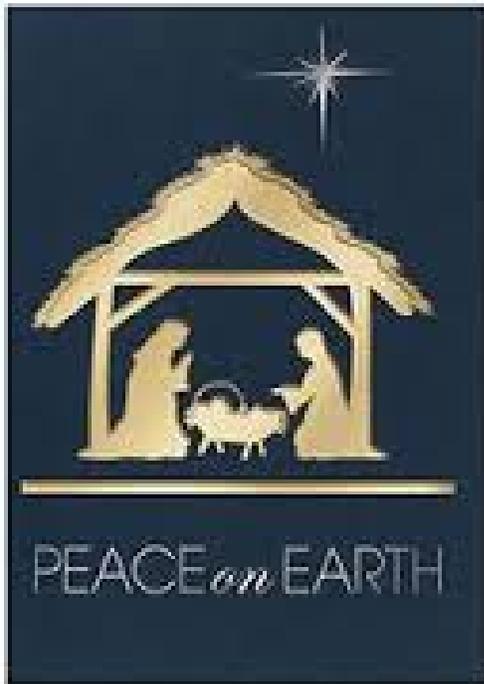


# Cape Girardeau BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Partnering Together to Advance God's Kingdom



**“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
 And the government will be on his shoulders.  
 And He will be called Wonderful Counselor,  
 Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
 Prince of Peace**

Isaiah 9:6

## OUR CHURCHES

Advance First Baptist	Lynwood
Allenville	Marble Hill First Baptist
Bethany	Millersville First Baptist
Bethlehem	New Bethel
Brush Creek Missionary	Oak Ridge First Baptist
Burfordville	Perkins
Calvary	Perryville First Baptist
Caney Fork	Red Star
Cape County Cowboy	Rock and Roll Biker
County Line	Saline
Delta First Baptist	Scott City First Baptist
Fellowship	Sedgewickville
Fruitland Community	Shawnee Hills
God's Country Cowboy	Southside
Iona	Trinity
Jackson First Baptist	Whitewater First Baptist
Lithium	

## CHURCH PLANTS

North American church plants:  
 Anchor, Sikeston  
 Rock and Roll Church, Herrin IL  
 New Hope, Rock Falls IL

El Salvador church partners:  
 Santa Catarina      Las Marias  
 Apaneca              El Triunfo

## ASSOCIATION WMU

### DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

Greetings,

#### **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

As I pause amidst the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, I look around to simply take in the sights and sounds of this unbelievable holiday. It is incomprehensible that the creator of the universe would come into the world that he created in order to reconcile all things unto himself. Yet, he not only did that but purposed to do it before he created it and then foretold how it would happen. One of the more common passages of scripture that does this is Isaiah 9:1-7. This passage is one of my favorites because it makes clear that the coming Messiah is not just to save the Jews; he is coming to save all peoples, including the Gentiles (which we are). As First Peter 2:10 states "Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." And as the angel informed us at Jesus' birth as recorded in Luke 1:10 "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people." Jesus Christ is truly good news for us today!

This Christmas season let's plan to do something that will cause us to focus on the wonder of Christ. He is the one worthy of praise and honor and glory. Let's be sure we give those things to him. One way we can do that as we decorate our homes for Christmas is to read Luke 2:1-20 together. If you have a special tradition you practice each year which puts Jesus at the center of the holiday, please share that with other families!

A Christmas tradition among Southern Baptists is to give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. This has become the primary means of funding for the International Mission Board which facilitates our churches as they proclaim the gospel to all the peoples of the earth. Please give generously this year!

This December is particularly special to me and Janet as we will be celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary! It is hard to believe that we have been married that long. I am reminded how fast time passes. God has blessed us richly in these short years and are forever grateful to him for the opportunity to serve him together among this association

Grateful to be a part of the Cape Girardeau Baptist Association,

John and Janet

"Because of Who He is". This is the 2015 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering theme using Psalms 96:3 "Declare his glory among the nations, His wonderful works among all nations; which is the scriptural directive to give. What is your church's LMCO goal for this Christmas season?"

The 2015 LMCO goal is \$175 million. 100% of this offering goes to the overseas budget to support missionaries and their ministries. 75% of the missionary salaries come from this offering and the cooperative program. It cost \$141 a day to support an individual missionary. How many days of support will your church provide?

We give because God deserves the worship of all people. We, who are redeemed are compelled to proclaim the gospel. WE do this when we partner with IMB missionaries to send them to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places. The more we give the more missionaries we can send.

You may have members of your church who have not heard of Lottie Moon. What a great time to tell them about Lottie Moon, the woman who gave her life as a missionary in China in the early 1900's. There are great resources available to you to help promote giving to this offering in your church. These are available by contacting the Missouri Baptist website, [www.mobaptist.org](http://www.mobaptist.org)

You may; contact me if you need further information.

