

**Brandy White Memorial
Bone Marrow Donor Registry Fund Raiser**

Ketchum Center
January 13, 2011
6:00—8:00 pm

Chili and Soup Supper

Provided by area Churches
Freewill Donation
All proceeds go to
"Be the Match Foundation"

Donor Registry

First Baptist Church
January 23, 2011
Noon to 4:00 pm

All fees paid by
"Be the Match Foundation"

**Men's Prayer Breakfast
Edinburg Baptist Church**

January 15, 2011

8:00 am

All Men Come and Join Us!



January

- 14 Cathie Whitley
- 18 Gene Schreffler
- 26 Iva Gail Ratliff



North Grand River Baptist Association

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BSU Director

Diann Barnes

THE PRAYER CORNER

This is a call to prayer for Pastors of our Association to meet weekly on Tuesday night beginning at 6:30 pm at the Mission Center. Please plan on attending, if we are to truly be united as an association perhaps we need to start on our knees. *"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."*

We need healing in our land and if God's men can't see this who can? I know the challenge of clearing busy schedules and there is so much to do, but when the apostles became overwhelmed by the things of the world, they got others to take on those responsibilities so that they could commit themselves to Prayer and study of the Word. The time has come for the men THAT GOD HAS PLACED IN OUR PULPITS to do the same. Please come and join us! We are looking forward to your attendance.

In Christ's love,
Bro. Deryl



**Avoid Truth Decay
Brush up on the Bible**

North Grand River Baptist Association

The Encourager

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Volume 36 Number 1
January, 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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2011 Early Bird VBS Kickoff
Big Apple Adventure:
Where Faith and Life Connect

Pastors and VBS Directors
Mark your calendars for
Tuesday evening, January 11, 2011
Association Office at 7:00 pm

To learn more about this exciting VBS theme and place your VBS orders! Looking forward to seeing you there!
Kayla Michael
VBS Director

Southern Baptist Convention

Day Of Prayer

Sunday, January 30, 2011

Join with Churches around the Country for this Solemn
Assembly of Prayer, Fasting, and Repentance

Be Still, and know that I am God... Psalm 46:10

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

"...But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Philipians 3:13b-14

It is a new beginning—the start of a new year. 2010 is gone by the time you read this and 2011 has begun. It is my desire to do what the Apostle Paul did—Forget what is behind—the good, the bad, the ugly. It is my desire not to live in the past—not to allow the past to keep me from moving forward into the future and experiencing more of what the Lord wills and more of who I am in Christ Jesus.

Like Paul it is my desire and my commitment to give it all I have to live out the process of completing what the Lord has set before me. Like a runner in a race, I press on to finish in a way that brings the corresponding reward. The ultimate reward for me—the prize will be to have the Lord say "Well done thy good and faithful servant."

Not only is this a new beginning for me, but it is also for you individually, for each church in our Association and for the Association as a whole. Let us each let the past go, and let us forge forward into the future that our Lord has planned for us, and let Him help us finish what He has begun in us for His glory.

Philippians 3:15a goes on to say, "All of us who are mature should take such a view of things..."

May this be our greatest year ever as individuals, churches, and as an Association as we fulfill God's will!

For His Glory,
EJ Barnes

Executive Board Meeting January 17, 2011 7:00 pm

Please submit reports by January 11th to Debbie.

COME EARLY— Look over Discipleship Study Materials that are available.

On the agenda:

1. Change on Annual Meeting that was scheduled for September 10th, 2011 at Gallatin.
2. Nominating Committee— replacement of Grand Oaks Executive Committee member resignation
3. Election of 2 members from the floor to serve on the Executive Committee.
4. Folding Machine
5. Beneficiary life insurance policy for Medicine Valley
6. Form a Constitution/By-law Committee to update By-laws.



The staff of North Grand River Baptist Association would like to thank you for your most generous Christmas gifts. It is such a blessing to be a part of this association.

May you each have a Blessed New Year!

