



Upcoming Events
March 6-13– Week of Prayer for NAMB and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
March 8th– MBC Evangelism Conference at Laura Street Baptist Church, Maryville. 9 am –5 pm.
March 10th– MBC Evangelism Conference at First Baptist Church, Kirksville. 9 am to 5 pm.
April 15-16– M-Counter for all Missouri Baptist Women– FBC at Springfield, MO.

Men's Prayer Breakfast
February 19, 2011
Jameson Baptist Church
All Men Invited




Presidents' Day
 North Grand River Baptist Association and Christian Bookstore will be closed on Monday, February 21st, in observance of President's Day.


February
 7 Jesse Cass
 9 Bobbie Helton
 12 Peggy Dennis
 15 Stan Rushton
 21 Debbie Dickinson



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Director of Missions
 Rev. E.J. Barnes
 Ministry Assistant
 Debbie Dickinson
 BSU Director
 Diann Barnes

Chili and Soup Supper



North Grand River Baptist Association
 Brotherhood and WMU

February 5, 2010
6:00 pm
Edinburg Baptist Church

Soup and Drink Provided
 Bring Cheese or Relish Tray or a Dessert

Everyone is Invited!

Program-
Brandon & Sara Spencer
Jack & Marilyn Bain

North Grand River Baptist Association
The Encourager
 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Volume 36, Number 2
 February, 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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Evangelism Rally



Evangelist– David Ring
March 22, 2011- 7:00 pm
Tenth Street Baptist Church

Few individuals have felt the crushing blows that have besieged David Ring since birth. He was born to lose. On October 28th, 1953, in Jonesboro, Arkansas, David was born with Cerebral Palsy. Orphaned at age 14, he was cast about from family to family with nowhere to call home. He endured constant physical pain, humiliating public ridicule and constant discouragement. Yet in the face of these seemingly insurmountable obstacles, David emerged not victimized...but victorious!

Life was worse than hopeless to him until his relationship began with Jesus Christ who taught him self-respect and acceptance of his physical challenges. To most, physical challenges of this magnitude would prove to be a tombstone. For David Ring, this coming of age was and remains a milestone.

David and his wife, Karen, make their home in Nashville, Tennessee. They are the parents of four children, April, Ashley, Nathan and Amy Joy.

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





From My Heart to Yours

“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful and endures through every circumstance.” I Corinthians 13:4-7

It's February—the month when LOVE is accentuated and is encouraged. The world especially highlights ROMANTIC LOVE, which is too often superficial and shallow. ROMANTIC LOVE more often than not lasts about as long as it takes to eat the chocolates or enjoy the roses before they shrivel up and die.

I am not saying that we should not express love in a romantic way by giving special gifts and cards and doing special things with someone you may really love, but I know love is much more than what most people believe it is.

The Scripture in I Corinthians 13:4-7 describes what God deems real expressions of love. It is pretty self-explanatory. This is real love—God's love—the love Jesus had—the love that comes as a fruit of the Spirit. This is love that we should express to one another, and we can when we allow the Holy Spirit to be in control of our lives.

I am so grateful to those who practice such love to others and to me. What a blessings! What encouragement! What a source of positive motivation! What an act of obedience to our Lord who said, *“This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”* (John 15:12)

May we each grow in our ability to love others more as we yield to the Holy Spirit's control.

For His Glory,

EJ Barnes

Separate Note: Put on your calendar—Associational Evangelism Rally, Tuesday Evening, March 22, Guest Evangelist: David Ring

VBS Training Clinic
April II, 2011
Trenton FBC
 Begin enlisting your teachers now, so that they will be able to come to the clinic and attend the age level group they will be leading.

