

**NGR Council Meeting–
August 7, 7:00 pm
Mission Center**

All NGR Director's are on the council– please bring calendar dates of events you are planning for 2017-2018.

My devotion today was a reminder that leaders must constantly ask if their plans fit God's revealed will for them and their organization. Leaders and organizations constantly make plans for the future. Isaiah 30:1-3 issues a warning to every leader who develops plans without asking if they fit the mind of God.

They must ask if their plans remain relevant to the needs of their mission, their values, their vision, and their long-range objectives.

**Our Preparation + God's Providence =
Success**

This makes wise leadership and strategic planning.

(Devotion taken from "Maxwell Leadership Bible")

**ACP'S
(All Church Profiles)**

ACP's due date to be turned into the office is August 15th.

Don't forget to elect your messengers for the Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 23rd at Galt Baptist Church. Each church is allowed 4 messengers and an additional messenger for each fraction of 100 members beyond the first 100 members or succeeding increments of 100. Messengers are based on resident membership.

Northwest Disaster Relief Training

September 8-9, 2017
Calvary Baptist Church
Hannibal, Mo

More Info:
<http://mobaptist.org/dr/dr-training/>

August Birthdays

- 2 Christy Gottman
- 7 E,J. Barnes
- 12 Aaron Stark
- 14 Josh & Christy Gottman
- 14 Abner Neill
- 17 Ron Helton
- 21 E.J. & Diann Barnes
- 31 Aaron & Michelle Stark



North Grand River Baptist Association

1108 N Main
Trenton, MO 64683
Fax: 660.359.0200
E-Mail: ngrmission@sbcglobal.net
Telephone – 660.359.3897
Web Page– northgrandriverbaptist.com

Ministry Assistant
Debbie Dickinson

BSU Interim Director
Christina Boatright

North Grand River Baptist Association

The Encourager

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Volume 41, Number 8
August, 2017

**“Churches working together to fulfill Jesus’ Great Commission.”
Matthew 28:18-20**



**NGRBA
Churches**

- Alpha
- Edinburg
- Gallatin
- Galt
- Jamesport**
- Laredo
- Lineville
- Medicine Valley
- Mercer
- Modena
- Princeton
- Ravanna
- Rural Dale
- Salem
- Shelburne
- Spickard*
- Tenth Street
- Trenton First
- Union

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Remember in prayer the children, youth and adults as they return to school and college. Pray that they will be strong to resist the temptations that are put in front of them. Pray that they can be strong in their witness that Jesus is Lord in their life. Pray that they choose their friends wisely. Pray that God will grant them strength to learn, concentrate and treat others with kindness and love.



Pray for the teachers for wisdom and all the lives that they will touch and many making a lifelong impression upon.

Prayer for Teachers

O Lord,
Grant me your strength, so I will have courage in every situation;
Grant me your love, so I may love others as you love me;
Grant me your knowledge, so I will show others the path to wisdom;
Grant me your mercy, so I will forgive those who have hurt me;
Grant me your peace, so I will find the best in everybody;
Grant me your hope, so I will never give up;
Grant me your joy, so I will be thankful for all my blessings;
Grant me your kindness, so I will treat others as they want to be treated;
And Grant me your grace, so you will always be at my side. Amen

David Bennett



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
Love In Action

North Grand River Baptist Association's Purpose- "To mutually and prayerfully support, encourage and challenge one another as churches to exalt Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to edify and equip His disciples to serve him and one another, and to evangelize those who have yet to come to know Him personally." Matthew 28:19-20



Good morning to all I hope that you all have had a pleasant summer so far.

I don't know if you have Face Book, but if you do maybe you have seen as I have recently a very disturbing trend. Sadly, I have been seeing a lot of obituaries, but these are not normal obituaries, as many died from taking their own lives.

These men and women were not always bullied, or abused as some might think. But many were what others might say were successful. They were driven and motivated individuals that may have reached a pinnacle of success that many would be jealous of. Their futures were very bright and sunny.

