr. Steve Scheibner for its fall workshop on October 11. Approximately 50 attended. Dr. Scheibner shared insights in discipleship which could be applied in churches

and family settings and the documentary, *"In My Seat"* which recounts his experience of being scheduled to fly Flight 11 on September 11, 2001. Dr. Scheibner also shared resources available through Characterhealth Corp which can be used in discipleship. Surveys completed by participants were overwhelmingly favorable for both the presenter and workshop content. The workshop supported plans for discipleship training at the 2015 Association. The Rector General Baptist Church hosted the workshop and Dr. Scheibner also spoke at the Open Door Church at Holcomb on October 12th.

At the August 5th meeting the Board discussed the Christian Education financial resources and voted to request a five percent increased allocation from 15 percent to 20 percent at the next MoArk Executive Board meeting to keep pace with cost for speakers, accommodations and resources.

Submitted by Mark Book for the MoArk CE Board

2014 MoArk Christian Education Financial Report

\$3699.48 end of 2013 balance

\$150.00 – mileage- Laurie Walls-Children's workshop-MoArk Association-March 22, 2014

\$150.00 – mileage-Tyler Feller-Youth Workshop-MoArk Association

\$188.72 – lodging – two rooms- The Inn at Piggott- MoArk Association

\$40.00 - mileage reimbursement- Franklin Dumond-MoArk Association

\$292.96 – Mark Book- book purchase reimbursement-MoArk Association

+\$1544.77- MoArk Association Allotment – 04/06/14

\$4422.57 – balance 04/06/14

\$625.00 – Characterhealth Corp – deposit for Fall 2014 seminar with Steve Scheibner -07/10/14

\$625.00 – Characterhealth Corp – balance of fee – Fall 2014 seminar – 10/11/14

\$120.00 – Characterhealth Corp – Car rental reimbursement and fuel

\$295.89 – Jeff Smart – reimbursement for food purchase – Fall Seminar

+\$395.00 –Deposit – fees from fall 2014 Seminar

\$247.50 – Mark Book – reimbursement for motel expenses-Fall 2014 seminar

\$2904.18 –2014 end-of-year balance

2014 MoArk Youth Report

Beginning Balance			1734.89
Checks #	Date	Description	Amount
3036	3/15/14	Camp Allen	385.00
		Retreat Staff Tuition	
3037	3/15/14	Preston Owens	200.00
		Retreat Speaker	
3038	3/15/14	Terra Nova	400.00
		Retreat Band	
3039	11/30/14	Kim Hellebusch	1200.00
		Director Expense	
Deposits			
	4/28/14	MOARK Dues	2059.60
End Balance			1609.49

2014 was a great year for MOARK Youth. Our association churches participated in Youth Rallies at the following churches: Grace United, Hitts Chapel, Piggott, and Rector. Each church was responsible for the program that was presented and the refreshments. This ongoing arrangement within our association has worked out well with the youth of our churches getting to experience the fellowship of other youth throughout MOARK. A theme for 2015 has been set with a focus on The Simple Gospel. We believe there is more to faith than simply going to church. Thank you MOARK Association for your continued support.

2015 Schedule of events: January 28 Youth Rally at Lynn Oak
 April 29 Youth Rally at Malden
 July 22 Youth Rally at Piggott FGBC with Revival thru July 24th
 September 30 Youth Rally at Hitts Chapel
 January 27, 2016 Youth Rally at Grace United

Our annual Spring Retreat will be hosted at Camp Allen March 13-15, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Hellebusch, MOARK Youth Director

Bill Haynes Scholarship Report 2014

Submitted on March 3, 2015

There has been no requests for funds to be released throughout the year of 2014 (January 1-December 31, 2014) and therefore we have nothing new to report.

We received our annual allotment as approved by the MoArk Association of \$205.96 on April 28, 2014.

We hold two (2) CD's at General Baptist Ministries, with the General Baptist Investment Fund (G.B.I.F.).

Both Certificates of Deposit received interest payments on January 7th and July 7th of the year which is noted in the financial report attached to this annual written report.

CD# 3590 has a present balance as of **January 7, 2015** of \$25,113.43 at a 3.100% APR. This fund is not touched and simply sits at the present time collecting interest for growth. We renewed this CD on July 7, 2014 for one year.

CD# 3589 has a present balance as of **January 7, 2015** of \$10,200.94 at a 2.50% APR with no penalty for early withdrawal. This is an "On Demand" account which holds no expiration date and is what we use to pay out any expenditures as required by an approved request for transfers of monies.

Please note the difference in monies mentioned in the financial report versus this written report is that the financial report ends on December 31, 2014 without the added interest put into the account on January 7, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Johnson, MoArk Assistant Treasurer

Financial Report

January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

All monies of the Bill Haynes Scholarship Fund are held with the General Baptist Investment Fund (G.B.I.F.) headquartered at General Baptist Ministries in Poplar Bluff, MO. We hold two (2) Certificate of Deposits, one is "on demand" which allows us to reimburse those completing the Ordination Requirements within the MoArk Presbytery and / or Pastor / Deacons furthering their education through the Leaders Advancing Ministry Program (L.A.M.P.) and the other CD left untouched, to collect interest allowing the principal to grow with interest until which time it's deemed necessary to utilize it.

CD Certificate #3589 (on demand certificate-no expiration date) 2.50% / no penalty for early withdrawal / Interest paid out on January 7th and July 7th of each year.

Date	Explanation	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance
January 1, 2014	Balance to Date			\$ 9,623.06
January 7, 2014	Interest on CD	\$123.15		\$ 9,746.21
April 28, 2014	Association Allotment	\$205.96		\$ 9,952.17
July 7, 2014	Interest on CD	\$121.81		\$10,073.98
December 31, 2014	Balance at end of year			\$10,073.98

CD Certificate #3590 3.100% interest rate / matures 7/7/15 / Interest paid out on January 7th and July 7th of each year.

Date	Explanation	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance
January 1, 2014	Balance to Date			\$23,977.94
January 7, 2014	Interest on CD	\$374.71		\$24,352.65
July 7, 2014	Interest on CD	\$374.36		\$24,727.01
December 31, 2014	Balance at end of year			\$24,727.01

Respectfully submitted:
 Bryan Johnson, MoArk Assistant Treasurer

2015-2016 MoArk Association Committees

Nominating Committee Members

Paula Richardson, Term expiring 2016
 Shawn Parker, Term expiring 2017
 John Prince, Term expiring 2018
 James Turner, Term expiring 2019
 Kenneth Hargrave, Term expiring 2020

MoArk Missions Board Members

Kenny Burns, Term expiring 2016
 Gerald Gregory, Term expiring 2017
 Frank Brown, Term expiring 2018
 Charles Richardson, Term expiring 2019
 Joyce Hughes, Term expiring 2020

MoArk Youth Director

Kim Hellebusch, Director

MoArk Executive Board Members-At-Large

Wanda Britt, Term expiring 2016
 Marston Carpenter, Term expiring 2016
 Mary Beth Haywood, Term expiring 2016

Council of Associations Representatives

Kevin True, Term expiring 2017
 Josh Carpenter, Term expiring 2018

Christian Education Board Members

Steve McElwrath, Term expiring 2016
 Mark Book - Term expiring 2016
 Todd Luke, Term expiring 2017
 Bryan Johnson, Term expiring 2017
 Shannon Jackson, Term expiring 2018
 Janay Householder, Term expiring 2018
 Kim Hellebusch, Associational Youth Director

Auditing Committee

Kevin True
 Terri Owens
 Susan Richardson

MoArk Camp Allen Board Members

James Turner, Term expiring 2018
 Kevin True, Term expiring 2018

2014 Obituary Report

Bethany: Mary King, Cindy Green, Rosalie Brown, W.C. Harvey
Blue Cross: Urbylene Ward
Corning First: Louise Rice, Kenny King
Grace United: Ellere Johnston, James Kersey
Hopewell: Robert Hardin, Patsy Poole
Kennett First: Ed Layden, Grace Jones, Imogene Blanton, Frank Brown
Malden First: Morris "Granddaddy" Bradley, John Green, James Ward
Morris Chapel: Virginia Neeley
Piggott First: Georgia Lingle Wilson, Vagel Rodery, Evaleen Featherston, Gerald Morris,
Grace Featherston, Jay Book
Rector First: Mildred Wagster, Cordie Mae Seal, Polly Estes
South Canaan: Betty Moore, Doris Wright, Melba Todd
Southaven: Joyce Sandefer, Carla Hardy, Connie Fielding
Stanfield: Burl Ellsworth
Sunnyvale: Lanell Sturgeon, Dale Shipman
Trailers Chapel: Sue Johnson

2014 COUNCIL OF ASSOCIATIONS (C/A) SUMMARY

Council of Associations-Oakland City University-May 5, 2014

Council of Associations Chairman Josh Carpenter opened the meeting with prayer.

