



SBA Weekly News

August 28, 2013

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Greetings to everyone,

Here we are once again mid-week at the end of a short but long Summer. The opportunities we have had to lead, plant His Word, encourage, become more like Him have really been amazing. Now we get to look into the next season with anticipation and eyes focused on Him in ways that we may not have been focused before.

Siskiyou Baptist Association's Purpose Statement is:

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

Section 1. *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.*

Section 2. *The channels of cooperation in the Association shall be: Siskiyou Baptist Association, the Northwest Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention. The cooperation shall be among Southern Baptist Churches affirming or reaffirming such alignment and harmony.*

As your church is planning how you are going to meet the World head on, how can we as an Association of churches, be of help to you? Yes we have a past....but let's not let that be a hindrance to what He would have us do here in Southern Oregon.

There is an Executive Board Meeting scheduled for Monday, September 9th, 7PM at First Baptist, Phoenix. Will you commit to be there Pastor, with your representative? You ask that your folks be committed so that they are in the know and can grow together. Let's put that in practice and see if we as an Association of churches can help each other out at a new and forward looking level.

At the end of this Newsletter is some information for the lay leaders from the NAMB regarding Pastor Appreciation.

The flyer for the training in Springfield, OR on September 21st – 10am - 3 pm is again at the bottom of this New Letter.

Check out the Northwest Witness E-Paper at <http://www.gonbw.org> There are some great things happening in the Northwest. Randy Adam's Opinion piece is right on. Something we all need to be aware of in our individual lives as Christ Followers.

The office will be closed on Monday. Have a great weekend.

Nancy

August

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

Sterling Badley, 4th; William Woody, 9th; Lenny Brewer, 18th; Tammy Johnson, 18th; Nancy Goss, 26th; John and Carolyn Dawson, 30th

September

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

Bruce and Cheryl Pearson, 12th; JC Barnett, 18th

Executive Board to Meet - September 9th 7 PM at FBC, Phoenix, OR.

The usual items for this time of year will be on the agenda: Budget 2014, Calendar 2013-2014, Annual Meeting agenda, etc. Report from the meeting with the CPA will also be on the agenda.

September 21 - 2013 Region 4 Sunday School/Small Groups Leadership Summit - Saturday, September 21 10-3 at **East Side Baptist Church in Springfield, OR**. This Summit will emphasize training for age group Sunday School and Small Group leaders (preschool, children, student and adults). (see last page for flyer with more information)

The **Friday evening (20th)** before the conference **Gary Irby**, our new interim Church Planting Resources person **will meet with pastors committed and interested in church planting in Region 4.**

September 29th – Fifth Sunday Sing – at Prospect. More info to follow

• **Prayer Needs and Praises:**

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

- **For Revival in our land**
- **For So. Oregon New Work and Church Renewal** that we will seek to see where God is leading and follow Him to reach many for Jesus. God is Good!
- **PTL for growth in our churches.** For God's divine guidance and appointments as we go along our way. Prospect had several baptisms last Sunday! In their new baptistry.
- **Prospect Baptist** as they continue to go forward on a new building.
- **The firefighters** who are still at work here in our area.
- **Continue to pray for the Baptist Disaster Relief folks.** A lot of DR folks are still in the fire, hurricane, tornado and flooded areas of the US and Canada.
- **NWBC Executive Director/Treasurer Randy Adams and wife Paula** for God's direction and timing of things to come.
- **NWBC leadership as they continue to lead and serve Northwest churches.** For those who have changes in their positions.
- **For upcoming retreats, meetings and events,** that they would encourage and edify the Body of Christ here in So. Oregon. That He will be glorified in all that happens and that many would come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.
- **Pray for these Pastors and their wives:**
 - Kevin and Linda Darr, Lampman Rd, Gold Hill
 - Zach and Heidi Merritt

- **Pray for our Pastor's and wives, Region 4 Team, Missionaries (IMB and NAMB) and NWBC staff** that they and we will build strong teams among those who are working together so that He gets the glory. 1 Corinthians 3:7-9
- **Health issues:** Pray for Ken and Pat Barrington, Nordeca Irvin, Cheri Campbell, Rachel Bell;
- **For ministries throughout our SBA area that are reaching out to their greater community.** (SOS, Lozier: U-Turn, The Cure Church, Truck Stop Ministry and others)
- **Truck Stop Ministry in Phoenix:** Remodeling at the truck stop in Phoenix causing some disruption in the services. Pray that all will get back to normal soon.
- **For the planning and execution of plans made here in and through SBA and our churches.** Mission trips, outreach ministries, etc.
- **For our churches that are struggling with both much and lack of growth and financial issues.**
- **SBA teams to be energized with new participants and helpers** – Pray about how you can be serving in this way in our association.
- **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.**

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

- **The Cure** - Sean Sullivan - Grants Pass area
- **The Branch in Corvallis** - Pastor Josh Howeth
- **Freedom Pointe Church** - Bobby J. Blake Church Planter, Willamette Valley Baptist Association

Do you know of anyone who would like a mailed copy of the SBA Weekly News. It will be a once a month event. Contact me with their mailing address. Next week should be a mail out week.