But many of them had one thing in common, they were where they wanted to be but failed to find what they were looking for, and many had lost hope of ever finding what they were looking for. The saddest part is that many did not know what they were looking for in the first place. To many in this world are looking for "it" but fail to find "it", that one thing that explains everything. Many look at their lives and ask the question, "Is this all there is, is this "it", is there no more to life?" Many give up hope of ever finding "it" and they either give up on life or they go through life on auto pilot diving in to the latest fads, or craze continuing to search for something that they cannot find

I understand personally, as I was this person. Before I came to know my Lord and Savior Jesus I was the person that had decided that if this is all that life is I am done. I was the person that had decided to end my own life. I was ready to end the pain of hopelessness. I had everything the world called me to have, I had a great Job, made good money, had a house and kids, but it was all empty and I was empty inside, and I was in a tree stand with a Gun under my chin ready to set myself free from the pain of hopelessness. The Lord saved me that day with a 14-point deer.

Like I was, this world is begging and looking for something that they cannot find, they are searching for Hope, the Hope that is only found In Jesus but don't know it. That Hope that is found in each and every one of us.

*1st Peter 3:15 tells us "...always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the **Hope** that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence."*

God gave us the gift of Hope to share with other. He gave us Hope to share with other like us. God did not give us Hope to hide it, he gave us hope to share with the world, to share with the Lost. you never know, the Hope you are called to share, may save a life, in more ways than one.

May God bless your sharing.

Pastor Ron McPherson

Edinburg Baptist Church
Evangelism Director NGRBA



Pastors Prayer & Fellowship Time at Pizza Hut 2nd Monday of each month

Pastor's Luncheon

Church Giving

Church Service Times

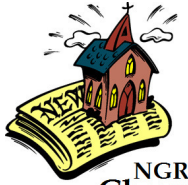
June 2017 Reports	Monthly Inc.	BSU Inc.	SS	AM	PM	Weds.
Alpha			9:30	10:30	6:30	7:00
Edinburg	\$ 501.83	\$ 55.76	10:00	11:00	6:00	7:00
Gallatin	\$ 709.92	\$ 50.00	9:30	10:40	6:00	7:00
Galt	\$ 210.00	\$ 25.00	10:00	11:00	6:00	7:00
Jamesport	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	9:45	10:45	7:00	7:00
Laredo	\$ 236.00	\$ 50.00	9:30	10:30	6:30	6:00
Lineville	\$ 209.40	\$ 25.00	9:45	10:45	6:00	6:00
M. Valley			9:30	10:30	6:00	
Mercer	\$ 147.75	\$ 25.00	9:30	10:30	6:30	6:30
Modena	\$ 187.21	\$ 150.00	10:00	10:40	6:00	6:00
Princeton	\$ 45.12	\$ 80.00	9:40	10:40	7:00	6:00
Ravanna	\$ 154.21	\$ 66.09	9:30	10:45		
Rural Dale	\$ 570.14	\$ 75.00	9:45	10:45	5:00	6:00
Salem	\$ 114.63	\$ 25.00	10:00	11:00	6:00	
Shelburne	\$ 460.32	\$ 75.00	10:00	10:55	6:00	6:30
Spickard			9:30	10:30		
Tenth St.	\$ 583.80		9:30	10:30	6:00	7:00
Trenton FB		\$ 97.30	9:30	10:40	6:00	6:00
Union			10:00	11:00	6:00	6:00
Total	\$4,155.33	\$ 824.15				
Chilli, FBC		\$ 45.00				
Gilman BC		\$ 200.00				
Milan FBC		\$ 134.45				
Zion BC		\$ 75.00				

Join any of these churches in worship

NOTE: BSU included in NGR Account below.

Seminary Checking	\$144.21
Seminary Savings	\$2,309.11
Benevolent Savings	\$795.20
NGR Savings	\$1,257.34
BSU- March- Income to Expense	
Beginning Balance	\$7,024.04
Income	\$1,578.60
Total	\$8,602.64
Expenses	\$2,651.87
Ending Balance	\$5,950.77
General BSU Fund	\$5,755.13
Design. Fund- Canada (+card)	\$195.64

June 2017 NGR Account	
Beginning Balance	\$38,543.05
Income	\$8,617.32
Total	\$47,160.37
Expenses	\$15,504.73
Ending Balance	\$31,655.64
Line Items in NGR Checking	
NGR Designated Funds	\$8,123.85
NGR General Fund	\$17,581.02
BSU Line Item Balance	\$5,950.77
NGR October 2016—June 2017 (Includes BSU & Designated Funds)	
Income	\$117,195.71
Expenses	\$114,128.28
Difference	\$3,067.43



NGR
Church
News

Gallatin- Keenagers will meet for the noon luncheon on Thursday, August 3.