Executive Director Clint Cook challenged the General Baptist movement to measure success in our movement with a much different measuring stick than in the past. This measuring stick should be based upon the Word of God. We need to use the Bible as a measuring stick to say whether or not we are successful and whether or not we are doing what we have been called to do. Matthew 28: 19-20 gives us our marching orders. Our assignment is to win the lost people to Christ. Just because you have been a preacher, have pastored a church, and the church has had a lot of services, that does not mean that you have done what Jesus has asked you to do.

Rev. Cook stated that the Leverage Generation Next Conference was successfully launched last fall. This is a conference for young leaders in the 18-30 age groups.

The National Missions Advisory Team was introduced with Carl Nichols being the point person, Vince Daniel, and Brandon Petty. This team has set up an internship program that every church planter will have an opportunity to work in a church plant and work side by side a church planter and actually know what goes on when they get ready to launch their own church plant.

Rev. Cook introduced discussion concerning international missions and how he proposes to use returning or retired missionaries for a resource network.

Rev. Jim Schremp then spoke about involving past missionaries in mentoring new missionaries. He went on to say that on the international fields there were more than 1200 conversions last year. Rev. Schremp went on to introduce Phil Warren, Missionary on Saipan, who will become the Asian Coordinator. Rev. Warren will be providing leadership training in Guam, Philippines, and India. Rev. Schremp went on to say that several of our missionaries will be coming home for the 2014 Mission

& Ministry Summit and will be looking for churches to visit and speak about their individual missions. He reported that from the Mission Volunteer Program (MVP) there have been at least 800 conversions this year.

Oakland City University President Dr. Ray Barber reported a very good year at OCU. Enrollment was up by 20% this school year. He went on to say that for the first time ever Oakland City University has been named in the US News and World Reports as one of the top 100 universities in the Midwest and the fourth safest university in Indiana. The prison ministry continues to be a success. Dr. Barber went on to say that there will be 4100 prisoners who will graduate this year with a certificate, GED, or college program from OCU.

Congregational Ministries Director Franklin Dumond reported that the work of the existing churches are not as glamorous as being a Church Planter or Missionary but is necessary. Services to churches and their pastors remains the primary purpose for Congregational Ministries. Dr. Dumond went on to report that General Baptist Ministries has a new social media presence with For Every Man, a new blog.

Executive Director Cook presented his proposal for Pastoral Ministries saying, when the Renewal Task Force (RTF) established our Pastoral Ministries Department; they used the same method employed by Moses with the children of Israel. Moses was a shepherd and understood his place as a shepherd. Moses' father-in-law Jethro observed Moses' leadership style and noted its inefficiency at providing for the people as well as being exhausting to Moses. So far, Pastoral Ministries Department has been using the Moses way of leadership. Rev. Cook went on to say he would like to try the Jethro-approach. This means that there will be a designated team of pastors to provide connections to pastors. The team members will have annual contracts with a small stipend for their expenses and time. **See the full proposal at the end of these minutes.

- Motion and second to adopt the model for Pastoral Ministries developed and presented by our Executive Director with the requirement that the person designated as Director be approved by the Personnel Committee. Motion carried.
- Motion and second to adopt the model of directorship and leadership developed by our Executive Director for National and International Missions and authorize its extension until the Mission & Ministry Summit of 2016. Motion carried.

Chairman Oren Alcorn presented the recommendations of the Executive Council.

- Motion and second to adopt the 2015 Budget. Motion carried.

Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the procedures be followed to make the following amendments to the By-laws of the Council of Associations and the By-laws of the General Association:

C of A By Laws

Article VI

A) Basic Ministries shall be:

Basic Ministries shall be those that relate directly to fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus Christ through equipping Christians in the local church and challenging them to become actively involved in the mission and purpose of the Church. Included herein are International Missions, National Missions, Congregational Ministries, Pastoral Ministries, Administrative/Financial Services, and the Support Services of Men In Missions, and Women's Ministries.

Some of these may need to be incorporated for legal and functional purposes, but these corporations shall be limited to specific areas of function and shall be accountable to the Leadership Team in all areas of planning, budgeting, and implementing programs. Such corporations shall maintain the minimum number of officers and directors allowed by law, or in compliance with the constitution and bylaws of the General Association of General Baptists (General Association Constitution, Article X, C) or the Council of Associations. The Council of Associations in conjunction with the Leadership Team shall study the various ministries of Article VI of the bylaws and determine which departments need corporate status. All corporate directors, except for the Women's Ministries Board, shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee of the Council of Associations from the

membership of the Council of Associations and shall be subject to established policies pertaining to length of service, rotation, etc.

Each Basic Ministry, when established, and as long as they exist, will have a director. The executive director, in consultation with the Personnel Committee of the Executive Council, will nominate individuals for the director of ministry positions to be presented to the Executive Council for approval. These nominations shall be approved by the Council of Associations. For the election of the director of Men In Missions see Article VI, 6D of the bylaws and the director of Women's Ministries see Article VI, 7E of the bylaws.

The Basic Ministries shall *may be, but shall not be limited to*:

General Association

Article IV Item C

C. The ministries shall have two classifications: Basic and Institutional Ministries. The council shall through its constitution direct and oversee the ministries of both classifications and shall report annually to the General Association. Each ministry shall be an integral part of the total ministry and shall have guidelines and/or a constitution and bylaws that define specific functions.

All such guidelines and constitution and bylaws shall be approved by the General Association of General Baptists.

1. Basic Ministries shall may be International Missions, National Missions, Congregational Ministries, Pastoral Ministries, Administrative/ Financial Services, and the Support Services of the Men In Missions Board and Women's Ministries. Some of these may need to be incorporated for legal and functional purposes, but these corporations shall be limited to specific areas of function and shall be accountable to the Leadership Team in all areas of planning, budgeting, and implementing programs.

- Motion and second was made to accept this report and that the adoption be made to make the changes recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee. Motion carried.

Women's Ministries Director Patti Thornton reported she has been traveling a lot. She spoke of the ministry of the unnoticed. She encouraged each person to inform the ladies of their associations to attend Inside Out 2014 ROADTRIP! October 3-5, 2014. She went on to tell about the Women's Ministries MVP trip to El Paso and Juarez August 2-9, 2014.

Ministry Evaluations Committee Chairman Joey Graves said this evaluation was conducted on January 28, 2014. Since then, many of the concerns that were raised have been taken care of by Executive Director Clint Cook. ***See the full Ministry Evaluations Committee report at the end of these minutes.

2014 Mission & Ministry Summit Moderator Jeff Smith said generationally we have to understand that the new culture is all about networking. He challenged everyone to gather staff from their churches, and lay people, and bring them to the M&M Summit. Dismiss concerns about cost. He encouraged everyone to broaden the base of exposure to our denominational family.

- Motion and second to receive special offerings at the 2014 M&M Summit. Motion carried.

