



JUST ARRIVED!

Devotion Books- 15% off
March 3-14

**Spring Special- Selected Journals
50% off**

Regular Price- \$14.99- Sale Price \$7.50

WOW!

Common English Bible for only \$10.00

Suggested Retail- \$44.95

Black bonded ecoleather. Includes concordance, center-column reference, maps

“Stop Asking Jesus into Your Heart” \$5.00

Following items are only \$9.00 each

“All In”- (hardcover) by Mark Batterson
“The Story” NIV

“Boundaries” (hardcover) by Dr. John Townsend

Following items are only \$8.00 each

“Gods at War” by Kyle Idleman
“The Circle Maker” by Mark Batterson
“Humor for a Woman’s Heart”

DVD- Chonda Pierce- Volume 11
DVD- “Fireproof”

DVD- “Secrets of Jonathan Sperry”

DVD- “Amazing Love”

DVD- “Facing the Giants”

Purchase any of the above items listed at \$8 or \$9 and tell Debbie you saw this in the Encourager and she will take \$1.00 off during March!!

North Grand River Baptist Association

1108 N Main

Trenton, MO 64683

Fax: 660.359.0200

E-Mail: ngrmission@sbcglobal.net

BSU Telephone- 660.654.0785

DOM’s Office- 660.359.3365

Telephone - 660.359.3897

Web Page- northgrandriverbaptist.com

Director of Missions

Rev. E.J. Barnes

Ministry Assistant

Debbie Dickinson

BSU Director

Diann Barnes



**VBS NGR Training Clinic
Monday, April 28, 2014**

Trenton FBC

6:00 pm

March

14 Charlie & Lou Bullman

20 Diann Barnes

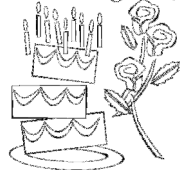
24 Debbie Boone

25 Deryl & Debbie Boone

28 Cyndy Munday

29 Ron Ratliff

Birthdays &



Anniversaries



**Men's
Prayer
Breakfast**

Union (Coon Creek) Baptist

Saturday, 8:00 am

March 15, 8:00 am

All Men Invited!

North Grand River Baptist Association

The Encourager

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Volume 37, Number 3
March, 2014

“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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**I Sing the
Almighty Power
of God**

**North Grand River Association
GOSPEL SING**

Rural Dale Baptist Church
March 29th 7:00 pm

All churches invited to participate-
If you or a group in your church
would sing a song or two call
Phil Daniels at
660-359-5732 or 660-654-0053.

Light Refreshments to follow

Week of Prayer for
NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS
and the Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering*

FIRMLY PLANTED

March 2-9, 2014

AnnieArmstrong.com

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



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
Love In Action



From My Heart to Yours

It's that time of year again when college basketball fans are treated with National Championship tournaments. In Division I a team must defeat 6 opponents to win the championship. To accomplish this, a team must overcome various obstacles and must therefore be patient and persevering.

As Christians, we must also be involved in defeating 6 opponents. We must also be patient and persevering as we face these opponents throughout our lifetime here on Earth.

A major difference between us as Christians and a college team is that we are ultimately assured of victory. We are led by One who has already defeated these opponents, and through His help we will defeat them also.

These opponents include:

Satan—who is defeated by confronting him with God's Word. (Matthew 4)

Demons—who are defeated by casting them out in "Jesus' Name." (Gospels/Acts)

The Flesh—which is defeated by crucifying it daily and being controlled by God's Spirit. (Galatians 5)

The World—which is defeated by consecrating ourselves to Jesus and continuing to focus on Him. (I John 2)

Sin—which is defeated by confessing it to our Lord, who will cleanse us of it. (I John 1:9)

Death—which is defeated by conquering it with Christ's resurrection power. (I Cor. 15)

Let's live as victors not victims this March through our Lord Jesus Christ who helps us prevail over all the madness!!

For His Glory,
EJ Barnes

Upcoming Events

March

- 4 VBS Training for Association Leaders at Macon
- 6 Iowa Missions Information meeting— 7 pm
- 10 Administrative Committee/Personnel— 5 pm
- 11 Medicine Valley Advisory Committee— 7 pm
- 29 NGR Gospel Sing— Rural Dale— 7 pm

April

- 3 Grand Oaks Executive Board

Past VBS Materials Available

The association has some past VBS kits that you are welcome to have. These would work great if you would like to do a VBS at your church, take on a Mission trip or even use for a Sunday night or Wednesday night ministry with your kids. There also are some large blow ups available such as the big globe of the world.

