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# The Voice

JUNE 2016

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[millerbaptistassociation.com](http://millerbaptistassociation.com)

of Miller County Baptist Association

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

In April of 1985 I was called to pastor the Cedar Grove Baptist Church in Warsaw. It was my first pastorate. I had no experience in ministry and had not yet even graduated from SBU. At the time, Cedar Grove had about 18 in Sunday School and maybe 23 in worship, on a good Sunday. But that little church, 31 years ago, paid me \$100 a week, plus a parsonage with paid utilities.

Now let's fast forward 31 years . . . \$100 thirty one years ago is worth about \$223 today! Apart from the value of the parsonage, that congregation of about 20 people was paying a young, inexperienced, pastor who had not even finished college, \$223 in today's money!

Let's be honest for a bit – how many hours a week does your pastor work doing his pastoral ministry? In my own experience it would take 6-8 hours to prepare a 30 minute sermon for Sunday. Add evening service and there is 12-16 hours per week in sermon prep alone. Add to that visiting the members, hospital visiting, visiting prospects, etc., and added to that meeting with committees and planning events. It is easy to see that any pastor is going to work a minimum of 20 hours per week.

In today's economy, a 20 year old with no experience in a given field can get a job at McDonald's for 20-25 hours a week and make that much money. In fact, LORM (our joint missions effort with Lamine Association) will be paying \$250 per week for the summer missionary – a young college student with little to no experience in their field, and that for a temporary job of 10 weeks for the summer. Is your pastor worth more than a hamburger chef at McDonald's or a summer missionary?

Why am I bringing all this up? I am bringing this to our attention because there are many pastors who are getting paid much less. In fact, there are some pastors who are still being paid only \$100 per week . . . there are even some churches in our own association that are paying their pastors only \$100 per week.

First, this says a lot about the character of these pastors – these are men who truly have a heart of servanthood. They are not greedy, not fond of sordid gain, not hirelings getting rich off the backs of their flock. But they are servants faithfully fulfilling the divine call on their life in spite of being compensated less than a teenager in an entry level job.

Second, it says something about the churches. Some would say the church cannot afford any more – and that may be the case. But if so, why can't the church afford to pay more? Are the members of the church tithing? Are you tithing? Have your wages gone up in the past 30 years? Has your church's payroll gone up in the past 30 years? Is your pastor being paid in 1985 wages, or with wages comparable for today's economy? I have spent over 35 years in ministry – I have experienced and been made aware of many church's budgets and overall financial picture. In that experience I have never seen a church that was generous in missions and pastoral support hurting for money. On the flip side, churches who skimp in missions and pastoral support and only do as little as possible seem to always struggle financially. Maybe someone needs to re-think the cause and effect of such situations.

My guess is that there are also many members who do not know what their pastor is getting paid. It may have never crossed your mind. So let me challenge you with this – find out. As we approach the time of year when churches that have budgets begin making projections for the coming year – whether the budget starts in July, September, October, or even if your church does not have a budget – get involved, and make sure your pastor is paid according to his experience and worth. In First Corinthians 9.9 Paul reminds us of Deuteronomy 25.4 – to not muzzle the ox while he treads out the grain. And in another place the Scripture says that a worker is worthy of his wages.

Your Fellow Servant  
Timothy

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## YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO SHENANDOAH PLANNED

We are putting together a mission trip for June 19<sup>th</sup> – 22 to Shenandoah, Iowa! This trip is for Christian youth (those who have completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade up through high school). We will also need some responsible adults to accompany these youth.

The ministry work will involve cleaning and prepping the church building for services since it has sat empty for about three years. We will also be doing some other service projects in the community as well as some door to door canvassing and prayer walking.

We will be leaving at 5:00 PM on Sunday, June 19, and returning late on Wednesday, June 22. The cost of the trip will be \$50.00 per participant.

There will be a mandatory meeting for all youth missionaries on June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Associational Office, 401 West Champain, Eldon. This is also the deadline for signing up to participate in this opportunity.

Health Form and Itinerary available in the Associational Office.

If you have questions contact the Associational Office at 392-6591.

