



SBA Weekly News

July 16, 2015

Office Phone - 541-956-7588

My cell - 541-659-7261

Office Mail - 1252 Redwood Ave. #97,
Grants Pass OR 97527

Office Location - 1832 Dowell Road, GP
College Heights Baptist Church, Second floor

E-mail: office@siskiyoubaptist.org

Web: www.siskiyoubaptist.org

Hey! How's it going?

I hope all your summer plans are going great, that Jesus is honored in all that is accomplished for Him.

Grace Baptist Church is finishing up their VBS tomorrow. Ross Chapman was here signing the checks and stated that they had over 100 children. That they are excited and enjoying the time in VBS.

Here is the list for **the rest of the VBS' this year**: College Heights – July 27 – 31 (9AM – 12PM) (flyer on web page); Lozier Lane – July 26-31 (6:00 PM – 8:40 PM) and New Horizon joining up with the Spanish Mission on August 12 – 15, 9AM – 12 PM. Anyone else?

This next week there will be no Weekly News. We will once again we have kids coming in and the end of the week will be heading to Hillsboro.

Marriage 9/11 training was postponed. I have not heard about the next date. If you are interested call William Woody and let him know. That way we can get you direct information. 541-787-0791

Our SBA Purpose Statement is: The purpose of Siskiyou Baptist Association is to resource churches and ministries as they engage their world with the gospel, seeking to fulfill their unique, God-given vision for carrying out the Great Commission. My question is: Are we fulfilling the purpose as stated in our Constitution and By-Laws. If not lets figure this out and give Satan the ole heave hoe. Do we need to change our purpose and head another direction? Just questions to encourage some input to the status quo.

We have an opportunity to **start a MOPS group** at a couple of our churches. Would anyone else be interested? In a church setting it is used as an in-reach/out-reach tool to mentor Christian moms and bring non-Christian Moms to the Lord. Let me know what you think.

Please be thinking also in regards to the **SBA Administration Team line up** for 2015-16. We will need a Moderator, possibly a vice-moderator at the very least.

Guess what!! It is not too late to **start thinking about the dreaded annual report (ACP) or Annual Celebration Profile**. If you have planned a look at your membership or other items that are usually on the questionnaire now is the time to get it started. It only takes a few minutes if you are prepared. If you have a new clerk or you are the person responsible for the report and need some help to plan for this let me know and we can get together to work on it.

Last but not least!!! Coming up is the **SBA Children's Back to School Splash** on August 29th at Caveman Pool in Grants Pass from 5:30 – 8:00 PM. And it is FREE!

Have a wonderful day!

Nancy

July 2015

July Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Addison Merritt, 5th; Sawyer Badley, 9th; Zach Merritt, 17th; Carolyn Dawson, 21st; Richard Giles, 22nd; Rhonda Smith, 24th; Bob and Betty Batte (ret); 25th, William and Brandie Woody, 25th; Teri Franell, 28th; Stan Smith, 29th

7/12-19 – **Mexico Mission Trip** - pray for salvations, travel, health, growth, unity within the team. Haven't heard from them this time around.

7/13-18 – Grace Baptist Church, VBS – 9AM-12PM

7/26-31 – Lozier Lane Baptist Church VBS – 6:00 – 8:40 PM

7/27-31 – College Heights Baptist Church VBS 9AM-12PM

August 2015

August Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Sterling Badley, 4th; Doug Gates, 8th; William Woody, 9th; Tammy Johnson, 18th; Lenny Brewer, 18th; Nancy Goss, 26th; Bob Craig, 26th; John and Carolyn Dawson, 30th; Jimmie Roberts, 30th; Elizabeth Gates, 30th; Richard and Bonnie Giles, 31st

Children's and Youth camp information: Don't wait! Spots will go fast. Youth - August 10 – 15; Children - August 17 – 21 \$115 Optional: Youth - Paintball fee-\$10. This will be at Fir Point Bible Camp, Glendale, OR. For more Info: William Woody is our Youth Team leader 541-787-0791. The PDF of the packet is on the website:

www.siskiyoubaptist.org under the tabs: ministry/Children & Youth

September 2015

September Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Ron Lloyd (ret), 5th; Brook Gates, 12th; Bruce and Cheryl Pearson, 12th; JC Barnett, 18th

9/14 – Executive Board Meeting. It was to be at Lampman Road, I don't think it can be there. Anybody else willing to host it? Do we want to try a 10 AM – 12PM time frame on a different day?