Some of the past kits include: Cactus Canyon, Game Day, Outrigger, Rickshaw Rally and Kingdom Capers.

Church Giving

| Januray 2014 Reports | Monthly Inc. | BSU Inc. |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Alpha | \$ 199.95 | \$ 25.00 |
| Edinburg | \$ 601.77 | \$ 66.86 |
| Gallatin | \$ 905.10 | \$ 50.00 |
| Galt | \$ 145.00 | \$ 25.00 |
| Jameson | | |
| Jamesport | \$ 25.00 | \$ 25.00 |
| Laredo | \$ 288.83 | |
| Lineville | \$ 282.00 | \$ 94.00 |
| M. Valley | \$ 25.00 | \$ 25.00 |
| Mercer | \$ 118.80 | \$ 25.00 |
| Modena | \$ 109.41 | \$ 150.00 |
| Princeton | \$ 622.81 | \$ 50.00 |
| Ravanna | \$ 118.09 | \$ 50.61 |
| Rural Dale | \$ 668.84 | \$ 75.00 |
| Salem | \$ 83.22 | \$ 25.00 |
| Shelburne | \$ 665.39 | \$ 75.00 |
| Spickard | \$ 70.00 | |
| Tenth St. | \$ 2,073.37 | \$ 345.56 |
| Trenton FB | \$ 1,130.77 | \$ 251.28 |
| Union | \$ 194.27 | \$ 100.00 |
| Total | \$ 8,327.62 | \$ 1,458.31 |
| Chilli, FBC | | \$ 45.00 |
| MBC | | \$ 460.00 |
| Gilman BC | | \$ 200.00 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Seminary Checking | \$31.21 |
| Seminary Savings | \$2,083.29 |
| Benevolent Savings | \$756.38 |
| NGR Savings | \$434.93 |
| BSU— January— Income to Expense | |
| Beginning Balance | \$5,678.24 |
| Income | \$2,808.97 |
| Total | \$8,487.21 |
| Expenses | \$2,109.04 |
| Ending Balance | \$6,378.17 |
| General BSU Fund | \$5,038.60 |
| Designated BSU Fund | \$1,339.67 |

Mission's Committee

Missouri Baptist Convention has a partnership with Iowa Baptist. The Associational Mission's Committee has been seriously talking with Roger Graves about what that might mean to our association. On Thursday, March 6th at 7:00 pm, all pastors, mission leaders, WMU and Brotherhood and anyone interested in obtaining more information is invited to come to this meeting.

Garret Trunk (Pastor at Gallatin FBC) will be there to help explain the types of needs and partnerships available. We will also explore areas in Iowa that our churches may want to be involved in. At this time, the greatest need is for individuals and churches to make a time and people commitment to a church plant mission adventure rather than a monetary commitment.

Please be in prayer as we consider this mission endeavor and what God might want you to do.

Maeanne Browning
Mission's Director

Due to the weather in February, this meeting was postponed.

January 2014 NGR Account

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$5,144.31 |
| Income | \$12,165.30 |
| Total | \$17,309.61 |
| Expenses | \$10,192.87 |
| Ending Balance | \$7,116.74 |

Line Items in General Checking

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Designated Funds | \$4,317.64 |
| General Fund | \$2,799.10 |
| Checking Balance Total | \$7,116.74 |

NGR October— January 2014

(Includes designated funds)

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Income | \$49,797.56 |
| Expenses | \$46,050.23 |
| Difference | \$3,747.33 |



**NGR
Church
News**

Edinburg— The averages for January for Sunday School is 27; Morning Worship is 50; Evening Worship is 32 and Wednesday Bible Study is 13.

Galt— We praise God for the profession of faith and baptism in January at our church.

Lineville— We will be ordaining Kenny Wilson into the Gospel Ministry on March 2nd at 2:00 pm. All ordained Pastor's and Deacon's are invited to attend as part of the council. Everyone is invited to attend the service.

REVIVAL'S

Edinburg

March 16-19

Sunday am— 10:40 am

Sunday pm— 6:00 pm

Monday—Wednesday— 7:00 pm

Charles & Glenda Keim

Chalk Talk Artist— Chalk Art given away nightly

Shelburne Baptist Church

March 21-23 7:00 pm

Speaker— Kyle Beverlin

Kyle is from Trenton and presently serving as pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church in Webb City, Missouri.



Pastor's Luncheon

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

Medicine Valley- We eagerly await the coming of spring and an end of this year's snow and ice.