# NAMB Missionaries Replant Shenandoah Church

By [Jon Olsen](#) on May 11, 2016



Lucy Beth, Jill, Noel and Charlie Gandy

*By Noel & Jill Gandy,*

**Noel and Jill Gandy, transplants from South Mississippi, have found themselves in Southwestern Iowa as NAMB missionaries. For several months the family sought God's will for their lives in church planting. After visits to many areas around the country, the Gandys found themselves in Shenandoah, IA, a small town in the Southwestern corner of the state.**

**Located in Shenandoah is Memorial Baptist Church. Memorial closed its doors two and a half years ago after nearly 60 years of ministering to the Shenandoah area. The desire to replant had long been on Noel's heart and he and his family decided to follow the Lord's leading to replant Shenandoah. This comes after Noel's 10 years of service in various staff positions and pastoral roles in Mississippi/Alabama churches, one of which included a revitalization project.**

**Memorial Baptist will reopen as Christ Point Baptist Church. Christ Point Baptist Church will target the lost in Shenandoah with nearly 5,200 residents. On average 1000 individuals will be in church regularly leaving a large gap of those who are unchurched. That means approximately 80% of the town is unreached. Iowa on the whole falls close to this number as well.**

**Noel, Jill, Charlie, 6, and Lucy Beth, 5, ask that you pray for the work in Shenandoah. God is already moving in the area! Please pray for the family as they minister.**

**While the building is functional, there are several maintenance projects to be considered. Teams from Mississippi, Missouri, and Iowa are already scheduled to help work in the church and town to see this new church replant take root. Please pray about being a part of the work in Shenandoah.**

**God Bless,**

**The Gandys**

# IT'S CAMP TIME



## CHILDRENS CAMP

[Grades 3-5]

Cost \$85.00

July 11-15

Registration Due

June 9

## YOUTH CAMP

[Grades 6-12]

Cost \$85.00

July 25-29

Registration Due

June 23

Pulaski Baptist Association Camp, Waynesville, MO

## DAY CAMP

[Grades K-3]

Cost \$15.00

Saturday, July 16

Registration Due June 30

Camp P82, Rocky Mount MO

Registration forms available in the office and on the  
MCBA website [www.millerbaptistassociation.com](http://www.millerbaptistassociation.com)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### ASSOCIATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

7:00 PM

MCBA OFFICE

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 12

7:00 PM

BRUMLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

# UPCOMING EVENTS

June 4: Strawberry Festival, FBC Arnold MO

June 5: VBS, Aurora Springs

June 5: Fifth Sunday Sing Mt. Herman Baptist Church

June 7: Youth Mission Trip Meeting, MCBA Office, 7:00 PM

June 9: Registrations Deadline for Children's Camp

June 11: Pastors & Wives Fellowship Breakfast Mt. Herman Baptist Church

June 13-15: Southern Baptist Convention Meeting in St. Louis

June 19: Father's Day

June 19-22: Youth Mission Trip to Iowa

June 23: Registrations Deadline for Youth Camp

June 28: Associational Council Meeting

June 30: Registrations Deadline for Day Camp

July 9: Pastors & Wives Fellowship Breakfast Blue Springs

July 9: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open House

July 11: Executive Board Meeting, Brumley Baptist Church

July 11-15: Children's Camp Pulaski Baptist Association Camp

July 16: Day Camp for grades K-3 at Camp P82 Rocky Mount

July 24-30: Mission Trip to Wyoming

July 25-29: Youth Camp Pulaski Baptist Association Camp

August 13: Pastors & Wives Fellowship Breakfast Blue Springs

August 23: Associational Council

September 10: Annual Meeting at Mt. Herman Baptist Church



MISSOURI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

125<sup>th</sup>  
Annual

Strawberry  
Festival

JUNE 4  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

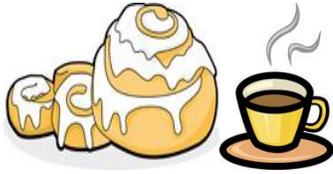
WWW.MBCH.ORG 1-800-264-6224

- ALL AIR-CONDITIONED
- PLENTY OF ON-SITE PARKING
- LOTS OF FOOD & BEVERAGES
- GREAT CHILDREN'S AREA
- CRAFT "BOUTIQUES"
- QUILT & CRAFT AUCTIONS

First Baptist Church  
2012 Missouri State Road  
Arnold, Missouri

*Come Enjoy the Festival and Help Support  
Children in Need of Love*

**PASTORS & WIVES  
FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**



**SATURDAY,  
June 11, 8:30 AM**

**MT. HERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH  
301 HWY FF, OLEAN MO**

**NOTE LOCATION CHANGE  
For JUNE**

**REMEMBER  
OUR CHURCHES  
WITHOUT PASTORS  
ST. ELIZABETH  
CROSSROADS**

**ROCKY MOUNT FOOD PANTRY OPEN HOUSE**

*You are invited to an Open House for the new*

*Rocky Mouny Food Pantry*

*Located at 474 Hwy Y, Eldon MO*

*Saturday, July 9, 2:00 PM*

*Come and Enjoy Pulled Pork Dinner and Fellowship*

**Miller County Baptist Association**

**P.O. Box 391, Eldon, MO 65026**