Kathy Blevins, WMU Director

## CHURCH PLANTING CENTER

This past year the Church Planting Center of Southeast Missouri has hosted a 'think tank for Filipino work in Southeast Missouri,' and our annual Fall Church Planting Rally. We have assisted Anchor Church, partnered with the MBC and two churches to bring a Filipino missionary to assess needs in the region, and provided catalytic funds for initial work of the Biker church in Sikeston. Our mission statement is "to be a catalyst for church planting in Southeast Missouri." This means our goal is to facilitate the cooperation of churches in Southeast Missouri to do evangelism and catalytic work in the region. Would your church prayerfully consider putting the CPC in your church budget this next year to assist with these catalytic outreach efforts? For the Kingdom!

## CHRISTIAN LIFE

### 2016 DATES TO CALENDAR

- January 6—Legislative Prayer Service, Concord BC, Jefferson City, MO
- February 4-5—MBC Evangelism Conf. Springfield, MO
- April 14—Worldview Conference, Hannibal/LaGrange College
- June 14-15 - SBC/Crossover—St. Louis, MO
- October 26-28—Missouri Baptist Convention, St. Charles

## MISSIONS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Missions Development Committee recently met to discuss current and future missions opportunities for our association. The main purpose of the meeting was to begin planning future missions involvement for our association locally, state-wide, nationally, and to the ends of the Earth. Our hope is to encourage missions involvement within the churches of our association., both individually and collectively in partnership together for the Great Commission. In order to accomplish this, we have highlighted several areas for prayer and further discussion. Will you join us in prayer for these opportunities?

—Red Star Food Pantry. This is a great local missions opportunity that is always needing volunteers. Consider how your church may help.

—Woman's Missionary Union. WMU is a great resource to utilize for missions education within your church.

—Acts 1:8 Conference. An Acts 1:8 conference in conjunction with our Association Annual Meeting was suggested. This would fit well with our "Missions" theme for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Our goal is to promote missions in our churches.

—Crossover 2016 St. Louis. There will be several opportunities to serve. More information to come.

—I-29 Corridor Partnership. Several opportunities to examine and pray about. These include Lincoln, Nebraska and the Quad Cities.

—Beyond El Salvador. Several opportunities were proposed: Italy, Dubai UAE, and Peru. Specifically pray for and consider partnering with FBC Scott City as they look at missions opportunities in Italy.  
Blessings, Ken Grant

## PEACEFUL VALLEY UPDATE....

### Project Update on Camp Improvements

Peaceful Valley Board is seeking volunteers to help complete some projects before winter. The camp care-takers house is coming along and we hope to have Baptist Builders help get the sheet rock up soon.

The shower house is ready to be plumbed. We need electrical, plumbing, sheet rock "mudders," a team to help demolish a small building a team to help re-purpose another small building, landscaping volunteers, etc.

We are asking each church to provide a liaison from their church who can be contacted about projects and needs. Please forward information to Margaret at the Associational Office including information with email addresses when possible. The Board wants to engage all churches in these projects so that Peaceful Valley Camp will be ready for our 2016 summer camps.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

*John & Janet Vernon*

*Margaret Tallent*



Partnering together to advance the Kingdom of God locally and throughout the world.

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 Administrative Assistant: Margaret Tallent

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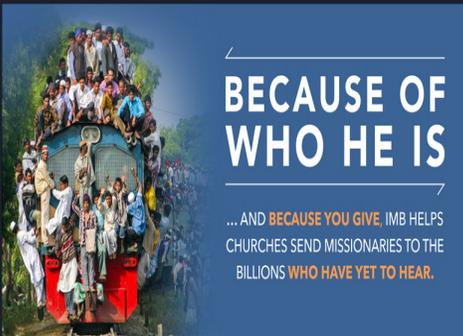
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## FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2015

	MONTHLY TOTALS	YTD TOTALS		
<b>INCOME</b>	15,786.75	191,535.30		
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	13,468.24	194,965.73		
<b>VARIANCE</b>	2,318.51	-3,430.43		
<b>DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>	BEGINNING BALANCE	CONTRIBUTIONS	EXPENDITURES	ENDING BALANCE
<b>OPERATING CHK ACCT</b>	34,565.00	15,786.75	13,468.24	36,883.51
<b>DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>	43,182.98	489.52	125.00	43,556.50



**BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS**

... AND BECAUSE YOU GIVE, IMB HELPS CHURCHES SEND MISSIONARIES TO THE BILLIONS WHO HAVE YET TO HEAR.

**LOTTIE MOON**

**CHRISTMAS**

**OFFERING STATE GOAL**

**\$4MILLION**