We look forward to the Easter season and along with many others will be presenting a series of pre-Easter sermons concerning the message of the cross, the significance of Christ's death, burial and resurrection.

We have reduced activities during January and February to Sunday services, and the Food ministry. We expect to reestablish mid-week services including Celebrate Recovery and Celebration Station in late March or early April.

We continue to distribute food to needy families from the food pantry at Newtown and the Community Center at Humphreys on the third Thursday each month.

We are currently exploring the possibility of beginning a series of adult Bible Studies at Humphreys sometime in March or April after the weather settles.

We continue to pray for someone to assist with children's weekly Bible Studies at Humphreys and someone to take partial leadership responsibility either for the food ministry or the Chapel ministry at Newtown.

We believe God will eventually provide the additional needed leaders in his own time and in his own way. We hope to see the day when we can step aside and let others take charge of these ministries, allowing me more time for development of the Humphreys area ministries and time to complete study material related to the drug problem.

Funding of our ministries continues to be tight, however, we continue to be grateful and sometimes amazed at the ways God works through his people to meet our needs.

We remain grateful to all who assist in these ministries. Our thanks again to all who support through your prayers, donations and hands-on assistance this "mission in your own backyard"

Princeton- Our youth have been holding 5th quarter this February, and having a good turn out. Wednesday night we've been having a good turn out with our youth and they are growing in numbers. Keep praying for our youth. There was a Parent and Youth dinner at the church on February 23 with several parents, youth and leaders attending. They have planned a bowling night in Chillicothe.

We had 60 to attend the Church Valentine Party with dinner prepared. Afterwards, games were played and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Men's breakfast was cancelled due to the inclement weather.

The Bible Study group that meets once a week has been well attended. We have started a book study on Wednesday nights titled "*If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have To Get Out of the Boat*".

Keep Pastor Dave and Roberta Dennis in your prayers as they guide us in the service of the Lord.

Union- We are wanting to start a Children's Band. If you have any tambourines, maracas, or other small instruments that you are not using, they would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Dianna Crawford at 660-359-3094.

**Rural Dale Homecoming
April 6, 2014**

Homecoming and Celebration of the new Multipurpose Building.
All past pastors have been invited.
Please come and join us!

Set Clocks Forward- March 9th

Trenton FBC— Thirteen of our youth and sponsors went with other youth in the area to Snow Creek in Weston, Missouri for snow tubing. A great time of Christian fellowship was had by all.

February 25th our ladies had a pillow case dress making party. Crafty Ladies have started the Seven Inch Square project. They will be making squares 7 inches by 7 inches and also others can donate squares. In October—November they will take a day to sew them together to make items to give to people in need in the community. For more information call Marilyn Bain at 660-359-2456 or Marie Wilbur at 660-654-2594.

March 2nd we will begin our annual emphasis on prayer education and giving to the Easter offering to support our North American Missionaries in the United States and Canada. Sunday morning we will have a breakfast for the church. There will be displays of several ministries of WMU. During the week we will encourage prayer for our missionaries. During March there will be videos of different missions work through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

**Union Baptist Church
(Coon Creek)
Annual Family Wildlife Supper**

Saturday, March 8th, 2014
6:00 pm

Bring your own wildlife dish
Or just bring yourself
Door Prizes Drawing

Featured Speaker: David Lin

Missouri State Junior Turkey Calling Champion in 1974; along with 2nd place honors at the National Wild Turkey Federation Championship that same year
Worship Leader at Paradise Outfitter Ministries, Oak Grove, MO

Front Man for Contemporary Christian Band
Called 9th Hour

BSU @ NCMC

In the January newsletter I asked you to pray that God would draw the hearts of students who needed to attend the January Retreat our NCMC BSU hosted at Grand Oaks with Truman State, NWMS, and MOWest. Your prayers were answered. We took 7 students plus Christina and myself. Although the other schools brought more students, their groups were 2nd and 3rd year returning students. Only 2 of our students were repeat participants. In fact one of our students had just arrived on campus the week before. I think this shows that our new freshmen students feel the BSU is important enough to invite new arrivals to try us.

