



Coming January 17th, Courageous DVD Reserve your copy now. Cost will be \$19.00

Check out the BOOKSTORE "Christmas with a Capital C" DVD— On sale for \$9.50.

Check out the Christmas gift table— lots of items already marked at 50% or more off SRP

New arrival of beautiful angels, including angel ornaments

Bibles- Thomas Kinkade Family Bible- \$17.00 SRP of \$49.99

NKJV Study Bible or NASB Charles Stanley Life Principle Bible marked 40% off SRP

NKJV Women of Faith Bible or Pink Edition marked 50% off retail— now at \$25.00

Nativity Talking Bear— Tells about Jesus Birth

Christmas Cards, jewelry, Bible Cases and many more items. Sale prices are while items in stock are available. Check out in store specials.



3 Lewis Rogers
6 Linda Niffen
15 Teresa Harkey



North Grand River Baptist Association

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The Family of
LEWIS H. ROGERS
Cordially invites you
To the
Celebration of his
80th
Birthday

THE CELEBRATION WILL BE HELD
AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING
IN HUMPHREYS

DECEMBER 3
FROM
2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

No GIFTS ARE REQUESTED



Trenton First Baptist
Saturday, 8:00 am
December 17th, 2011
All Men Invited!

North Grand River Baptist Association

The Encourager

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Volume 35, Number 12
December, 2011

"Churches working together to fulfill Jesus' Great Commission."
Matthew 28:18-20



NGRBA
Churches

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

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The staff of North Grand River wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. What a joyous time of the year as we stop and reflect on God's great gift to us, His son and our Savior for Eternal life.

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



THOUGHTS
FROM THE
HEART

From My Heart to Yours

"While they were there (Bethlehem), the time came for the baby to be born, and she (Mary) gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:6-7

It's Christmas time again. What a wonderful time of year! It is a joy to experience the decorations, the music, the food, the special worship times and fellowship with family and friends.

It's really all about Jesus. He is truly the reason for the season. Using the acrostic C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S these are some things associated with the birth of Jesus that impressed me about Him this year...

- C*- Child- Matthew 1:23
- H* Holy One- Luke 1:35
- R* Ruler- Matthew 2:6
- I* Immanuel- Matthew 1:23
- S* Savior- Matthew 1:21
- T* Treasured- Matthew 2:11
- M* Miraculous- Matthew 1:23
- A* Attacked- Luke 2:34-35
- S* Son of the Most High- Luke 1:32

May each of you and our churches have a glorious Christmas season!

For His Glory

E.J. Barnes



I want to thank the North Grand River Baptist Association for the plaque presented to me at the Annual Associational meeting. I wish Nellie could have been here to share that moment. It was our joy to serve you during those years. May the Lord bless you as you continue to serve Him with our churches.

In His Love
Jean Osborn

My apologies to Bro. Jean for overlooking this note of thanks he sent to the Association to be put in a previous Encourager.

October 2011 Reports	Monthly Inc.	BSU Inc.	SS	MW	EW	DT/Wed	WMU	Bapt. Men	Youth Kids Ministry	Bapt.	Ltr/Other
Alpha	\$ 227.62	\$ 25.00	12	18	10						
Edinburg	\$ 652.20	\$ 83.02	43	72	55		10	12	20		
Gallatin	\$ 804.44	\$ 50.00	90	146	34						
Galt	\$ 156.00	\$ 25.00	18	34							
Jameson											
Jamesport	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	30	66	24						
Laredo	\$ 244.00										
Lineville	\$ 281.85	\$ 44.59									
M. Valley	\$ 32.43		14	15		14					
Mercer	\$ 158.00	\$ 25.00		60	17	12					
Modena	\$ 79.74		6	16	10						
Princeton	\$ 624.60		105	139	30	19	21	52	98	2	
Ravanna	\$ 138.02	\$ 63.75									
Rural Dale	\$ 670.73	\$ 50.00									
Salem	\$ 83.04		40	42							
Shelburne	\$ 713.50	\$ 75.00									
Spickard	\$ 50.00		12	2		6					
Tenth St.	\$ 970.68	\$ 148.92	92	140	45		3		89	6	2
Trenton FB	\$1,169.81	\$ 236.76	103	144	43				102		2
Union		\$ 100.00	55	79	25	45	7				
Total	\$7,081.66	\$ 952.04	620	996	293	96	41	67	309	8	4

Chilli, FBC	\$ 45.00
MBC	\$ 230.00

Seminary Checking	\$487.21
Seminary Savings	\$2,059.97
Belarus	\$9,438.86
Benevolent Savings	\$743.48
NGR Savings	\$4,423.28
BSU- June- Income to Expense	
Beginning Balance	\$1,838.37
Income	\$1,798.33
Total	\$3,636.70
Expenses	\$3,144.00
Ending Balance	\$492.70
General BSU Fund	\$315.80
Designated BSU Fund	\$176.90

October 2011 NGR Account	
Beginning Balance	\$4,092.61
Income	\$10,282.38
Total	\$14,374.99
Expenses	\$12,322.99
Ending Balance	\$2,052.00
Line Items in NGR Checking	
Designated Funds	\$2,052.00
General Fund	\$0
Checking Balance Total	\$2,052.00
NGR October 2011	
(Does not include designated funds)	
Income	\$10,011.98
Expenses	\$12,061.14
Difference	(-\$2,049.16)



Edinburg— We celebrated Pastor Appreciation Day on Sunday Night October 16 with a card shower and decorated cake right after the evening services. Our children and youth decorated a float in honor of Lyle Kirk, our Children's Church Pastor, who is fighting pancreatic cancer and put it in the Missouri Days Parade.