Engage Leadership
Development Conference
 February 25-27, 2011
 Sheraton Westport Chalet, St. Louis
 Speaker: Steve Saccone
 “Relational Intelligence”
 For more information go to
www.mostudentz.com

December 2010 Reports	Monthly Inc.	BSU Inc.	SS	MW	EW	DT/Wed	WMU	Bapt. Men	Youth Kids Ministry	Bapt.	Ltr/Other
Alpha	\$ 163.21		12	18	8						
Edinburg	\$ 516.05	\$ 60.71	46	82	49		12	18	22		
Gallatin	\$ 808.69	\$ 50.00									
Galt	\$ 148.00	\$ 25.00	17	27							
Jameson											
Jamesport	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	28	45	16						
Laredo	\$ 288.26		15	21			4				
Lineville	\$ 146.36	\$ 29.27									
M. Valley	\$ 28.82		21	24		14					
Mercer	\$ 145.00	\$ 25.00									
Modena	\$ 71.17		4	10	4						
Princeton	\$ 679.15	\$ 50.00	86	142	44	31	18	55	105		1
Ravanna	\$ 269.70	\$ 115.58	11	10							
Rural Dale	\$ 559.72	\$ 50.00									
Salem	\$ 264.33		39	39	19						
Shelburne	\$ 758.34	\$ 50.00	37	47	23	20	6				
Spickard	\$ 50.00										
Tenth St.	\$ 901.13	\$ 150.19	72	138	38	20	5		72	1	
Trenton FB	\$1,514.81	\$ 252.47	86	127	45						
Union			42	72	33	48					
Total	\$7,337.74	\$ 883.22	516	802	279	133	45	73	199	1	1
Chilli, FBC		\$ 43.00									
MBC		\$ 460.00									

Seminary Checking	\$344.48
Seminary Savings	\$2,053.95
Belarus	\$10,112.89
Benevolent Savings	\$841.31
NGR Savings	\$9,498.07
BSU– December– Income to Expense	
Beginning Balance	\$196.51
Income	\$1,791.97
Total	\$1,988.48
Expenses	\$1,417.56
Ending Total	\$570.92

December 2010 NGR Account	
Beginning Balance	\$6,985.30
Income	\$14,173.05
Total	\$21,158.35
Expenses	\$12,914.83
Ending Balance	\$8,243.52

Line Items in General Checking	
Designated Funds	\$2,005.51
General Fund	\$6,238.01
Checking Balance Total	\$8,243.52

NGR October-December 2010	
(Does not include designated funds)	
Income	\$35,337.50
Expenses	\$36,205.70
Difference	(-\$868.20)



Galt— The Christmas program entitled “Good Old Fashion Country Christmas” the night before Christmas through the eyes of the Inn Keeper, was held December 19th at 6:00. Musicians Robert Whitham, Dennis Eads, Mike White, Diann Barnes and narrator E.J. Barnes helped the cast portray the nativity. Finger food fellowship followed the program.

Medicine Valley— Major events in our ministry this past month included the following: use of the “No Home Left Behind” materials throughout the Newtown and Harris communities promoting attendance in our Christmas and year end activities. Also, enclosed was information concerning the area-wide Evangelism Crusade to take place in August 2011.

While attendance has been quite good in the Sunday services at the Chapel at Newtown we failed to achieve our attendance goal of fifty on Sunday December 5th.

A Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner was held on Sunday evening December 12th with 38 in attendance. This included eight members of the Ravanna Baptist Church who were present as our invited guests. Following the dinner, the Thomas Kincaid movie, “Christmas Cottage” was shown.

Our Children’s Christmas program and worship services on Sunday morning, December 19th were well attended. The 34 present included some parents and family members including some as first time visitors.

Attendance at our two weekly Home Bible Studies (at Humphreys and Newtown) remains stable. No meeting was held with the South Reger group this month due to scheduling conflicts of group members. The monthly meeting of the new group Northeast of Newtown for Monday, December 20 was also cancelled due to the impromptu board meeting of the association.

Work is developing slowly toward the creation of a fifth Home Bible Study Group in the area to the

(*Medicine Valley Continued*) west and south of Harris. This is the area formerly served by the Half Rock “Providence” church, now closed. We are presently working with six families in that area whom we hope to see become involved.

Another successful united meeting of the Advisory Council and ad hoc committee members of area Baptist Churches was conducted on Monday, December 13 with nine people present. The meeting again concluded with all participating in a time of serious prayer for a renewal of the church, and the salvation of lost souls, as we prepare for the area-wide evangelism crusade, to be centered in Humphreys, August 24 through 28.