The JOY Youth will have a church lock-in on August 11-12.

Back-Pack Blessing Service for our school children on Sunday, August 13.

Annual Church Picnic will be on Sunday evening August 20 at Dockery Park. Games, baseball and other activities will begin at 4 pm, with the meal to be served at 5 pm. Plan to come, bring a covered dish, and enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship and absolutely wonderful meal. (Meat is provided). Musical entertainment will begin at 6 pm, so mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Pioneer Club Organizational Luncheon and Meeting, Sunday, August 27 after morning worship.

Cook Creek— Praise to God for the 5 salvations and baptism's on July 23.

Volunteers Needed!

Medicine Valley Community Ministry needs volunteers to help with the preparation and distribution of the Food Pantry Ministry



August dates to help with food distribution at Medicine Valley Community Ministry

August 15th— Prepare Boxes at Newtown Baptist Chapel— 9 am to noon

August 17th— Food Distribution

Medicine Valley Community Ministry- Sales are up at our booth at Dusty Attic this month. Due in part to more people visiting the store in this busier time of the year. Also in part due to newly donated items.

This is highly welcomed at a time in which the ministries finances are at a critical stage. We closed out the month of June with a General Fund balance of only \$265.49.

The funds from Dusty Attic sales are primarily needed, however, with funding for Celebrate Recovery, materials for midweek Bible Study at Humphreys and non-food expenditures for the food ministry.

Items that do well include old doors, windows, exterior trim, old wooden ladders, in any condition, old barn siding, galvanized tubs, crystal glass ware, old and unusual dishes, old kitchen tools old signs, rustic artifacts ad infinitum.

We continue to rely upon God's provision for all our needs and are ever grateful for the assistance provided financially and otherwise by those who continually support this Mission and its ministries.

There have been some great reports from VBS's this year. What a praise to hear from Bro Brad Praiter that Rural Dale had 17 salvations, and there have been more in other churches! The attendance has been great even with two to three churches having VBS at the same time.

Please remember VBS Director's to submit your reports.



Check out the
BOOKSTORE

August Sale
Selected In stock only
Bible Study Books
NGR Price- \$5.00
Sale- \$2.50

(SRP \$10.00—\$15.00)

There is only 1 of each title available which includes: *"The Apostles' Creed"*; "The Heart of God's Story"; "Psalms Inspiring Truths"; "Echoes of the reformation"; "The Gospel Goes to Work"; "Jesus The Storyteller- A Gospel-Centered Exploration of THE PARABLES" and more studies

Many Bibles to choose from
Several KJV's including:
Leather Touch Ultrathin Reference-
Large Print Thinline Reference
Teacher's Study Bible- \$30 (SRP \$60)

NKJV-
Deluxe Gift Bible- \$12.70
Women's Study Bible—\$35 (SRP \$75)

ESV
Student Study Bible— Trutone
Unsinkable Ark— for children

NCV
Revolve for Teen Girls- \$15.00
(SRP \$44.99)

AMPLIFIED
Cross Reference Bonded Leather
\$32.00 (SRP- \$64.99)

Single Cards Regular .50
August Sale— .25 each

Leanin Tree Single Cards
25% off

August 14-18- CD's and DVD's 10% off
NEW!

Chonda Pierce- "Stand-Up for Families"

August 21-31- Books 15% off

NEW!

Wanda Brunstetter series
Amish Cooking Class
"The Seekers" \$13.60

AUGUST SALE

In Stock Cookbooks— 25% off

**MANY ITEMS
MARKED DOWN
OR ON THE
CLEARANCE
SHELF!**



Hey all!
 Summer missions is going well with three VBS's under our belt, 2 camps, and homeless ministry in Kansas City. We still have children's camp coming up but all is going smoothly at this point in the summer.

As summer begins to come to a close we start to think about the coming school year! We have many exciting events that will take place at the beginning of the school year including welcome dinners, game nights, and worship services! I'm very excited for this upcoming school year! How can your church be involved? First of all prayer, second of all we need your help, with Wednesday lunches, welcome bag items, and extra hands at banquets to welcome students. Please come alongside us and serve with me this semester as we continue to spread the gospel to the nations at NCMC.