We had our semi-annual skating party at the Trenton skating rink on Monday night, October 17th, with 45 in attendance.

We had services at the Sunnyview Nursing Home with John Boman giving the devotion. We had 12 attend from our church.

We had our Fall Festival Celebration on Sunday evening October 30th, with a fantastic evening in gospel music with Bill and Barbara Witten while the children and youth were having games and a fun time downstairs followed by a hayride.

Gallatin- Sunday, December 4 will be the Annual Harvest Dinner. Our guest speaker will be the newly elected MBC Executive Director Dr. John Yeats. Please come join us for our dinner of thanksgiving and praise. This will also be a time fellowship between our deacons and the church families they serve.

North Grand River Executive Board Meeting Monday, January 16, 2012 7:00 pm

On the agenda:

1. Decision on the date for the 2012 NGR Annual Meeting. Choices include— Plan A— One Day, September 16th at Modena. Plan B— Two evenings with Monday, September 17th, at Modena and Tuesday, September 18th at Galt.
2. Addition to Policy and Procedure Manual regarding mileage reimbursement for the Director of Missions and BSU Director.

Galt— Our church was responsible for breakfast on Tuesdays at the high school in Galt. An average of 20 students attended the devotion time and breakfast.

Our church had its annual retreat at Grand Oaks on October 29th. God blessed us with a beautiful fall day. A day of fellowship, music, devotions and lots of good food was enjoyed by all attending. Thanks to Bro. Gene and Ann for all the hard work they do.

Jamesport— Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes were the focus during the Children's Message on November 13th, with a time of prayer for the boxes after a procession of children and adults brought them up and formed a circle near the altar.

We had our annual Harvest Dinner the evening of November 20th with good food and good fellowship! Saturday morning, November 26th, was the Men's Prayer Breakfast with biscuits and gravy, eggs and sausage and a Word from the Lord.

Phil and Pam Morgan will be in concert at the church November 27th during the morning worship. Our Christmas cantata, "*Light Looked Down*", will be December 18th during the morning worship.

Medicine Valley- We conducted a successful house to house food drive for the pantry in October in the Newtown and Harris communities. Partnering with us in this was the Newtown-Harris RIII School and the Newtown Grocery Store, others who assisted with food donations were Rural Dale Baptist, First Baptist Trenton and the Associational WMU.

We provided food assistance in October to 171 people in 52 households. In December we expect to distribute "Christmas Food Boxes" to an estimated 85 to 90 households. All donations to our food ministry are gratefully received.

On Sunday, October 23rd, we conducted a worship service preceded by a wild game dinner at the Community Building in Humphreys with 24 people present.

Medicine Valley Continued-

An enjoyable evening and an important step toward fulfillment of our desire to establish regular weekly Sunday Services at Humphreys. A timely and significant message was delivered by Evangelist Richard Coss.

On November 20th we hosted the second of three monthly Sunday evening services at the Community Center. Guest speaker in this service, following a Thanksgiving dinner was Bro. Gary Stanton.

A final of these three monthly meetings is set for Sunday night December 18th. Services that evening will include a children's Christmas Program followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship.

The Home Bible Study Group continues to meet at the pastor's home in Humphreys on Tuesday night with some 7 to 12 people in attendance.

The Bible Study Group at Newtown is presently meeting at the Chapel on Wednesday evenings with attendance of 10 to 14 present. With the coming of cold weather we will likely be meeting in homes again.

A Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner is set for Saturday night December 10th with a program to follow. Plans are being made for special Christmas activities and observances on Sunday December 18 and 25 and for the three Wednesday night preceding Christmas.

We thank God as He continues to meet the missions needs through financial and prayer support of his people in the surrounding areas. As we face the end of the year with a deficit balance in the General Fund we continue to claim the promise of God to fulfill all our needs. We fully expect God to meet our needs through the continuing support and generosity of his people. May God's special blessings be upon each of you and your work and ministry and enable your continued full support of this mission in your own backyard.

Princeton- We had 4 serving the BSU Luncheon with 85 students in attendance. Our Revival with Rev. Charles Kelm had an average attendance of 78. On October 23, we had Sunday School High Attendance Day with 126 present. The Harvest Festival was held on October 31 with 160 in attendance.

Salem— Fifteen women from our church attended the Women of Faith conference in KC, the 4-5 of November. They came home filled with joy, happiness, and testimonies from their experience. They are already making plans to attend the one next year.