****Proposed Pastoral Ministries Department Transition**

By Executive Director Clint Cook

In 1996, the Renewal Task Force (RTF) completed their in-depth evaluation of our denomination and a new Pastoral Ministries Department was created in General Baptist Ministries. The RTF's evaluation revealed that pastoral care was of utmost importance to the local pastor. This new Pastoral Ministries Department resulted in establishing an office, hiring a Director and staff, and handing this Director the assignment of providing focused care, counseling and resources for between 800-1000 pastors. Obviously, this assignment was a daunting task and we must say "hats-off" to all past Directors of this Department.

Through the years, we have discovered that such a monumental task has resulted in discouragement for our Directors, and deficiencies in providing care for our pastors.

After much prayer and study I, along with the Executive Council and the Denominational Leadership Team, would like to share a Biblical foundation for implementing a new approach to our Pastoral Ministries Department. By using this Biblical example, I believe we can cure our current deficiencies and embrace a solution that will provide better, more personal and fiscally-responsible care for our pastors.

When the RTF established our Pastoral Ministries Department, they used the same method employed by Moses with the children of Israel. Moses was a shepherd and understood his place as a shepherd; he alone was to take care of all the needs of the sheep. But as we all know, Moses eventually became a deliverer, and he went from leading a few sheep to as many as half a million Israelites.

One day, when Moses' father-in-law Jethro was visiting, he observed Moses' leadership style and noted its inefficiency at providing for the people as well as being exhausting to Moses. He said to Moses, "What you are doing is not good," (Ex. 18:13-17). He then advised his son-in-law to use a different leadership style, one that helped Moses take care of literally hundreds and thousands of people much more effectively. It is important to note the response of the people: Jethro advised they would "go to their place in peace" (v.23 ESV). You may notice that it was this same leadership style that Jesus used when he called multiple disciples. He knew he could do the job better and more efficiently by using the Jethro-approach (Matthew 10; Luke 10:1).

Thus far, Pastoral Ministries Department has been using the Moses way of leadership. I would like to try and transition this Department to the Jethro-approach. This means that instead of having one Director sitting in an office in Poplar Bluff, we would designate a team of pastors to provide care for our pastors. This team of approximately 10-12 pastors would be in tune with issues currently confronting our pastors because they would currently be serving in churches themselves. They would also agree to annual contracts with a small stipend for their expenses and time. This pastoral care team would then be divided into predetermined groups of pastors from different churches (groupings will be decided by the Office of the Executive Director). Training would be required and assignments would be carried out with strict oversight. There would be one pastor designated as the "point" person for this Department who would oversee all the other pastoral representatives.

This approach is a more grassroots, field-representation approach. It also insures that the pastors who are counseling and assisting other pastors are still working in their church.

I hope you will prayerfully consider this Biblically-based, Jethro-style of leadership as the solution to the deficiencies currently encountered in our Pastoral Ministries Department so that we may equip our pastors with the care, counseling, and resources they need to lead strong and healthy General Baptist congregations in the pursuit of the Great Commission.

For more information regarding this proposal, please see the systematic outline provided by Dr. Franklin Dumond, Director of Congregational Ministries.

A Proposal for Ministry to General Baptist Pastors

To re-establish Pastoral Ministries with emphasis on the direct care and communication with pastors, General Baptist Ministries proposes to use the Resource Network structure identified in the bylaws of the Council of Associations.

Article VII - Resource Networks

Basic Ministry departments may be supported by resource networks providing planning, assistance, and consultation.

The resource networks will not be constituted as standing committees, but as departmental task forces called into action by the executive director when particular expertise and experience are needed. The participation of persons in a resource network will generally be short term and limited to the duration of a specific study or project. If the ministry is incorporated, the corporate directors may serve as the resource network, but remain accountable to the Leadership Team.

1. Direct care and communication with General Baptist pastors would be undertaken by a Resource Network of field representatives selected by the Executive Director in consultation with the Leadership Team. At least six field representatives

shall be selected and as many additional ones may be selected in keeping with available personnel and available budget support for their work.

2. Field Representatives shall:

- a. make personal contact with the pastors in their care by phone or in person conversation at least twice annually.
- b. address the specific areas of concern identified by the executive director and included in the report form provided to the field representatives.
- c. shall be required to participate in an annual training retreat hosted by the executive director at the General Baptist Ministries building.
- d. has demonstrated mature ministry skills, denominational connection through Unified Giving, and shall have an aptitude for the pastoral care of their peers.
- e. be self-starters able to undertake this important work of connection to General Baptist pastors in a timely, consistent pattern of work.
- f. must attend Ministers Conference and Summit with some subsidy available from General Baptist Ministries.

3. General Baptist Ministries shall

- a. provide a monthly stipend for the contract services rendered by the field representatives. This stipend shall be identified and expectations for work performance clarified in a Memo of Understanding to be signed by both the field representative and the executive director.
- b. provide a list of pastors placed in the care of the field representatives. This list will be developed from the current list of known pastors serving churches including all known contact information.
- c. provide a report mechanism to allow the field representatives to chart the progress of their work and to report such information to General Baptist Ministries through monthly reports.

Implementation Possibilities

1. Dividing the list

- a. regional listing as much as possible but with equity in numbers of contacts as much as possible.
- b. specialized grouping of some pastors so the representative may have more in common with the pastor (i.e. full-time, pastors of larger churches, ethnic pastors, etc.)

2. Preparing the pastors

- a. use a group mailing to identify each pastor with the field representative and overview the process. Clarify the expectations.
- b. use Ministers Conference and Summit to promote as well.

3. Funding the project

- a. start up funding for record keeping has three options
 - i. use a 3-ring binder with report sheets customized to each pastor. These customized sheets could then be returned to General Baptist Ministries as part of a monthly report. Monthly stipend checks would be provided upon receipt of the monthly report.

ii. use a stick drive or other portable digital device to provide the information and allow the report to be submitted electronically. Monthly stipend checks would be provided upon receipt of the monthly report.

iii. provide a tablet or small capacity laptop preloaded with the software and information needed by the field representatives. Monthly stipend checks would be provided upon receipt of the monthly report.

[note: the most economical option would be ii. This does, however, introduce the need for on-line connection and computer/keyboard skills for each of the representatives. This could be a limiting factor for some otherwise well qualified field representatives.]

b. If this system works well one of the field representatives could be given an additional stipend so he could coordinate the efforts. This person could even be named pastoral ministries director and the function, expectations of our denominational systems could be changed without altering the bylaws.

*****Ministry Evaluations Committee Report May 5, 2014**

The committee met on January 28th, 2014 for the purpose of evaluating the ministries for 2013. Ministry progress reports were submitted for review from the Executive, Administrative, Congregational, and International Ministries Departments. Evaluation meetings took place with the General Baptist Basic Ministries department leaders. Findings are as follows:

Congregational

The Congregational Ministries Department outcome for 2013 is in line with the quarterly and short term projections of the department's Master Planning Arrow and the ministry description of the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws. In the past, a deficiency with the department was the absence of programs for stewardship planning. To correct this, Dr. Franklin Dummond has built into the GB Summit an extensive focus on stewardship in conjunction with the Mission One initiative. The previously mentioned point of order (A point of order discovered is the embodiment of organizational functions outside of Congregational Ministries sphere of influence has been incorporated into the department, specifically administrative roles and communication streams. Evaluations Report May 2013 is still relevant, yet the lean staffing for the ministries as a whole is still effecting responsibilities and roles.

Administrative/Financial

The Administrative/Financial Department outcome for 2013 is in line with quarterly and short term projections of the department's Master Planning Arrow and the ministry description of the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws. In the past, a point of concern noticed was with Linda McDonough's unequal placement on the Leadership Team. To correct this, the Personnel Committee recognized this deficiency and affirmed her to equal status in stature and pay. For the ministry, expansion is still limited due to the amount of organizational transitions experienced over the last year. Fiduciary duties were performed at or above par, and our records appear to keep with the highest integrity.