This year our theme will be "Love Jesus Love Each Other." I look forward to meeting all the new students and seeing the established students again! God has great things in store!

If you would like to book a lunch you can call Debbie or myself, my number is 660-635-0089. Gift bag items can include snacks, school supplies, drink packets, small Bibles etc. I need those items by August 14th.

Thank you for all you guys do to support the BSU ministry and spread the gospel amongst college students.

Love

Christina Boatright

While waiting to see a new dentist, a woman noticed his diploma displayed in the waiting room. Reading the dentist's full name, she recalled a boy with that name in her high school class 40 years earlier. But as soon as she saw the dentist, she discarded the thought. This balding man with the deeply lined face was way too old to have been her classmate.

After the examination, she asked the dentist if he had attended the local high school: "Yes," he replied. "When did you graduate?" "In 1957." "Why, you were in my class!" she exclaimed. "He looked at her closely. "What did you teach?"

Upcoming Events

**NCMC College Students
 Move in Dorm Day**
 August 19

Biblical Manhood Conference
 August 19th, 2017 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
 St. Joe- Frederick Blvd Baptist Church

Northwest WMU Women's Retreat
 Thursday- September 14, 2017
 Grand Oaks Baptist Assembly
 Registration Begins 8:30 am

NGR Annual Meeting
 Saturday, September 23, 2017
 Galt Baptist Church



BOOK REVIEW

Best-selling author and ministry leader Thom S. Rainer drew an exceptional response when he posted a 500-word declaration about church membership to his daily blog. "I Am a Church Member" started a conversation about the attitudes and responsibilities of church members -- rather than the functional and theological issues -- that previous new member primers all but ignored.

Thoughtfully expanded to book form, *I Am a Church Member* begins to remedy the outbreak of inactive or barely committed church members, addressing without apology what is expected of those who join a body of believers. When a person's attitude is consistently biblical and healthy, matters of giving, serving, and so forth will fall into place more naturally. Six intentional chapters with study questions guide this rising discussion:

1. I Will Be a Unifying Church Member
2. I Will Not Let the Church Be About My Preferences and Desires
3. I Will Pray for My Church Leaders
4. I Will Lead My Family to Be Healthy Church Members
5. I Will Be a Functioning Member
6. I Will Treasure Church Membership as a Gift

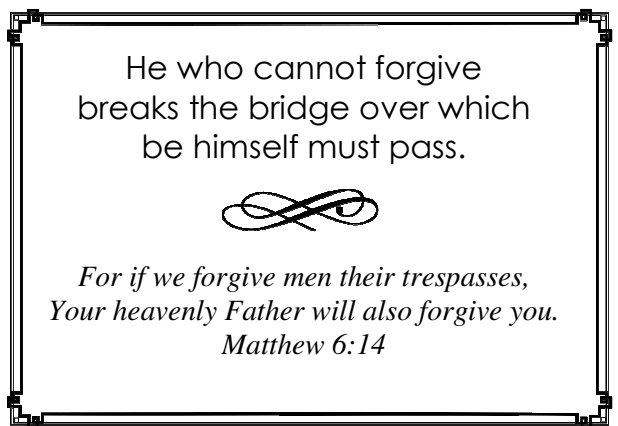
\$5.00 at NGR Bookstore

The Treasury of Testimonies A Personalized Process for Evaluating Church Membership

MBC Executive Director John Yeats has leveraged decades of experience as a pastor and Southern Baptist denominational leader to produce a concise resource to help church leaders evaluate their church membership. *The Treasury of Testimonies* is a downloadable guide that walks church leaders through the process of compiling personal testimonies for every church member.

Using a worksheet that may be printed out or completed electronically, participants are invited to recount their spiritual journey and, if needed, receive help understanding the gospel and the believer's role in the local church. "An assessment of the church's membership may help people making a decision become less of a spectator and more of a participant in the Lord's church," writes Yeats.

You can download the resource at mobaptist.org or I can make a copy for you at the Mission Center.



He who cannot forgive
 breaks the bridge over which
 he himself must pass.



*For if we forgive men their trespasses,
 Your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
 Matthew 6:14*