• **Prayer Needs and Praises:**

- **Let me know if your church has a prayer concern it will be posted here.**

- **Updates are a great thing.**

Home:

- **Health issues for those in our churches:** **Bob Batte** – Is home and doing well at last report; **Harrison**, Cancer the treatments are getting harder to manage (College Heights); **Jeanette Allen** (Trinity) no new news here continue to pray for better health; **Jenny** (College Heights); and several other veteran SBA folks as well. Patty Spalding, (College Heights), bad break in knee she is doing some better.
- Pray that the vision of your own church bears spiritual fruit in the lives of everyone to whom it ministers. Pray for your role in making a difference in the lives of others around you. (NWBC prayer Guide)

SBA:

- **Our churches in transition:**
 - **Waters of Life Baptist** as they continue on in the process of being a Legacy Church. For the church, for Shawn and Tina Snyder as they make the transition. Pray their home sells quickly.
 - **Sixth Street Baptist** as they begin their search.
 - **Prospect Baptist** as they begin to minister with Richard and Bonnie Giles
 - **Grace Baptist Church** as Lenny and Sherry Brewer make their way “back home”, as they begin the process of Pastor search
 - **New Horizon** as they begin to be a sponsoring church for the Hispanic church plant in Medford. Jaime Pantoja is on the field.

Pray for these SBA Pastor's and Wives:

- William and Brandi Woody, College Heights
- Stan and Rhonda Smith, Dayspring
- Pray for the churches having VBS this summer: Grace Baptist Church July 13-17 @ 9-12; Lozier Lane July 26 – 31 @ 6PM – 8:40 PM; College Heights July 27-31 @ 9-12; New Horizon August 12-15 @ 9AM – 12 PM
- **For the Admin Team, Fellowship Team, Missions Team, Children & Youth Team as we work to accomplish the task that you have assigned us to do, that we would be unified in what God would have us to do.**
- **For the planning and execution of plans made here in and through SBA and our churches.** That He will be glorified in all that happens and that many would come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.
- **SBA teams to be energized with new participants and helpers** – Pray about how you can be serving our churches in our association.
- **Pray for the 19 Mexico Mission Trip folks as they are currently serving in Mexico building 4 houses. July 12 – 19, 2015**
- **For ministries and outreaches throughout our SBA area that are reaching out to their greater community.** (SOS, Lozier; U-Turn, Lampman Rd; River Valley New Hope Church; Southern Oregon Truck Stop Ministry and others) Want to join them give them a call!
- **For Youth Ministries in our churches:** College Heights, First Baptist, Grace, Lampman Road, Lozier Lane, New Horizon, Prospect, Sixth Street, Trinity, River Valley New Hope Church. Those working to encourage Youth attendance in their churches.
- **For our churches that are struggling with both much and lack of growth and financial issues.**
- **For upcoming participation needed for new SBA leadership 2015-16**

Region 4

- For Region 4 and So. Oregon New Work and Church Renewal that we would be reaching out to our neighbors in a way that gets them to thinking about God and Jesus.
- Pray for all the churches to enlist, equip and empower leaders to start healthy, reproducing churches in communities across Oregon, Washington, and north Idaho. Pray for your church's part in supporting that endeavor. (from NWBC Prayer Guide)

Region 4 Church Plants: Pray for these Pastors, their leadership teams and the many partners helping to start and grow these works.

- **Hispanic Church plant in Medford – Pastor Jaime Pantoja.**
- **Waters of Life Legacy Plant** - Shawn and Tina Snyder
- **River Valley New Hope Church** - Sean & Christina Sullivan
- **The Branch in Corvallis** - Pastor Josh Howeth
- **Freedom Pointe Ministries** - Bobby J. Blake Church Planter, Willamette Valley Baptist Association
- **Two Micronesia Churches** –Kieny & Antonette Aisek, Tigard and Salem. The language group is Chuukese.
- **A church plant for Vietnamese in Salem.**
- **Pray for those who are considering coming to the NW to either plant a new work or to take a pastorate.**
- **Korean church in Salem OR – John Y. Lee will be the planter**

NWBC

- **Pray for our Pastor's and wives, Region 4 Team, Missionaries (IMB and NAMB) and NWBC staff** that We protect our time for prayer and personal meditation in God's Word. Acts 6:4
- **NWBC leadership as they continue to serve Northwest churches.**
- **For Pastors and Planters to really learn how to communicate** the gospel into a world that is changing very quickly. (Scott Wilson, NAMB, New Mexico)
- Many churches use Summer activities to connect with children and their families. Please join me in praying for these high impact, exhausting events and the churches who host them. Here are some specific requests:
 - Through events that reach families, may God be glorified and may the kingdom grow as many come to know Him.
 - Pray for clear gospel presentations and hearts softened to hear the message.
 - Pray for these churches to continue the relationships that begin at events as new families are assimilated into the lives of the churches.
 - Pray for all the leaders who serve through events to be refreshed, renewed and equipped for more leadership opportunities.
 - Pray that churches will report baptisms and their Vacation Bible Schools and similar events on the ACP! J
 - Ask God to bless the ministry of camps for kids and students, using these to draw all who participate closer to Him!