When evaluating the financial record, a point of concern was identified. Some departments grossly overspent their designated budgets while others came in under budget. This revelation brought forth the possible identification of a system breakdown. We must identify, to whom falls the responsibility of day to day management of the finances and cash flow? It appears that Administrative/Financial Director has the responsibility of bookkeeping and data entry, without the authority to manage the financial health of our organization in partnership with the Budget Committee.

International Missions

The International Missions Department outcome for 2013 is in line with the quarterly and short term projections of the department's Master Planning Arrow and the ministry description of the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws. With

transition, Jim and Sue Schremp have been able to find some ministry deficiencies and have put together a plan to better organize and manage the department, after years of rapid expansion led by the departments previous administration. The Schremp's have also been able to evaluate the department and fields identifying strengths and weaknesses. A key point of the Schremp's plan is the reestablishment of fields abandoned or and the development of regional layers of leadership inside the International Missions department.

In the past, during transition, the greatest tension developed both internally and across our movement has been the lack of communication of the departmental philosophies and strategies being implemented.

National Missions

At the time of evaluation, there was no sitting director or interim director to evaluate. Executive Director Clint Cook mentioned that he was working with the previous administrations Advisory Council and was working on an interim arrangement but at the time of meeting no official placements had been made. Since our meeting Executive Director Cook has placed an interim arrangement to lead the National Missions Department.

It is the recommendation of the Evaluations Committee to have submitted to the committee and to Executive Director Cook abbreviated goals for 2013 in conjunction with a developed departmental Master Planning Arrow.

General Baptist Organization

During the course of the day, organizational health was discussed with each Basic Ministry Director and our Executive Director, Clint Cook. Through conversations several points of concern from the past were reevaluated.

In the past, tensions between the departmental directors effected working relationships and the dynamics needed to fulfill the mission as a team. With discussions with various directors, this health concern appears to have been resolved with the new Leadership Team. Meetings are still inconstant but it has been mentioned by the Executive Director the prioritization of Leadership Team meetings and All Staff meetings for organizational health and proper flow of communication. Organizational structure has been a health concern brought to the attention of the Council of Associations for the last 18 months. The complicated dynamics of a Flex Time Executive, the unofficial placement of a Chief of Staff, and the unknown hierarchy of staff in headquarters still leads to confusion and communication issues. As mentioned before, "The structure is not being operated in as defined in our governing documents and this reality is causing confusion, along with other potential issues, that is effecting the movement in the headquarters office, and outside into our associations and churches." (Evaluations Report, November 4, 2013) To further complicate this weak structure was the discussion of confusion of the chief of staff role with new employees and even the acting chief of staff. As mentioned over the last 12 months, this position needs clarification to both the headquarters' staff, the Council of Associations and our churches throughout our network. Previously noted; "The current system seems to put tension into the organization due to the lack of formally approving the position. Employees have confusion with whom they are accountable to and the management structure." (Evaluations Report, May 6, 2013). Also, "With our acceptance of a flex time executive director as a shift from our modus operandi, we need to clarify and formally state our new operating procedures. If it is the desire of our body to have in office leadership while our executive director is out of the office, this needs to be formalized and adopted into the leadership structure to remove tension and set up our employees for success." (Evaluations Report, November 4, 2013).

It is still the recommendation of the Evaluations Committee to properly define the organizational hierarchy of the departments, specifically either formalizing the Chief of Staff position, or open the process of amending our governing documents to adjust to the current realities of our organization. The inability to resolve this issue highlights either the lack of concern of the Council of Associations, or the systematic fail of the Council in regard to resolving conflicts within the body. Either should be points of concern for the Council, as they continue the trend of apathy seen in the Council over the past few years.

Finally with the inclusion of new staff, transitions in two major departments and nearing the completion of the Mission One initiative established by Dr. Murray; proper communication of a plan moving forward is imperative for the health of our organization, primarily for the directors and churches in our associational network. With new missions philosophies to come

(with director changes), the possibility of constitutional changes and hierarchy restructures, the need for a well communicated vision is paramount.

Respectfully submitted for consideration to the Council of Association's by the Evaluations Committee,

Council of Associations- Fellowship General Baptist Church Poplar Bluff, Missouri November 3, 2014

Chairman Josh Carpenter welcomed everyone and after reading from Genesis 1:14 he prayed for our meeting.

The seating of the newly elected Council of Associations members was next on the agenda. The new members are: Craig Moore, Flat Creek; Fred Pringle, Hopewell; Larry Sonnenberg, Michiana; Kirk Bodem, Michigan; Jeff Roth, Mt. Olivet; Claudette Denning, Mt. Union; Kenneth Sullivan, Mt. Union; Robert Gilman, Portland; Jim French, Post Oak Grove; Kevin Mann, SEMO; Paul Lowe, Union Grove; Barry Hix, West Kentucky; and Doyle Ball, Wolf Bayou.

Executive Director's Report – Clint Cook brought greetings from the Philippines where he recently returned, attending the Ministers Conference and the 360 Leadership Conference. There are now about 120 students involved in the college program at the General Baptist Bible College (GBBC) and 90 percent are General Baptist. Rev. Cook went on to pose a challenge to end the distrust of 'headquarters,' to end the battle that those in Poplar Bluff are bad. He asked that we be unified in reaching the lost for Christ instead of debating and making an enemy of 'Poplar Bluff' until Jesus comes. If this debating continues, more people will literally go to hell than be saved. We need to be about the business that God has called us to do. He then requested that each representative go back to their congregations and associations and ask for their help; to join us in reaching the lost for Christ through giving to Unified Giving.

National Mission Report – Team leader Carl Nichols reported that when his team came into the National Missions office in January, they were trying to figure out the best way to partner with national missions of General Baptist. They had the privilege of partnering with Dustin Thompson and the Refuge Church that recently launched. Dustin Thompson reported and thanked all those responsible for praying and partnering with them in this new church launch. Dustin went on to say this church launched with 247 in attendance and eight people accepting Christ. Vince Daniel is coaching Dustin in this church plant. Nichols went on to say National Missions had its first in house assessment in Tampa, FL. this past fall with six candidates; two received a green light. In September or October of 2015, they are planning toward a church plant in Bonita Springs, FL. with Steve and Keisa Gill. He went on to explain that he came to the General Baptist denomination almost six years ago, after relocating his family on someone's word, to plant a church. The funding was almost pulled due to it being given elsewhere. He wanted to reassure everyone that no more of that has happened out of the ministry offices. He said we can make the decision to be victims or victors and, in that situation, his family decided to be victors and help drive change and support those in the ministry office. Denominations do not change the world, churches change the world. National Missions is debt free and able to plant multiple churches at the same time now. The last five church plants represent .5% of our churches and are giving 6.5% of Unified Giving dollars.

International Mission Report – Interim Director Jim Schremp reported and thanked everyone for allowing he and his wife Sue to serve. They have been able to visit most of the missions and are very proud of what the missionaries are doing on the field. International Missions, along with its missionaries, are giving direction and leadership to about 300-400 churches on the field. The mission is changing to evangelism, church planting, and leadership training. Field Councils have been implemented to help missionaries with issues that take place in their ministries. In Mexico, a new church was planted earlier this year. Pastors are being trained there as well. In Honduras, we have church planters for the first time with the Stead family. Phil and Cindy Warren have been relocated to the Philippines to work with church leaders and pastors. Two new churches have been planted in the Philippines this past year. The Philippines Association of General Baptists reported 251 churches with 174 conversions this last year. In Jamaica, they reported nine churches with 83 conversions. English Language Institute, China (ELIC) is still our partner in China and doing a good work. Oakland City University had seven students go to China with ELIC this past summer. New missionaries, Jesse and Brittany Vemula recently went to India. They have ordained 16 new General Baptist pastors, and received 43 new General Baptist churches. Sixteen Dorcas Sewing Centers are maintained in India. This past year, a total of 23 MVP teams were sent to the various missions, the gospel was presented to more than 7,000 people, more than 1,000 conversions were recorded, more than 4,000 patients were treated, and more than 9,000 people were fed. In the next five

years, 157 churches could be started on the mission field. He went on to say that we will never be able to do ministry until we recognize that the greatest work we can do is reach people for the Kingdom. Ministry cannot be done without your financial support.