*E.J. and Diann Barnes,
Debbie Dickinson,
Gene & Ann Schreffler
and Mike Dennis*

November 2010 Reports	Monthly Inc.	BSU Inc.	SS	MW	EW	DT/ Wed	WMU	Bapt. Men	Youth Kids Ministry	Bapt.	Ltr/ Other
Alpha	\$ 239.93		14	22	9						
Edinburg	\$ 651.72	\$ 76.67	51	87	55		12	17	25		1
Gallatin	\$ 955.99	\$ 50.00									
Galt	\$ 139.00	\$ 25.00									
Jameson			9	11							
Jamesport	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	30	58	30					1	1
Laredo	\$ 388.97	\$ 150.00	15	24			5	2			
Lineville	\$ 324.02	\$ 64.80									
M. Valley	\$ 55.08	\$ 25.00									
Mercer	\$ 183.00	\$ 25.00	57	19		11					
Modena	\$ 119.76										
Princeton	\$ 881.04	\$ 50.00	100	161	57	30	21	26	103		
Ravanna			13	14					4		
Rural Dale	\$ 637.36	\$ 50.00	65	110			11		44		1
Salem			36	39	20						3
Shelburne	\$ 790.28	\$ 50.00	37	46	27	20	8				
Spickard	\$ 86.00		11	15							
Tenth St.	\$1,006.37	\$ 167.72	81	127	60		5			1	3
Trenton FB	\$ 942.40	\$ 157.07	97	137	31				131	2	
Union	\$ 573.24	\$ 100.00	56	98	16	41					
Total	\$7,999.16	\$1,016.26	672	968	305	102	62	45	307	4	9
Chilli, FBC		\$ 43.00									
MBC		\$ 460.00									

Seminary Checking	\$344.48
Seminary Savings	\$2,051.37
Belarus	\$8,135.24
Benevolent Savings	\$740.38
NGR Savings	\$9,486.12
BSU— November— Income to Expense	
Beginning Balance	\$493.02
Income	\$1,594.74
Total	\$2,087.76
Expenses	\$1,891.25
Ending Balance	\$196.51

November 2010 NGR Account	
Beginning Balance	\$7,113.10
Income	\$12,438.08
Total	\$19,551.18
Expenses	\$12,565.88
Ending Balance	\$6,985.30
Line Items in General Checking	
Designated Funds	\$1,955.51
General Fund	\$5,029.79
Checking Balance Total	\$6,985.30
NGR October- November 2010 (Does not include designated funds)	
Income	\$21,626.75
Expenses	\$23,526.24
Difference	(-\$1,899.49)



NO HOME LEFT BEHIND

Completing the Task of Taking the Gospel to Every Home in Missouri

"Rejoice with me for I have found my sheep which was lost." Luke 15:3-7

Our evangelism theme for 2011 is **No Home Left Behind**. On May 11, 2010, thirty-eight MBC leaders - including DOM's, pastors and staff members from all sizes of churches, and vocational evangelists - met, prayed, planned, and strategized ways Missouri Baptists can place the Gospel on every door by December 2011. The **No Home Left Behind** manual is the result of that collaborative meeting. It contains Biblical ideas and suggestions that can work in any community and be undertaken by any size church. The shepherd in our Lord's parable would not leave even one sheep behind. Let's pray and work that **No Home** will be **Left Behind** in Missouri Baptist's efforts to place the Gospel on every door by the end of 2011.

No Home Left Behind manuals were mailed to every church in Missouri the first week of October. If your church has not received the manual or you want additional copies, contact the [Evangelism Office](#) at 1-800-736-6227 ext. 651.

A Prosperous New Year!

The New Year lies before me,
A spotless, shining thing,
Bright as the promises of God,
Fresh as the breath of spring.

A year to fill with lovely thoughts,
And kindly, helpful deeds,
Losing all consciousness of self,
In prayer for others' needs.

Sybil Leonard Armes



Edinburg— On Sunday, November 21st one of our children from Children's Church came before the congregation and made public his intentions to be baptized after having come forward in Children's Church and accepting Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior on November 13th. He was escorted by the Children's Church Director.

On Sunday, November 21, 2010 we held our Thanksgiving dinner after the morning services. There were 85 in attendance.

On Saturday, December 4, our Children's Church took a field trip to Leafgreen Christmas Tree Farm where they cut a tree for their sanctuary. The children were allowed to choose from among the many trees, then vote until the desired tree was selected. Each child was then given a turn at sawing the tree down. They then dragged the tree to the office area where it was put in the shaker for cleaning and then into a machine that netted the tree. Everyone then returned to the church where they were served hot sandwiches, chips, cookies and hot chocolate. The children decorated the tree on Sunday during craft time. The event was under the direction of our Children's Church Director. There were 10 children and 6 adults in attendance.