Plans being made and enacted include the hoped for inclusion of seven area church fields as targeted areas for evangelism. These first tier churches are encouraged to mobilize their people for prayer and for soul winning, witnessing in their own communities and ultimately in the Humphreys, Reger and Osgood areas.

We are asking each and every church in the association to lend support to this endeavor. The ongoing prayer support of individuals throughout the association is, we believe, critical of the outcome.

So, we are asking our Christian neighbors throughout North Grand River Baptist Association to come over into Macedonia and help us to bring the lost to Jesus. We trust many will be led to support this call to missions, a mission “in your own backyard”.

Mercer Baptist Church— We will observe Baptist Men’s Day on Sunday January 23rd. February 14th the men will cook and serve the Sweethearts Dinner for the women.

Princeton— We will be having a Youth Valentine Party on February 12 at 6:00pm in the upstairs dining hall. Our Adult Valentine Party will be held Sunday evening on February 13th at 6:00 pm.

Salem— We had a Chili Supper before our business meeting this month. Following the meeting we then all worked together to take the Christmas decorations down for another year. Plans are being made to have a skating party in March inviting Hatton Chapel to join us. We also signed a petition against taxpayers supporting abortion. We are studying the Baptist Faith and Message for our Sunday evening Bible Study. There has been a lot of good discussion. On March 23rd we will help serve the BSU luncheon. Plans are being made for some of the young girls to attend the Women of Faith meeting in KC.

Shelburne— On December 19th we had our Adult and Children Choir Christmas Music Program.

January 9th the Pastor-Deacon-Wives showed their appreciation to the Congregation by preparing and serving them a dinner.

January 12th we served the BSU Lunch at the Mission Center.

Trenton First— We started AWANAs on January 5th along with our Wednesday evening meal and adult Bible study led by Bro. Denny. The parenting class is studying “*Experiencing God*” led by Joe Curtis and Carol Gutshall. January 30th at 5:00 pm, Marcia Gutshall will be leading a book study “*Outlive Your Life*” by Max Lucado. This is a four week study. Our senior adults made valentines for our missionaries the 28th. They are having breakfast at the church February 2nd. On February 9th they will begin a four week Mayberry Bible Study. This will be at noon— bring your own sack lunch. This is a study of Bible truth combined with humor.

We are blessed as a church of the many people that have become a part of our church recently. We pray we will be a blessing to them.



Celebrate Recovery was founded in 1991 by John Baker, a lay pastor, and is a ministry born out of the heart of Saddleback Church, Lake Forest, CA where Rick Warren is Senior Pastor.

It is a biblical and balance program that can help persons overcome their hurts, habits and hang-ups. It is based on the actual words of Jesus from the Sermon on the Mount, and the Holy Spirit has used this program to transform many lives and help them grow toward full Christlike maturity.

The program is designed to be a caring community of people helping one another through the love and grace of Jesus Christ to find peace and freedom at last!. Recovery is a journey to be shared with others, thereby helping them along the way also.

The size of the sponsoring church is no barrier to beginning this ministry. Tenth Street is currently sponsoring a ministry which meets every Saturday at 6:00 p.m., and invites other churches to visit or call Pastor Ron Ratliff or Director Mike Dennis for more information. Trained leaders in Celebrate Recovery will also be happy to visit other churches upon invitation. Prayer teams play a powerful part. It is exciting to see lives changed in dramatic ways. To God be the glory!

The NGRBA Executive Board met on January 17th at the Mission Center. The following was voted on and approved-

1. **The NGRBA Annual Meeting will be changed to Sunday, September 11, 2011, at First Baptist Church at Gallatin**, registration starts at 2:30 pm. There will be a supper break around 5 pm and evening service held.
2. The 2 members to serve on the Executive Committee are Jim Whitley and Don Reeter.
3. Volunteers to serve on the Constitution/By-Law Update Committee are: Gary Stanton, Deryl Niffen, Lewis Rogers, Phil Daniels and Stan Rushton. Alternate will be Brad Walker.