Congregational Ministries' Report – Dr. Franklin Dumond reported and spoke about the different conferences, events, and communication pieces his department is responsible for. He went on to talk about the Legacy Process. This process reassures the legacy of the church after its founding fathers are gone. Dr. Dumond talked about social change and diversity. He said Baptist pastors are not employed by the state so Baptist pastors can decide who they will or will not perform marriage ceremonies for. In a recent Special Edition publication of the Messenger there are some helpful resources in this area of how can we address rapid social changes and how we can adapt.

Administration/Financial Ministries' Report – Linda McDonough reported that books were closed this past week.

General Baptist Foundation and Pension Reports – Mrs. McDonough said copies were available for the September financial statements for Foundation and Pension, and Council of Associations' September financial statements.

Chairman Carpenter said in Jamaica, it takes 100 of their currency to equal 1 of ours. So their \$1 will equal our \$.01. For the second time, the Jamaica Association has given to Unified Giving, Ed Stevens Offering, and the VBS Offering. When they give, they are giving sacrificially. For our churches and associations not to give in the abundance that we have in America, it's unacceptable.

Women's Ministries' Report – Executive Director Patti Thornton reported that plans don't always go the way we want them to go. God's plans need to be evident in our lives to draw women to Jesus. She talked about the GBBC boy's dorm to benefit from the Asenath Brewster Christmas Offering. The Women's Inside Out Retreat was a huge success.

Oakland City University (OCU) – Dr. Ray Barber reported that OCU has been recognized for the second straight year by the US News and World Report as one of the best universities in the Mid-west. Chapman Seminary has 21 students enrolled in the Masters of Divinity program. The Christian Studies program has been redesigned. This study will now have five major areas of study: Missions, Pastoral Ministries, Christian Education, Worship Leadership, and Pre-Seminary. Another degree that is starting to show growth is the Psychology degree. The Criminal Justice online degree currently has 120 students and was recognized by Bestcolleges.com as the 4th best Criminal Justice online degree in the United States and 10th best online program in the United States. Dr. Barber went on to say that the prison ministry continues, although it has been a challenge. OCU serves approximately 4,000 offenders every year. The university continues to be supportive of General Baptists. This past year, students were in Jamaica, China, and Honduras.

Executive Council elected: David Kelle, Evansville; Craig Moore, Flat Creek; Charles Smith, Green River Union; Larry Sonnenberg, Michiana; Charles McFarland, Missouri; Marston Carpenter, MOARK; Pat Dunivan, New Liberty General; Jim French, Post Oak Grove; Kevin Mann, SEMO; John Brumfiel, Union; and Barry Hix, West Kentucky.

Compassionate Care Adoption Ministries, Inc. – Executive Director David Kelle reported that around the world there are an estimated 153 billion orphans who have lost at least one parent and 17,900,000 orphans who have lost both parents and are living on the streets or living in orphanages around the world. In the United States there are 400,000 children living in Foster Care waiting for forever homes.

Evaluation Committee Report –

The committee met on November 3, 2014 for the purpose of evaluating the ministry goals for 2015. Ministry planning arrows were submitted in advance for review and permission was given by Executive Director Clint Cook to continue to evaluate the departments and the overall organizational health. Based on review of the submitted ministry planning arrows evaluation meetings were deemed unnecessary for evaluation. Findings and recommendations are as follows:

Administrative/Financial

The Administrative/Financial Departmental Goals for 2015 are in line with the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws.

Congregational

The Congregational Ministries Departmental Master Planning Arrow for 2015 is in line with the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws however some facets of the planning arrow appear to be opinions and suggestions best suited for discussion with the Executive Council Ad Hoc Committee or for Leadership Team meetings.

Executive

The Executive Departmental Goals for 2015 are in line with the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws.

National Missions

The National Missions Departmental Goals for 2015 are in line with the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws.

International Missions

The International Missions Departmental Goals for 2015 are in line with the Council of Associations Constitution and Bylaws however no tangible goal or strategy was presented to expand the missions department under the vision Executive Director Clint Cook shared at the 2014 Mission and Ministry Summit.

General Baptist Organization

Over the past 18 months, extensive evaluations have been carried out with the permission of Executive Director Clint Cook and under the purview of the Council of Associations to monitor the health of the organization as a whole. During that time, several points of concerns were identified and reported. As of this time all current organizational deficiencies have been shared with the Council of Associations and have been referred to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Executive Council for further review.

Respectfully submitted for consideration to the Council of Association's by the Evaluations Committee,

Nominating Committee Report –

C/A Chairman – Josh Carpenter

Vice Chairman – Tracy Burnett (Union)

Nominating Committee – Tom Owczarek (Fellowship), Gary Peterson (Northern IL & Iowa), Fred Pringle (Hopewell)

Ministry Evaluation Committee – Floyd Holland (Illmo), Tracy Burnett (Union), Pat Dunivan (New Liberty General)

Constitution and Bylaws Committee – Larry Sonnenberg (Michiana), Garnetta Shelton (Union)

Foundation/Stewardship – Jack Case (Union Grove)

Pension Trust – Tom Owczarek (Fellowship), Andy Mathias (Portland)

Election of General Baptist Council of Association Corporate Officers – In the matter of corporate officers, a motion and second were made to elect Rev. Clint Cook as president and Kelly Copeland as secretary of the General Baptist Council of Associations, Inc. Motion carried.

Executive Council Report – Chairman Oren Alcorn reported that he believes by the end of this decade, churches that are now of an independent spirit will beg for denominational affiliation. With the trends we see now in our culture, with the way our society is beginning to think, it is a high probability that pastors and churches will desperately need each other. Our

denomination needs to be producing apologists, attorneys, politicians, and pastors that believe the scripture from the inside out. He went on to say that he sees great value in being a part of a denomination.

There are three recommendations from the Executive Council.

1. Article VII - Resource Networks that currently reads:

Basic Ministry departments may be supported by resource networks providing planning, assistance, and consultation.

The resource networks will not be constituted as standing committees, but as departmental task forces called into action by the executive director when particular expertise and experience are needed. The participation of persons in a resource network will generally be short term and limited to the duration of a specific study or project. If the ministry is incorporated, the corporate directors may serve as the resource network, but remain accountable to the Leadership Team.

The proposed wording shall be:

General Baptist Ministries may be supported by resource networks providing planning, assistance, and consultation.

- A motion and second were made to approve this change of the Council of Associations Bylaws. Motion carried.

2. The recommendation to the Council of Associations is to approve the action to secure up to \$250,000 from GBIF, and for authorization to use 75 percent of the emergency fund reserves, which has a balance of approximately \$166,000, to off-set this note and 50% of the amount being put into emergency fund will be used to pay on debt.

Further clarification: Repairs and maintenance projects are needed at an estimated cost of no more than \$250,000. The original plan was to borrow the entire amount from GBIF. It was decided to use up to 75% of the current Unified Giving reserve fund before borrowing any amount from GBIF. Any loan that is obtained from GBIF will be repaid using 50% of the future monthly Unified Giving reserve allocations.

- A motion and second were made to approve this recommendation. Motion carried after much discussion.

3. The recommendation from the Budget Committee is to hire a Financial Development Coordinator.

Chairman Alcorn said we desperately need a financial development coordinator, but how do we fund it? Not having someone in this position is affecting ministry.