We held our annual Christmas program, "Legacy of Love" on Sunday, December 12th, followed by a meal and fellowship.

On December 19th, two of our ladies from WOM delivered a food basket to a family in need that had been selected on a earlier date. Gifts were also taken to the family.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR-
Brotherhood & WMU
Soup & Chili Supper
Saturday, February 5th
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Jamesport— The children of our church were allowed to shop free at the Mustard Seed for gifts for their parents and one gift for themselves on Friday, December 17th after they got out of school for their Christmas break. Back at the church, their gifts were wrapped while the children enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies and made Christmas cards from materials that were provided.

On Saturday, December 18th at 7:00 pm and again on Sunday morning, December 19th at 10:45 am, our Church presented a Christmas cantata, including two selections by the children's bell choir. A time of fellowship and refreshments followed.

We especially praise God for professions of faith and requests for baptism at each of those special services!

Salem- We had our Christmas program December 19th. The children did a very good job with their program. We had a good turn out and had snacks afterwards. We also had a solo by Bob Wilson on the Saxophone giving us a melody of Christmas music. It was very pretty. We will be having a Christmas Eve Service this year. We at Salem, wish all of our sister churches a Blessed Christmas, and a better New year. Remember to keep our prayers covering those that are in harms way serving our country, and for their families waiting at home. Let's fervently lift our prayers up for our country and our Government. We need the prayers of Christians more then ever at this time. May you all have a blessed Christmas, full of love, family, and happiness.

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday—
January 16, 2011

Tenth Street- 10th Street AWANA Club News—we praise the Lord that our attendance is up from last year. As the staff and I learn more of the mechanics of how AWAMA Club works, we believe the club can better serve or Lord and disciple those who attend. December 12 our AWANA Club rented the skating rink and held our Christmas party there. 130 parents and kids enjoyed the afternoon. It was a wonderful outreach tool as well as a fun time together. January 2nd we will be starting back up from our Christmas break resuming our 5:30 - 7:30 P.M. schedule. On January 13-15, I will be attending the Commander College 101 at Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, praying I can learn more to help improve our club that can help build up the Kingdom of God through the AWANA Club program. Our Commander still in training is Iva Ratliff.

Celebrate Recovery meets from 6-8:30 P.M. every Saturday night. At 6:00-7:00 P.M. we have our large group meeting where we worship and have great testimonies. At 7:00-8:00 P.M. we have our small group meetings. Share Supper is from 8:00 - 8:30 P.M. We would like to thank the following for their sponsorship: Coon Creek Baptist Church, Jamesport Baptist Church, Shelburne Baptist Church, Rural Dale Baptist Church and Women's Mission United.

First Place will start again on January 4th with both morning and evening sessions 7:15-9:00 am and 5:15-7:00 pm.

Trenton First— December was a very busy month with Sunday School class parties, AWANA caroling and their Christmas Program (with approximately 70 kids participating), Adult Choir Cantata, all Church Christmas dinner, Christmas Eve service and many other events.

In January we will begin 2 more short term Bible Studies, AWANA's and Adult Choir will start again after their Christmas break. The Frazzled Female Bible Study meets on Thursday evenings with an average of 15 to 18 ladies participating.

MBC—BSU @ NCMC

Thursday, Dec. 2, I had the privilege of speaking to 60 BSU students on NW MO State University Campus. God allowed me to cast a vision with them sharing how God could use each of them with their unique gifts to minister to 1st Nation's Indian children this next May when students will be participating in mission trips to Canada. It was exciting to watch the eyes of students light up with excitement about sharing their Jesus with people who haven't heard of Him.

After the meeting, the 3 NCMC students, that came with EJ and me, went with us to hear Max Barnett speak to 160-200 BSU and Navigator students. What an incredible worship experience to be with enthusiastic energized worshipers, all of one accord praising the star-breathing Creator of the universe. I love working with college students who are serious about Jesus. They are real, genuine, and bold. And, they're not afraid to assault hell with a water pistol. They have the desire to share, they simply ask, "Point me in the right direction, and help me get there!" (You can help by purchasing our \$10 red T-shirt with Isaiah 29:11-13. Funds from these sales will be applied to our 2011 mission projects. These shirts can be purchased through the bookstore, or by calling 660.654.0785 to reserve one as a Christmas gift.)

