

**CCSBA Focus on Church Growth**

Last week we had a great Youth Retreat. There were 16 youth and several adults which had a great time of fun and study in God’s word. We learned a lot and were deeply challenged as Daniel Bray, our new BSU Director, took us through Philipians. As well, we had a good time at the pool, playing games, and getting to know each other.

Regardless of a good retreat, we were also confronted with the reality of not being able to have the children’s camp because of a lack of children. It seems that many of our sister churches simply do not have any children involved on a regular basis in their Sunday School or other ministries.

In a discussion with several of our local youth ministers the idea surfaced that the problem isn’t, “How do we reach more children or more youth?”, but “How do we reach young adults and young families?” Because if we are reaching young adults (which may soon get married and become young families) then we should get back to the place where there are many young families with children actively involved in our churches.

As I think of our sister churches, I don’t know of any which wouldn’t love to do better at reaching young adults and young families. Each of our 38 churches would love to see growth in that area, as well as with their children’s ministry. So, where do we start?

Check out some ideas on the next page of The Trumpet.

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4 JIM GENTRY
- 7 CAROLYN CORNMAN
- 10 JOY MILLER
- 10 STEVE & STEPHANIE PATTERSON
- 11 DONNY EMMONS
- 16 MONTY FLANIGAN
- 17 CASEY DAVIS
- 23 TRUMAN & CAROL CHATMAN
- 23 ALLEN CLARK
- 25 MAY SEBAG
- 25 JIM & LAURA HOLLY GENTRY
- 26 LONNY & JOYCE MITTAG

**CCSBA CHURCH PRAYER FOCUS**

Bernie FBC



Gary Gilbert, Pastor

Essex FBC



Pastor-less

Leora



Dave Edwards, Pastor

Harviell FBC



Pastor-less

**PRAY FOR THESE PASTOR-LESS CHURCHES**

Essex  
Northside Bernie  
Stringtown  
Harviell FBC

Trinity  
Center Hill  
Second Baptist

Calendar for August & September  
**Aug. 6 Social Issues Sunday-Emphasis Purity**  
**Aug. 8-9 Transitional Pastor Training,**  
**Jefferson City**  
**Aug. 11 Pastor/Staff & Wife Fellowship**  
**Aug. 13 Student Evangelism Day**  
**Aug. 14-15 BSU Kick-off at Association Office**  
**Sept. 3 Single Adult Sunday**  
**Sept. 4 Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday**  
**Sept. 12 CCSBA Executive Board Meeting 7 PM**  
**Sept. 15 MBC Fellowship Golf Tournament, Eagle Knoll Golf Club**  
**Sept. 15-16 WMU Sept. Council Update**

CCSBA Office Hours  
 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday –Thursday  
 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Friday

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Ministry Team  
 Jim Gentry, DOM (ph: 870-219-2355)  
 Daniel Bray, BSU Director  
 Sandy Arnold, Office Assistant

**CCSBA Focus on the BSU**

Greetings CCSBA brothers and sisters! My wife and I are so thankful for the warm welcome that we have received from so many of you. Your hospitality and generosity has continued to affirm God's steady hand in our transition from ministry in China to Missouri.

As I look to the upcoming school year at TRCC, I would ask that you join me in praying for the students who will be taking part in our Welcome Week activities August 14-21. Pray that we have good turnout and good interactions with the students. Specifically pray that we will better reach out to our commuting students this semester.

My goal is that the BSU at Three Rivers College will be a community of students growing together and engaging southeast Missouri and the world with the Gospel. I look forward to partnering with you in this ministry.

Daniel Bray

**Disaster Relief Training**  
**Hannibal Sept. 8-9**  
**Sikeston Nov. 3-4 New volunteer training**  
[www.mobaptist.org/dr](http://www.mobaptist.org/dr) [disasterrelief@mobaptist.org](mailto:disasterrelief@mobaptist.org)

If interested, please sign up online, or give Bob a call to find out more details. You can reach him at 573-300-3192.

For urgent and up-to-date prayer requests, news, and other information please visit our site at [www.ccsba.com](http://www.ccsba.com).

CCSBA Financial Status  
 Sept.1, 2016 – July 26,2017

Budget to date	Contributions received
\$108,500.00	\$ 105,189.93

**Church Growth cont.**

There are a lot of articles and ideas about attracting young adults floating around on the internet. One of the best ones I found came from Faith & Leadership ([www.faithandleadership.com](http://www.faithandleadership.com)). It is a summary of a book called “God Religion?”

Some of the standout thoughts are:

- ✓ Treat young adults as young adults, and pass along responsibility to them.
- ✓ Go local by focusing on the neighborhood right around your church and getting those adults involved.
- ✓ Include a focus on young adult singles in your strategic planning.
- ✓ Be American – by moving your church from an “old-world” feel to a more updated, fresh, and currently appealing feel.
  - Don’t go overboard with technology, but use it strategically.
  - Don’t waste money on slick marketing campaigns.
  - Don’t segregate this generation, or underestimate them – but embrace them and use them.

Reaching young adults and young families – means we do whatever it takes to build a community within our church which promotes and helps them to form and practice spiritual disciplines necessary for church growth as they become reproducing disciples of Jesus. Are you ready to get started?