- A motion and second were made to approve this recommendation. Discussion followed. Motion Failed due to lack of support. Chairman Carpenter said that all day the reports have talked about financial issues.

A table discussion followed on why churches are not giving to Unified Giving.

"The churches do not care about Unified Giving, only about what goes on in their own corner." "Churches do not trust headquarters on spending money the way it is supposed to be spent. Churches are waiting to see accountability before giving money." "Small churches feel like headquarters is all about the big churches and do not care about the small churches." "Several years ago, an association became weak and asked for help from those at headquarters, no help was given." "Small churches see money being poured into church plants and not helping the existing small churches." "We need to focus on the greater good instead of our differences."

Chairman Carpenter said if you hear someone saying something that has a concern about our General Baptist movement, talk to the Executive Director Clint Cook or one of the directors at headquarters. Find out if it is true.

Stinson Press, Inc. – President Dwayne Foster reported that the newly updated Social Principles of General Baptists are now available. He went on to say that the business started off with a rough year. It moved into digital printing and that came with

issues on editing and printing. There were several problems with the Sunday School books and those have been addressed. The Sunday School books that are about to be shipped have a few problems but the spring and summer editions are looking great.

General Baptist Investment Fund, Inc (GBIF) – President and CEO Steve Naff reported September to September there was a 10% increase. Loans have increased as well due to churches expanding. GBIF has given \$4,884,000 in new loans this year. It is currently paying 2 ½% interest.

Mission & Ministry Summit 2015 Report – Moderator Josh Carpenter reported that the speakers will be Alex Himaya and Darrin Patrick. Alex is pastor of The Church at Battle Creek in Tulsa, OK. Darrin is pastor of The Journey Church in St. Louis, MO. Both churches have multiple sites. Darrin is chaplain for the St. Louis Cardinals. There are other workshop presenters bringing fresh material to us next year. He went on to say that as Council of Association representatives, it is important to attend and take part at the Summit. If you are an Executive Council member it is even more important that you attend the Summit due to the possibility that a special meeting could be called on an issue that has been brought forward. He told everyone to go back to their associations and encourage them to attend the Summit. The Summit is scheduled for July 20-22, 2015 in Collinsville, IL.

Organization of Executive Council

The Executive Council met for reorganization following the Council of Associations meeting. The meeting was called to order, and the floor was open to nominations for chairman.

- A motion and second were made to retain Oren Alcorn as Chairman. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to retain Rick Sellers as Vice Chairman. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to elect Carletta Evans Steele as Member-at-large. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to elect Charles McFarland and Craig Moore to the Personnel Committee. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to elect Pat Dunivan, Barry Hix, David Kelle, and Kevin Mann to the Budget Committee. Motion carried.

The committees met and organized as follows:

Personnel Committee

- A motion and second were made to elect Ron Jagers as Chairman. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to elect Carletta Evans Steele as Vice Chairman. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to elect Craig Moore as Secretary. Motion carried.

Budget Committee

- A motion and second were made to elect Ron Wallace as Chairman. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to elect Kevin Mann as Vice Chairman. Motion carried.
- A motion and second were made to elect Pat Dunivan as Secretary. Motion carried.

2015 Report to Associations

International Missions

Rev. Jim and Sue Schremp

Stateside:

The focus of General Baptist International Missions continues to be Evangelism, Church Planting, and Leadership Development.

The 2015 Vacation Bible School project will be directed to Faith Home in Honduras.

The goal for the Missionary Volunteers Program is to send 23 teams to six different fields.

Honduras:

Willingham Bible Institute (WBI) had been repurposed and updated to provide a Conference and Training Center with a dining room and lodging for guest. In the future it will be referred to as The Willingham Center.

Plans are to develop two new churches in the south during 2015 as well as providing a leadership training conference for our pastors.

Faith Home:

We are now providing psychological services for all our children at Faith Home.

The new cafeteria is now functioning.

We are working to make Faith Home more self sufficient.

Will be sending a team this year to work on Little Angels School.

Philippines:

Phil and Cindy Warren are working in the Philippines doing Leadership training and teaching Discipleship with our pastors.

In February General Baptist Bible College celebrated 50 years of ministry in the Philippines.

Plans are being made to send the first Mission Volunteer Program team made up of students from General Baptist Bible College to India to do evangelism and leadership training.

We are refurbishing the campus at Matigsalug Bible Institute (M.B.I.).

Saipan:

We continue to work with Saipan Community Church and School and are looking for new missionaries to send to that field. We are also attempting to restore a working relationship with the churches on Guam.

Mexico:

We have relocated Ryan and Amanda Stead to El Paso, Texas to work alongside our national leader in Mexico, Pastor Pedro Quezada, to plant and develop new churches.

A new Church start, sponsored by the Agua Viva Church, is functioning in Juarez, Mexico.

India:

Purchased new vehicles for our missionaries in India

Received 42 new churches and ordained 16 pastors for the work in India.

Started a "Water Buffalo Project" to purchase a total of 15 buffalo at a cost of \$ 1500.00 each. This will help provide some basic financial support for our pastors.

Jamaica:

We continue to partnership with "Jamaica Kingdom Partners" to expand the work in Jamaica. At Faith church we worked together to complete a 15' x 100' building expansion.

In March 2015 we will send a medical-evangelism team to an area where we plan to start a new church.

China:

We continue to work with ELIC to send teachers to China.

Hong Kong:

Continue our outreach ministry to Muslim women

Conclusion:

It has been a privilege for Sue and me to be a part of the leadership of International Missions. We look forward to the appointment of the new director sometime this year. We ask you to continue to pray with us as International Mission makes an impact on the Kingdom's work.

Congregational Ministries

Dr. Franklin Dumond

The work of Congregational Ministries to be a response system to our churches continues in several differing aspects.

First, careful attention is given to conferences and events. This is essential to realize our mission of equipping churches and responding to their needs. If we had unlimited staff these events might not be so important. With unlimited staff churches could be equipped one-on-one and on-site. With limited staff, however, conferences and events provide a mechanism to gather a larger group together and then to impact

them with special training or special features to meet the various needs of the churches. In addition, there is a real synergy that develops when folks from different churches make acquaintances and begin to network beyond the time that is spent in these joint settings. This year Congregational Ministries will be heavily involved in five different conferences.

1. The General Baptist Minister's Conference, May 26-28 at Kentucky Lake, Gilbertsville, Kentucky. A wide range of our own preachers will be developing the theme of "Recharge." Registration is available by phone, by mail or on-line.

2. National Youth Conference, Carlinville, Illinois, June 19-21 will see hundreds of teens and their sponsors attending this life-changing, disciple-making weekend. "Anchored" will help teens take the next step in their Christian walk through breakout sessions, worship events and personal interaction within their own groups.

3. The Mission & Ministry Summit, July 20-22, Collinsville, Illinois. The Summit is shaping up to be an exceptional three days of powerful worship, practical training and up-close-and-personal time with missionaries. Our workshops have been organized into tracks so that participants may choose to follow a theme in the course of the Summit. Two workshop tracks are of special interest to congregations and their leaders. These are the Rural and Small Town Church Track and the Ministry Readiness Track. The full descriptions of the more than 45 workshops are available at www.GBSummit.org and have been published in a variety of ways.

4. Camp Meeting Days (also known as Senior Adult Retreat) will meet at The Radisson in Branson, Missouri, September 8-9-10. This high powered retreat will feature gospel music, Branson-style entertainment, a hymn sing, and powerful preaching.

5. Leverage is our newest conference. It focuses on young leaders who are in vocational ministry or who are high capacity volunteers. This conference will be hosted in Evansville, Indiana, October 9-10.

Second, consultations are available. The old proverb is so true: "Too close to the forest to see the trees."

This can be especially frustrating to churches and their leaders who want to do the best possible ministry for the Lord but who have run out of ideas and how-tos.

With more than 40 years of hands-on ministry experience and with training from several consulting organizations the director of congregational ministries can often provide that fresh look around to help understand the current reality in a local church.