Max Barnett, age 74, is currently the director of all student work for Colorado Baptists. Previously he served 37 years in Norman, Ok as their OU-BSU minister. He challenged the students to purposely choose to serve Jesus now while they are in school, since college is the easiest time to serve Jesus. He said, "people in the work force don't get the whole summer off, or a whole month for Christmas holiday. Their work day isn't just 2 or 3 hours if classes each day. They punch a time clock for 8 and 12 hour shifts." He also shared how attainable it is to memorize scripture, by simply using the time you waste while waiting. Max, himself has over 900 verses memorized, and reviews 90 verses each day to stay fresh. He said that if you memorized only one verse each week. With 52 weeks per year, in 10 years you would have memorized 520 verses. On the way home my students were so impressed that they asked me how they could get memory verse packs for themselves. Memory verse packs this next semester will be one of our major projects.

This past August, MBC Student Department contacted me to share that NAMB has partnered with MBC to provide God-called college students and recently graduated students the opportunity to serve/minister within a local Baptist church, learning to be a ministry leader. If student and church qualify, NAMB and MBC would provide the financial support for the student to work along-side a veteran ministry staff, being mentored by the seasoned ministry leader to learn how to meet the ministry needs of the local church. There are several students who are really excited about serving Jesus. They simply need a mentor and church who is willing to invest in them and help them grow into the leader that God intends them to be. What an opportunity for our churches to develop young leaders. I pray that we seriously consider this as a priority. If we don't share our lives with our students, encouraging them to grow into the leaders God intends, will our Baptist work still exist in 20 years if God carries His return? The average age of a Baptist preacher in MO is 60 years old.

NCMC Spring term begins January 10th. The Wednesday Lunch ministry dates in January have been scheduled, but February Wednesdays, 2, 16, 23, March 2, 9, and April 6, 13, 27 are all still open. If your church is interested in being a blessing to our students sharing Jesus' Love, please email me gdiannbarnes@gmail.com or call me on my cell 660.654.0785.

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

Diann Barnes



A New Year of Opportunities!

How exciting to have Greg, Andrea and Bethany Brummit as our special guests December 14th at our Ladies Christmas Celebration! The pictures shown and the presentation by Greg about their work helped make the importance of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering more personal. Attendance was low, but those of us that were there had a wonderful time visiting with little family. Thanks to FBC Trenton ladies for all of their hard work as hostesses.

The January 18th New Year's Luncheon will be at 11:30 am with a time of devotions and prayer for our missionaries with birthdays. Our WMU Council will meet at 10:30 am for some planning time. Those on the Council include: Women on Mission Consultant, Missions Involvement Director, Secretary, Missionary Ministries Director, GA Consultant, and WMU Director. Let's have a soup and dessert luncheon with cheese and crackers or relishes. Come and join us, if the weather permits.

Remember, WMU Directors, February 14-20, is WMU Focus Week. For ideas on how to include WMU Focus Week in your church program, see the WMU Yearbook, or give me a call. Since WMU Focus Week includes Valentine's Day, we will combine the two at our February 15th Program and Prayer Luncheon at the Mission center.

I was privileged to visit Shelburne's WOM Week of Prayer Program in December. Thanks for the invitation, ladies. Our missionaries depend on both our prayers and our giving, as the Week of Prayer materials show us.

Have a joyous New Year! Seize every opportunity to pray for missions, learn about missions, support missions, participate in mission action and witnessing, develop spiritually toward a missions lifestyle, and participate in the work of your church and the association. (Do those 5 goals sound familiar? Like, maybe, the 5 purposes of WMU?) maybe these could be 5 of our goals for the coming year.

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

Artwork Contest

- Deadline: January 10, 2011
DRAWING WILL BE CHOSEN FOR:
Retreat T-Shirt, Program Cover, Retreat
Bookmark & 3 Banners

Artwork Guidelines:

1. Must be drawn by girls
2. No computer designs
3. Simple 3 color design
4. Print name, church and city on back
5. Include leader name and phone # with packet