USA

- **For the USA to turn back to God.**
- Pray for the families and those affected by the shooting in Chattanooga, TN today
- Pray that we here in the USA will rise up to support, pray, encourage those who are in areas of conflict in the world.
- Pray that our government will do the right thing for our Christian brothers and sisters.
- **Continue to pray for the Baptist Disaster Relief folks. Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Around the USA, etc**

World

- **NWBC East Asia Partnership.** Pray that the teams needed for special projects in 2015 will be filled. <http://www.nwbaptist.org/ministry/eastasia/Current%20EA%20Partnership%20Project%20Requests.pdf>
- **For our missionaries who are in difficult countries.**
- Pray for the missionaries who must move to be out of harm's way in so many of these situations around the world.
- **Nepal Rebuilding situation** - Pray for those who are there witnessing for Jesus in their work to put Nepal back together.
- Pray for the families of those who have lost their lives because of their Christian belief.
- "The number of missing children in America is staggering. Some run away, some are stolen by family members and others are kidnapped. Well, lost people are God's missing children. The numbers of lost people in the US and around the world are staggering. We must go – Pray for God to call out missionaries willing to go long term. We must give—those who go need financial support so ask God how much He wants you to give. We must PRAY that the lost will be found. We must PRAY for our sent ones. We must Pray for the Lord of the harvest to send more to tell the Good News. We must PRAY and ask God what role He wants us to take.

Please find attached the flyer for the SBA Back to School Splash. It will also be on the SBA web page.

The Exchange – A Blog by Ed Stetzer

(Ed Stetzer is the Executive Director of LifeWay Research, a prolific author, and well-known conference and seminar leader. Stetzer has planted, revitalized, and pastored churches, trained pastors and church planters on six continents, holds two masters degrees and two doctorates, and has written dozens of articles and books.)

Bring up church membership and watch people squirm.

It isn't that people in culture are against membership as an idea—Costco seems to be doing well.

Perhaps it is because church membership is not often defined well. It's one of those things that when misunderstood seems a bit like eating your spinach—"at least try it before you decide you don't like it."

Makes you want to sign right up, doesn't it?

But in the New Testament, people in churches are recognized as being in some sort of community. It's just that the reality is how community is expressed in Scripture has fallen on hard times over the last couple of thousand years.

Membership is often misunderstood, misapplied or not applied at all.

Membership Reality

The reality is we have often thought of membership like belonging to a select club, or like the old American Express commercial where "membership has its privileges."

That is not the way the Bible refers to membership. In fact, in 1 Corinthians Paul doesn't say the church is *like* a body. He says the church *is* a body. The phrase he uses to describe the individual connectedness is we are "members of the body."

Membership is often misunderstood, misapplied or not applied at all.

The word "member" in the Bible is more closely related to the medical word "member" than it is to the common cultural term. As an example, some of you who are reading may have lost a finger or toe in an accident. On that unfortunate day, you were dismembered. That's the actual technical terminology. A member of your body was separated from the body. That is a tragic thing.

Yet today in Western culture, being separated from the body of believers is not tragic. It's almost normal. It is almost understood that Christians and churches should be separated. Lone Ranger Christians are common.

Biblical Membership

Why then do we have membership? Because regardless of how the culture sees it or Christians misunderstand it, membership is not simply an opportunity to say, I'm a part of a club, but rather a scriptural expression of covenant connectedness to a church.

There are three things that help us understand why church membership is biblical and important.

1. Membership Reflects What the Church Is.

First, membership is a reflection of the organic community already existing in the body. Paul says we are a body. Can one part say to the other, "I'm not part of you"? No, it is already a part. But too often we live as if we are separated.

As a matter of fact, too many churches or Christian gatherings look like piles of dismembered body parts, not a body knit together as God's agent, his body, his kingdom, at work in the world. To reject the value of membership is to deny what God has already established in fact.

2. The Bible Teaches Covenant Community.

We find in Paul's letters to the church at Corinth that they were putting people out of the body. So Scripture teaches that we can be a part of the body, and we can be apart from the body. It is difficult to get around Scripture when it talks about being brought into the body and also being put out of it.

And yet for most churches there's no way to put somebody out because they're not even in. While there seems to be flexibility according to various bodies, there is no such thing in the New Testament as a church without some recognition of belonging—of membership in community.

People need membership commitment because they need to be connected to a Christian community.

3. People Need Church Membership.

Finally, we recognize biblical membership matters because people need it. People need membership commitment because they need to be connected to a Christian community. This is not just for the sake of the faith community, but also for the sake of the individual.

Individualist Christianity is a myth and a damaging pursuit. At the end of the day we're redeemed. We're placed in the body. The Bible specifically says he has redeemed us. He has transferred us, Colossians 1 says, from the domain of darkness into the kingdom of the Son he loves. A kingdom has a king. The king has subjects and his kingdom has a community together where we function as God's people.

Membership Matters

God makes us a part of his larger family when we are born again. But then we should covenant in a local body and live in community with them, agreeing to live by certain established godly principles and standards.

Membership doesn't save us. But it enables us to grow and become spiritually mature in Christ. Not only should we be members of the body, each of us should also be able to express the value of membership. Hopefully, then people will stop squirming when we bring up the topic, but instead passionately embrace the biblical nature of church membership.