Often it is not a fresh look but an outside voice that can speak into the current situation to reinforce what is already being said and done by church leaders.

Consulting can be conversational and informal.

Consulting can also be systematic and formal.

Systematic and formal consultations are available in different formats in three specialized areas. Because of our denominational connections these consultations are offered at reduced or no cost.

1. Church Health Assessment. The formal assessment involves a few weeks of advance preparation and information gathering combined with a weekend of surveys, observations and interviews. A follow-up report with detailed observations and recommendations will be produced. General Baptist churches are asked only to cover the cost of the tabulation and scoring of the church health survey.

2. Church Growth Strategies. This formal assessment involves a thorough review of the church's growth patterns, an analysis of the community demographics, and the development of a training implementation plan to generate growth.

3. Legacy Consultation. If church leaders feel their organization is nearing the end of its life cycle, work can be done to assess the attitudes, programming and trajectory of the congregation to help make informed decisions regarding restart and renewal or transfer of assets to the future through church planting or endowments through the General Baptist Foundation.

Consultations may be scheduled by contacting the department by phone, mail or e-mail.

Third, communication is always important. In an effort to maintain the most current communication possible considerable attention is given to Social Media postings through Facebook, Twitter and blogs. Blog posts from denominational departments are sent regularly under the title *For Every Man*. A new blog post *The Locker Room* is now being released through the National Youth Conference website www.GBNYC.org.

Communication through the General Baptist Messenger continues to promote denominational objectives, update important mission developments and highlight General Baptist churches. The Messenger is sent 3-4 times annually to all General Baptists who request a copy and who identify themselves with one of our churches.

Fourth, resource development is essential. A recently revised resource is now being made more readily available through our website www.GeneralBaptist.com. The Social Principles of General Baptists has recently been revised to clarify our biblical stance on important social issues. The section on Marriage and Family is especially helpful in these days of rapidly changing social values. The Social Principles will

continue to be available in hard copy by contacting Congregational Ministries. From the website the Social Principles may be downloaded and copied as a pdf file.

National Missions

Carl Nichols

This past year has been an exciting time in National Missions as we are well under way with the Go Project. This year is the official kickoff to launch fifteen churches in the next five years. Here are a few highlights happening with the Go Project as well as a few other things our team is looking forward to.

TURNING POINT CHURCH

In September of this year we will be launching a brand new church in Bonita Springs, FL. Steve and Keisa Gill will be launching Turning Point Church in Bonita Springs. Steve and Keisa will be our very first Go Project plant.

INTERNSHIPS

Adam and Brandy Thacker just moved to Atlanta as a part of an internship through Relevant Church for the next two years. Adam and Brandy are looking to plant in Roanoke, VA in 2017.

ASSESSMENT

Our next assessment is scheduled in April of this year at Relevant Church in Atlanta. If you know someone looking to plant a church please email plant@goproject.us

VELOCITY

Pastor Brandon Petty and Pastor Vince Daniel will be attending the Velocity Conference to recruit church planters as well as learn more about best practices of church planting.

EXPONENTIAL

This year we have the privilege of sponsoring the largest church planting conference in the country. Exponential will be held in Tampa in April, and we as General Baptist get to be a part of it. The Go Project will be highlighted in various ways and we anticipate recruiting more candidates for future plants.

SUMMIT

We are looking forward to Summit in July. Our team will be discussing "how to deal with negative people" as well as "how to raise giving" in your church. Hopefully we will see you there.

GBNYC

Pastor Brandon Petty spoke at GBNYC last year and I am excited to pick up where he left off this year. It is true honor to be asked to speak at this event.

Thanks so much for trusting our team. The best days are still ahead of us!

GENERAL BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Patti Thornton

Kenneth Boa, Bible.org author, states that, "Structure is good insofar as it enables us to meet the goals and objectives of our mission. Once that is no longer the case, we must call upon the living and powerful God who acts among and through his people to give us new structures and a sense of resourcefulness equal to the challenges before us and worthy of the mission entrusted to us." [The problem comes when we fail to realize that it is God alone that is unchanging. His plans never fail, but ours do and need to be changed from time to time.](#)

I believe that this is exactly what we, the Leadership Team of General Baptist Women's Ministries, are striving to do with the mission entrusted to us. Our striving took on renewed energy this past year as we dedicated time to prayer, fasting, and meeting together for a weekend of focused strategic planning.

Our next step was to inform member representatives of the current standings of all our activities. During a fast-paced Mission & Ministry Summit session, we offered, in panel format, answers to questions concerning the downward trends of Women's Ministries receipts, disbursements, membership, and activity. We offered our vision for a newly formed leadership structure that would allow room to grow on a solid foundation.

We approached the Council of Associations with a request for two years of reprieve from rent charges to have our offices located in the General Baptist Ministries building. A one year reprieve was granted, with the stipulation that we work toward finding new funding streams. The process was enlightening to many who did not understand that as a support organization we receive no funds from Unified Giving; thus, we pay a share of all expenses to utilize office space in the central office building.

The year ended with a crisis, a success, and a concern. My husband's critical illness demanded my focus, heart, and energy for an extended period of time. His crisis began the day before we were to leave for Inside Out. In fact, he was working at my side in my office late into the night while we finished last minute preparations for the event.

The event that began as a dream that festered in my heart before I even took this position would go on without me. It did better than "go on." It was, in content and venue, one of our most successful. The leadership of several women who stepped up to the plate made it so. The very vision of our new direction, leading to lead, was demonstrated with excellence.

Despite another small annual decrease in Love Gift income and, other general expenses were successfully kept to a minimum, and Love Gift disbursements were *increased* by almost \$9,000 for the year! A new interactive blog was launched in January, and provides a real-time point of connection for anyone interested in inspiring articles, links to resources, prayer requests, and missionary updates and information.

We have made a start. Now it is our responsibility to listen, and to look for the order God has in mind for Women's Ministries, "equal to the challenges before us and worthy of the mission entrusted to us."

2015 Highlights:

- A track of workshops at the Mission & Ministry Summit will address:
 - How every woman's gifts have a niche in The Great Commission, and inspiration for Women's Ministries
 - Training for lay counseling for women, and
 - How to lead a successful group.
- Promotion of ABC project (to be announced.) We were pleased to grant \$9,293.91 (and counting!) toward a new boy's dorm at General Baptist Bible College in the Philippines for 2014-2015.
- **Anything? Anything!**
Inside Out: The Women's Event October 16-18 in Branson, Missouri. Cindi Irwin and Evidence Sings, along with other guests, will be presenters during a strongly small-group oriented gathering.
- Join our new blog site at www.gbwomen.org for updates, regional event dates, etc.

Stinson Press, Inc.

Dwayne C. Foster
President and CEO, Stinson Press

Stinson Press is celebrating its 50th year in its current state. It is both an honor and a privilege to serve our churches and associations, and to help in educating their members and working together to build the Kingdom of God.

We now print envelopes in house, plus, we can do smaller digital print jobs on our new digital press. In the past we had to make films, set them up, develop them and then make plates before we ran even one copy. That is why there was always a high minimum run, which helped pay for everything it took to get the job ready to print.

Now we can design a piece or take your design, if it is in the proper format and send it right to the press. The maximum size for this format is 12" x 18". We also offer one free hour of graphic work on each print job. The quality of the digital press is amazing and the fact that it allows us to run smaller jobs for you is also a great blessing and a money saver for you.

We have been honored to help a number of struggling churches with their literature needs this past year as well as giving substantial discounts to various ministry departments for their printing needs; it is difficult for us to compete with huge printing companies that get their paper by the train or truck loads. In some cases our prices are higher than the big-print boys, but remember that if you do use Stinson Press it allows us to help other churches as well as our ministry departments. That is something you will not see from the big-boys, and the benefits usually far outweigh the difference in cost, when ministry and outreach is taken into mind. We are very competitive among other mid- to small- market printers. So, always ask us for a bid. You may be surprised.