Be Blessed

Nancy Goss

Pastor Appreciation Month efforts, NAMB

As part of Pastor Appreciation Month efforts, NAMB is encouraging churches to pick one Sunday in October-or a Sunday in a different month if the schedule doesn't permit-to specifically lift up their pastors during a worship service.

At namb.net/honoring_pastors, NAMB is providing a variety of resources to help churches do this. The website hosts posters and bulletin inserts that share 50 specific ways lay leaders can lift up and "bless" their pastors. These practical ideas will provide congregations with opportunities to encourage their pastors and their families. The ideas will help with everything from encouraging a pastor's marriage to celebrating his children to supporting his ministry. Some of the ideas are activities for the entire church to do together. Some of them are ministry ideas that a lay member or a family might try on their own.

Lay leaders can also find information at namb.net/honoring_pastors about planning a retreat for their pastor and his wife at Christian bed-and-breakfasts for a significant discount. Churches who choose to do this will have the opportunity to print out a gift certificate in a manner suitable for a formal presentation during a worship service.

NAMB is mailing churches information, addressed to its lay leaders, about how they can access these resources.

Holcomb leads Send North America: Portland

Portland, Ore., basks in the majestic draw of the Pacific Northwest. In the shadow of Mt. Hood, residents relish hiking, biking, skiing and anything that takes them outdoors. The environment is one of the elements that foster an independent spirit outside the cultural norms.

“The culture war is over [in Portland],” says Clay Holcomb. “You can’t bring the culture war with you. You have to bring the gospel.”

Send North America: Portland is strategically focused not only on the metro area of Portland and Vancouver, Wash., but also the influential communities of Eugene and Corvallis, home, respectively, to the University of Oregon and Oregon State University. As Portland’s Send North America city coordinator, Holcomb says the spiritual oppression in the area is openly discernible.

“Portland is a center for sex trafficking in America,” says Holcomb. “Pornography is huge here. There is a massive homosexual community. The spiritual darkness is strong here and the area is not open to Christ. Sexual sin is celebrated and people actually believe this is the correct way to live. It is the embodiment of 2 Corinthians 10. Those have become formative verses for me.”

Holcomb says people considering connecting for ministry or church planting in Portland need to recognize a learning curve must be overcome. “At the least you may not know what to do. At worst you can experience some intimidation.”

One of the bright places in Portland is Trinity Church, planted in 2010, and one of the few recent Portland church plants to survive. The church has some 200 members in community. Another encouragement is the foundation of strong partnerships with sending and supporting churches, like Greater Gresham Baptist Church in Gresham, Ore. But the need is great for more of all of these elements for the city.

“We need people to mobilize to pray for the city and for us,” says Holcomb. “We need people to pray for the protection of planters and their families who must raise children in this environment. We need churches to partner with us and we need church planters, interns and apprentices. We have identified the locations where churches are needed. We need the people.”

Another area of encouragement is what Holcomb calls the “tremendous network” of evangelicals partnering to reach Portland. One of the leaders of the movement is Kevin Palau, son of legendary evangelist Luis Palau, who has long made his home in Portland.

Through the Palau organization and other influences, 49 of the 50 largest evangelical churches in the Portland area have joined together to minister in the city. This year more than 27,000 Christian volunteers completed 350 projects across the city. The impact was so substantial that every public school in Portland has now been adopted by a participating church. The progress is tempered by the reality that much work remains.

“With a population of 2.2 million we have only 70 Southern Baptist churches in the area. That leaves a church to population ratio of 1:28,000. On top of that, 68 percent of the population claim no religious affiliation,” says Holcomb.

Holcomb and his wife, LeAnn, moved to the city from Texas in 2009, with their children Caleb, Matthew, Jacob and Bethany. They planted Trinity Church the next year and have 125 worshipers on Sunday. The bulk of their membership has come through baptism.

The progress of Send Portland has Holcomb enthusiastic about the future.

“There is a renewed optimism. I am pleased with where we are headed. We did a reboot this year, casting new vision and discovering what God is doing. But there is a great need for more church plants,” says Holcomb.

Joe Conway writes for the North American Mission Board and covers the West Region.

**2013 NWBC Region 4
Sunday School/Small Group
Leadership Training**

Saturday, September 21

10:00am – 3:00pm

**Eastside Baptist Church
4045 Commercial Avenue
Springfield, OR**

Schedule:

8:30-10:00- Registration/LifeWay Bookstore

9:00-9:50- Early Bird Electives

10:00-10:15- Opening Session-Sanctuary

10:20-12:30- *Transformational Small Groups*, Age-group Sessions

Preschool-Millie Burkett

Children-Leigh Ann Stark

Students-Lance Logue

Adults/Pastors/General Leaders-Richard Kirk

Spanish Ministry-Boris Alfaro

12:30-1:10 Lunch Provided

LifeWay Bookstore open!

1:10-2:00 Elective Sessions *Multiple choices!*

2:10-3:00 Elective Sessions *Multiple choices!*

***LifeWay Bookstore -- Open ALL day in Fellowship Hall**

COST: \$10/Person if preregistered, \$15/Person at the door

Send all pre-registration names and monies to:

Northwest Baptist Convention

3200 NE 109th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98682