BSU-NCMC Mission Projects for 2011

- I. Mar 11-16, Owtumwa, Ia., Jeremy Skinner**
- Leave Trenton, 3/11 at approximately 12 noon
 - Spend nights in church facilities, cook meals in church, take sleeping bags/air mattresses.
 - Saturday: community surveys, praying, setting up for DNOW
 - Sunday: AM-worship; PM-DNOW with Mid School/HS
 - Monday: Day—prayer walking community college; park evangelism, promoting DNOW 5:30—9pm DNOW
 - Tues: Day—Assisting pastor; prayer walking 5:30—9pm DNOW; last night
 - Wednesday—8 am leave for Trenton. Arrive by noon.
 - Worship of DNOW lead by Stephen Williamson with Katie Welch and Sarah Silkwood,
 - Small Groups of DNOW lead by college students
 - Theme: “UNCOOL”; 3 Bible Studies, 2 worship services; movie: “To Save A Life”
 - Journals for each student and T-shirts.
 - Cost \$20/college student to participate in trip.
- MO Baptist Convention Student Department has contributed \$700 cooperative dollars to purchase T-shirts for DNOW attendees, and pay for expenses of food/gas/travel.

II. May 16-27, 2011, Canada Mission Trip

Destination: Grassy Narrows 1st Nation Indian Reservation
 Other possible mission locations: Kenora Canada and maybe Thunder Bay?

III. July 1-7, 2011, Trenton, MO

- Joined by Concord Baptist Church: arrives Friday 7/1, 2011
- Untitled Skateboarders—Joplin MO, cost to bring to Trenton--\$3,500. Cost to be shared by Concord Baptist and contributions raised by BSU. Arrival in Trenton-Sat 7/2/11
- Sunday—Demos by skateboarders in afternoon, team will attend multiple local church services in am and pm by invitation of church to give testimonies
- Monday 4th, Downtown celebration with Pro-Team, BMX demo, 3 Christian Bands, concessions
- Tues-Thurs--basketball clinics, community services, assist local churches in hands-on projects?

Currently we only have 1 band engaged to play on the 4th. If you have connections or know of a Christian Rock band that would appeal to teenagers, please call Diann at 660.654.0785.

As you can tell by the above information God is giving the BSU a directive to be an Acts 1:8 mission organization, promoting the reputation and Name of our Holy God—Jesus Christ. Please continue to bathe our BSU in fervent prayer. These plans are just that—only plans, until God steps in and makes things happen. So help us appeal to HIM for HIS direction and wisdom.

He is Worthy to Receive the Rewards of His Sacrifice—Souls

Diann Barnes

Please check the E-Encourager at www.northgrandriverbaptist.com for more detailed information.



WMU Focus Week February 14-20

The January winter prayer luncheon and WMU Council meeting were canceled. The council meeting has been rescheduled to meet following the February 15th program and prayer luncheon.

WMU Directors sharing with our group and churches the five goals of WMU during WMU Focus Week gives us an opportunity to educate those not involved with WMU what our purposes are. There are other ideas for promoting WMU Focus Week in the WMU Year-book. If I can help call me.

The February 15th program at the Mission Center at 10:30 am, will focus on sharing ways to promote WMU Focus Week in our churches. Our luncheon will have an valentine theme.

Now is the time to make plans for the Week of Prayer in March and the promotion of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering . If you have not received materials or need information let me know.

M-Counter 2011 will be April 15-16 at FBC, Springfield MO. Our church and associational leaders should have their packets. The schedule of events sounds exciting and informative. I hope we have several go from our association.

Ladies remember the canned vegetables or fruit or peanut butter for Medicine Valley.

Happy Valentines Day
Bev Martin
 WMU Director

**Missions Footprints:
 If the Shoe fits. Wear it!**

GA Retreat 2011

- March 25-26
- April 1-2
- April 8-9



Grand Oaks Baptist Assembly,
 Chillicothe

**BEWARE OF THE HALF TRUTH, YOU MAY
 HAVE GOTTEN HOLD OF THE WRONG HALF.**

Give your servant a discerning heart. 1 Kings 3:9



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 BOOKSTORE

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Christian Children's Valentine Cards

Old Classic CD's beginning at \$1.98, includes
 groups such as "La Fevres", Oak Ridge Boys,
 and so many more...

\$5.00 specials- "Footprints"- CD/DVD combo;
 Coming soon- "Facing Your Giants", "Gigi God's
 Little Princess" DVD.