We are currently undergoing a re-design of our web sites to better serve those who want more and a site that is more up to date. To appease people who do not like change and want things simple. We are also going to run two parallel systems, one that will stay close to what we have now and then one for the advanced online shopper.

We appreciate your prayers as we write and provide studies to our churches to meet the spiritual education of an ever changing world.

We are also considering several books for publishing. For us to consider publishing a book, we must see a copy of the manuscript. Then we consider the following aspects before looking toward the book's possible release and success.

1. Are there other books like it in the market place?
2. How large is your online following or mailing list?
3. How many books have you published?
4. Who is your target audience?
5. Does it need editing?

Thank you for your prayers and support, and might God bless us as we all behave like God's children and work hard to spread the gospel and to be that light together. "Doing together what we cannot do alone."

If you have prayer needs please email them to us at foster@stinsonpress.com. We would love to join you in praying for your churches and/or Association's needs.

Compassionate Care Adoption Ministries

David Kelle

Executive Director

Compassionate Care Adoption Ministries would like to thank every individual and church who have supported this ministry throughout its more than 25 years of offering a compassionate response to women who are facing unwanted/unplanned pregnancies and families seeking to adopt. Lives have been rescued, souls have been directed towards Jesus, and families have been blessed with the precious gift of children.

2014 was a year of exceptional blessings. The greatest blessing was the placement of Hannah. This precious baby girl was born in May and her adoption was finalized in October. My wife and I have had the privilege of knowing this family and having Hannah in our home. All I can say is, this is what Compassionate Care is all about!

2014 was also a year of relationship building. With the new location of our offices in Evansville, IN we have been able to connect with people, ministries and agencies that share our passion for children and families. As a result of these relationships we have had a number of referrals since the beginning of 2015 and are currently working with two birth-mothers. Both of these women are due in March and are, at this time, very committed to placing their babies for adoption. We are also working with two very excited adoptive families who are anticipating welcoming these babies into their families. How exciting!

The financial situation at Compassionate Care is stronger than it has been in years. Again, thank you for your support. With continued financial strength, we are planning to contract with a social worker later this year. This person will continue to build relationships with ministries and agencies as well as with doctors and hospital. They will also be our direct contact person with potential birth-mothers and adoptive families.

The Lord is blessing this ministry, we see His hand at work in the ministry and in the lives of the birth-mothers and adoptive families. We are anticipating being able to placed several children this year and many more in the coming years. Please continue to support Compassionate Care as we seek to offer adoption as a compassionate response to women who are facing unwanted/unplanned pregnancies and families seeking to adopt. If Compassionate Care can be of assistance to you, your family or your church family, please don't hesitate to contact us.

OAKLAND CITY UNIVERSITY

Ray G. Barber, D.Min., President

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." – Acts 1:8

Dear General Baptist Family:

The Great Commission is Central to the Mission of the Church

and a Christian Liberal Arts Education

When Jesus was preparing to ascend into heaven, his disciples were concerned about understanding the "time and seasons" in which they were living. Jesus declared that these kinds of matters belong to God the Father. What is most urgent is for Christ followers to yield themselves to the dynamic of the Holy Spirit and serve as witnesses who disciple people throughout the world. The prime theme of Jesus' reiteration of The Great Commission in Acts 1:8 is as follows: Begin where you are in Jerusalem, move outward to Judea and Samaria, and do not stop until the entire world has received the Gospel.

In fulfillment of this directive Oakland City University provides educational opportunities for multiple needs and challenges. Our first commitment is to serve our local community. From our Jerusalem we seek to move outward with educational services to the local region, state, nation, and the world at large. As University President, it is my privilege to share some of the accomplishments in advancing Christian higher education.

IN JERUSALEM...

- *The U.S. News and World Report* named Oakland City University as a Best Regional University in 2014 for the first time in our institution's history. OCU garnered the same recognition in the 2015 edition marking the second consecutive year for this distinguished award.
- While the costs of higher education rises across the United States, Oakland City University has been listed as one of the most Affordable Colleges in Indiana for 2014.
- OCU augments the learning environment with a 15 to 1 student/faculty ratio at the undergraduate level. Furthermore, among our faculty, 29 of 38 ranking members possess earned doctorate degrees.
- Every student organization participates in service projects assisting local communities.
- Student Government Association (SGA) sponsors a fall outreach to local families. Over 300 children visited the main campus and were served by OCU students through various activities this fall.

IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA...

- OCU has been recognized by www.BestColleges.com as the fourth Best Online Criminal Justice Program of 2014 as well as number seven in [The 100 Best Online Colleges for the 2014 Academic Year](#).
- OCU garnered recognition from www.stateuniversity.com with a rating as one of the safest colleges in Indiana.
- Oakland City University annually offers specific endowments and scholarships for General Baptist students.
- OCU students are serving through various internships and mentoring programs. These career service programs provide "hands-on" learning experiences and job readiness skills to prepare students for the workforce. Oakland City University is proud to partner with many businesses and corporations including Fortune 500 companies, such as Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Indiana (TMMI). For many of our students, these opportunities lead to employment upon graduation from the mentoring organization.
- Oakland City University's Prison Ministry continues to thrive on our philosophy that an OCU education is centered on Christ. As we educate prisoners, we do so in the love of Christ, understanding that only the Gospel can truly change human hearts. Oakland City University's Prison Ministry offers educational opportunities to students sentenced to nine adult correctional facilities and one female juvenile facility. Thirty-four percent of the prison population are functionally illiterate. During 2014 fiscal year, 872 students achieved functional literacy level, 600 earned a high school equivalency diploma, and 1072 offenders completed a vocational program through OCU.
- Oakland City University has continued its partnership with Indiana Department of Workforce Development to offer WORK Indiana Certificate Programs in the hospitality field. Students earned three nationally recognized certificates from the American Hotel and Lodging Association Educational Institute.
- Through the Prison Ministry's vocational programs, students have the opportunity to give back to the community. The Indiana Women's prison culinary arts program prepared 340 turkeys and over 100 pans of dressing and fed over 8,200 people last Thanksgiving. The Putnamville horticulture class donated over 15,000 pounds of produce to local food banks.
- Oakland City University is making a financial difference in the local, regional, and state economies. A recent economic impact study revealed, OCU brought approximately \$35.6 million in revenue to the local area. At the regional level, about \$51.3 million in revenue was created. At the state level, about \$61.7 million was created.

...UNTO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH.

- We continue shaping the heart through our emphasis on "Service Learning". OCU faculty, staff, and students reach the world through serving on missions trips. This past year, OCU missions teams traveled to Honduras, Jamaica, China, and the Philippines sharing the love of Christ to others.
- The University has been awarded a 2015 Military Friendly Schools Designation. This recognition means OCU provides educational opportunities to the Armed Forces in a variety of ways such as: classroom instruction, online learning, and hybrids of the two. Oakland City University has special policies to assist students who are called to "active duty" while enrolled in classes.

- Oakland City University is a Yellow Ribbon Program School, a VA benefit program. Military students are able to access the G.I. Bill through the Yellow Ribbon initiative.
- Oakland City University is proud to serve students from 19 states and 11 countries.
- Over 12,000 OCU alumni can be found around the globe serving in a vast array of callings. Whether it be in ministry, education, business, criminal justice, or many other areas, our alumni serve the Lord with passion and commitment.

Oakland City University students are meeting the challenge of Acts 1:8. They receive the power of the Holy Spirit and go forth to be God's witnesses in our geographical region, the state of Indiana, the United States, and to the entire world. All of these accomplishments are possible because of God's blessings and favor on our General Baptist University.

You play a vital role in helping OCU fulfill its vision and mission in providing a quality Christian liberal arts education. Thank you for standing with us and generously supporting OCU students. May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the light of His love shine upon you.