At the retreat Phil Nelson, BSU missionary at SIU, challenged the students to be “ambassadors” for the kingdom of God, live missional lives now, and not wait to finish their degree before they have conversations with their peers about Jesus Christ. Phil said, “your mission is your Dorm, is the cafeteria—everywhere you go have conversations about the kingdom of God.” Phil reminded students of John 20:19-22, “In the way the Father sent me, NOW I am sending You!” He also said that, “everywhere Jesus went the ‘self-righteous ones’ were enraged with Jesus, and everywhere Jesus went the ‘outcasts and sinners’ were the ones who were drawn to Jesus. So on YOUR campus let the ‘self-righteous and the spiritually righteous’ be enraged with You, but let the broken, the jerks, the scandalous be magnetically drawn to you as you serve in Jesus Name the Kingdom of God!” “Choose to give your peers your unhurried friendship. Live life with your fellow classmates.” “Serve others NOT to convert, but serve because you have been converted!”

This weekend’s conference Engage challenged our students even more to take bigger RISKS, when they heard Steve Turner, NAMB’s college mobilization strategist, say, “when you read Peter’s ‘walking on the water’ story, the question is not why did Peter get out of the boat, but why did the other 11 stay IN the boat? ...The boat is the boundaries you set up in your life to take care of yourself, but they also keep you from being a Risk-taker and DOING what God wants you to do! Reasons you stay in the boat: Fear, Uncertainty, Complacency, and Selfishness. Reasons Peter stepped out of the boat: 1. The MASTER was out of the boat—Peter wanted to be where Jesus was. 2. Master commanded Peter to come! “Peter said, ‘Jesus, if it is You! Tell me to come!’ 3. Peter believed the Master; he got out of the boat. Are you like Peter or are you like the 11, more like practicing Atheists and only verbal believers? You can’t be a ‘water-walker’ unless you get this—Rom. 12:1...Everyone is going to risk their lives. Question is: Who or What am I going to risk it for?” They also heard challenges from Eric Bryant, former associate pastor of Mosaic Church: “Read the Bible understanding it is written by the God who is desiring to ‘free you’. Look at scripture through God’s eyes and ‘Trust His Heart’...God is big enough to take on all your questions...Don’t let sin take root in your life now. Deal with it now so in the future you have victory... What is happening on the inside now directly affects what will happen on the outside.” Ps 84:11. Two of our students came away determined to have regular Bible reading times. Another told me she was changing her plans to do the Spring Break mission trip. The other two were renewed in their faith.

Those of you who provided financial help for this weekend, know that hearts were changed and lives were committed to a deeper walk with Jesus Christ. Thank you. Please pray for our Spring Break trip.

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

Diann Barnes



February 9–16 WMU Focus Week

Eight hardy women braved the cold and snow to meet at the North Grand River Association office on February 11 for the monthly association meeting to celebrate WMU Focus Week.

We opened with prayer and then each of us told about our first date with our husbands for roll call. It brought back fond memories and a few laughs.

Shelly reported that the association is looking into partnering with Iowa for outreach and mission work. The planning meeting will be held on March 6 at 7 pm at the Association office. Each church is encouraged to participate.

Annie Armstrong Easter offering is coming up in the near future. Easter is April 20th and spring will be here before we know it.

April 4-5 is the annual state wide meeting for WMU. Shelly will be attending and offered to take anyone that would like to go.

Mel and Nancy Skinner sent a letter about their current work in Finland. Don and Diane Combs are working at the Olympics in Russia.

Virginia Crumpacker gave our devotion from 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 on how to run the Christian race.

The next meeting is Tuesday March 18 at the Association office with Evelyn Trickel giving the program.

Our verse for this month 1 Corinthians: 24—“*Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.*”

Shelly Sims

NGR WMU Director

Lifeway is doing an extensive expansion of the **Explore The Bible Sunday School Curriculum** for Fall 2014. This will include resources for Youth, Children and Preschool for the first time! It will make it the only Bible study curriculum to unite all ages in book-by-book study and challenging participants of every age to let the Word dwell in their lives.

Lifeway has offered to come and do a series of Explore The Bible Previews around the state. These previews will be approximately 90 minutes long and will feature Sergio Arce, Discipleship & Church Health Specialist with Lifeway presenting the new features and resources for the expanded Explore The Bible Series.

If you would like more information about the upcoming ETB expansion you can go to www.lifeway.com/ExploretheBible. The sessions are open to anyone who would like to know more about the new expanded curriculum. There will be refreshments served at each location.

Tuesday, April 8, 2014- 10:00 – 11:30 am at the Baptist Building 400 E. High Street
Jefferson City, MO 573-636-0400

Tuesday, April 8, 2014- 7:00 – 8:30 pm- First Baptist Church Macon- 302 N. Rutherford
Street- Macon, MO