Show Me Sunday High Attendance Day, was a success and Rev. Tim was true to his word and received a pie in the face by all the teenagers in the church. It was funny and the pictures were hilarious. He was a good sport and I think the teens enjoyed every second of it. Ha-ha. On Sunday, November 13th, we had the pleasure of listening to Chuck Crain from Branson. He is a member of the Presley's for the last 14 years., and was with the Blackwood Brothers before that. It was a wonderful night of music and entertainment. Those of you that didn't come missed out on a big blessing as he has an awesome voice and quite an entertainer. The church prepared supper and we all enjoyed getting to know him and his wife Sharon.

We had two new signs painted and placed for directions to Salem church. Our Thanksgiving meal was on Sunday, November 20th. Hard to believe it is here already. Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving, and remember to thank GOD for all his many blessing. We are so blessed.

Spickard- We had a very good attendance for the Community Thanksgiving Service. Members from the Christian Church, Methodist Church and our church all did specials. We had 3 come forward for membership to the church.



Galt- Christmas Program—
December 18, 6 pm
"Joy to the World"

Gallatin- "God Coming Down"
The Celebration Choir will be presenting this dynamic, energetic musical filled with new and old music that joyfully proclaims the Good News of His coming. We will present it during Sunday morning worship service on December 18.

The Children's Choir: Come join the Children's Choir, Sunday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m., as the boys and girls share the story of Jesus Christ. This year's program is based on the scriptures found in John 3:16 and Romans 3:32. Come as our children share the story of Jesus Christ's birth and how He gave us our greatest gift, the gift of eternal life.

Silent Lord's Supper- Our Deacons will administer the observance of the Lord's Supper by candlelight on Christmas Eve from 5 to 7 p.m. Candles will be the only lighting in the worship center, with soft music playing in the background. Come meditate and pray to your Heavenly Father, and observe the Lord's Supper on this special night of Jesus birth.

Jamesport Baptist Church- would like to invite you and your family to join us for a special Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, Saturday evening, December 24th at 5:30 pm. We will have a wonderful time of worship, a short Christmas devotional and a wonderful time for your family to take the Lord's Supper together. Service will be approx. 45 minutes.

Please bring you family to this special time as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

If you have any question please contact Pastor Rich Neeley at (660) 684-6101 or (660) 886-1243. We hope to see you on the 18th.

Princeton-
Children's Christmas Birthday Celebration
on December 11 at 10:45 A.M

The Choir will be singing on
December 4th "Who Comes This Night"
Dec. 11th- "Breathe/ We'll Call Him Jesus"
(Duet by Nathan Rogers and Amy Chandler)
Dec. 18th "One Small Child"

On December 24th Candlelight Services at 6:00 P.M. with the Choir and congregation singing "Silent Night, Holy Night"

On December 25th Church services will start at 10:00 A.M. Congregation will sing "Joyful & Triumphant Medley".

Rural Dale- Christmas Eve service- 6:00 pm

Tenth Street- December 17th at 6:00 pm & Sunday, December 18th at 10:30 am
Christmas Cantata- "Down From His Glory"

Spickard- No Sunday School, Program and Worship at 9:30 on December 25th.

HISHEART HISHANDS HISVOICE



2011 **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**[®]

National Goal: \$175 million
Week of Prayer for International Missions: December 4 - 11, 2011

Our church goal: _____



Celebrating the Season

What a blessing we received at the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer Program! Doris Provorse inspired us with her presentation of the prayer needs of Baptist women around the world. Whitney Prewitt then blessed us by sharing her summer ministry in the Sudan. And, once again, the luncheon and fellowship were great! Thanks, WOM ladies of FBC Trenton for hosting this program!

Our December Christmas Celebration on December 13th at 10:30 am will be hosted by Tenth Street Baptist Church. Our featured speaker will be Dakota Darby, Youth Minister at FBC, Gallatin, will be sharing about his mission trip to Africa.

He and Whitney helped us see the importance of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in reaching people around the world who need to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. May our focus on the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering during December really reap a great harvest for the Lord.

Hope our churches have experienced the joy that comes from participating in Operation Christmas Child! We need to continue to pray for that ministry and the children who will receive the shoeboxes.

Our January 17th New Year Prayer Luncheon will be at 11:30 am, with the devotional and prayer program for our missionaries, led by Doris Provorse, prior to the luncheon.

Let's be looking forward to and planning for WMU Focus Week in February. WMU Directors and WOM leaders, check your yearbook for ideas and information on resources available.

If you have not returned the information regarding your officers for the coming year, please do so, or give me a call with the information. Thank you. And, welcome and "thank you" to all who are serving for the coming year.

Have a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year.
Bev Martin
WMU Director



Celebrate Recovery meets every Saturday night at Tenth Street Baptist Church from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. From 6-7 pm is worship time and from 7-8 is small groups. The Solid Rock Café is from 8-9 pm. Transportation is available to people inside Trenton city limits.

Griefshare also meets every Saturday night at Tenth Street Baptist Church from 7-8 pm. They join together from 8-9 pm for the Solid Rock Café.

BOOKSTORE INVENTORY

If you could help with the taking inventory of the Bookstore on Thursday, December 29th at 6:30 pm, it would be greatly appreciated. It goes fast when we have several helpers.

The Mission Center will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 26-27 in observance of the Christmas Holidays.