



Begin the New Year with a new
Devotion Book or
Journal- 10% Off

Watch a movie on a cold night-

"War Room" DVD
"Matter of Faith" DVD
"90 Minutes in Heaven" DVD
Several Gaither DVD's
Several Movies for \$8.00
"Flywheel", "Facing the Giants", "Fireproof",
"Courageous", "Amazing Love",
"Jonathan Sperry" and more

Duck Dynasty Board Game- \$9.00

Cookbooks- 15% Off

Deep Dish Pie Plates- \$12.70

Adult Coloring Books-

"Be Still and know that I am God"
"Color Your Blessings"
"Today is Going to be a Great Day"
And more...

January

- 2 Chris Neeley
- 6 Judy Wilson
- 7 Rebecca Nance
- 14 Cathie Whitley
- 18 Gene Schreffler
- 26 Iva Gail Ratliff



January Events

- 1- Happy New Year- Mission Center Closed
- 4- Executive Board Agenda Items Deadline
- 11- Pastor's Fellowship @ Pizza Hut @ Noon
- 12- Executive Board Reports Deadline
- 14- Grand Oaks Special Called Executive Board Meeting at 10:00 am
- 16- Men's Prayer Breakfast at Edinburg
- 17- Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
- 18- Executive Board Meeting- at 7:00 pm
- 19- Women's Prayer Luncheon- 11:30 am
- 19- Medicine Valley Food Preparation
- 21- Medicine Valley Food Distribution
- 22-23- Pursuit Retreat for Teen girls

**NGR Executive Board Meeting
Monday, January 18th, 7:00 pm**

Items to be on agenda deadline is January 4th. Deadline for reports is January 12th.



Men's Prayer Breakfast
Edinburg Baptist Church
Saturday, 8:00 am
January 16, 2016
All Men Invited!

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

Web Page- northgrandriverbaptist.com

Telephone - 660.359.3897

Director of Missions

Rev. E.J. Barnes

Ministry Assistant

Debbie Dickinson

BSU Director

Diann Barnes

Assistant- Christina Boatright

North Grand River Baptist Association

The Encourager

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Volume 40, Number 1
January, 2016

"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

U
N
I
T
E
D

O
N

M
I
S
S
I
O
N



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
Love In Action

Another Year Is Dawning

Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be,
In working, or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of Thy face.

Another year of progress,
Another year of praise,
Another year of proving
Thy presence all the days.

Another year of service,
Of witness of Thy love,
Another year of training
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be
On earth, or else in heaven
Another year for Thee.

--Francis Ridley Havergal (1874)



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

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath." for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks in the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work this one will be blessed in what he does. If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless." James 1:19-26

First, I want to thank each of you for every second, each penny and every ounce of energy you have given to express your love for our Lord and your compassion for others this past year.

Second, if you are like me, you could have lived even a more godly Christ-honoring life. I definitely have been guilty of sin's of commission, omission and disposition. It saddens me to admit my sin. I'm grateful for our Lord's great mercy and grace.

Third, I pray this passage of Scripture will speak to us to challenge us to be more of what we should be.

- To have our tongues and emotions under the Spirit's control.
- To be filled more with God's Word and less of the world
- To be people of obedient action upon hearing God's Word.
- To see ourselves as God sees us not deceiving ourselves.

Let's live in the power of the Spirit this year and make a greater impact on the lives of others for His glory!

Coveting your Prayers-

E.J. Barnes



First Baptist Church of Bethany will be offering Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief Training April 22-23. Registration fee for the first time volunteers is currently \$40. If you are retraining and do not need T shirts or other clothing items the fee is \$20.

To be certified as a Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief Volunteer you must be at least 18 years of age and a member of a Missouri Baptist Church. All trainees must submit a background check request and attend introduction to Disaster Relief. To remain a certified volunteer you must retrain every three years in the area or class of your choosing.

A chain saw team including Brad Walker, Ron and Margaret Smith, Ron and Christine Ward, and Robert Skeens from Harrison Baptist Association and Lou Bankson from North Grand River Baptist Association went to Oklahoma December 14-19 to clean up after an ice storm. What a blessing!

Lou Bankson NGR Disaster Relief Director

Church Giving

Church Service Times

November 2015 Reports	Monthly Inc.	BSU Inc.	SS	AM	PM	Weds.
Alpha	\$ 273.72	\$ 25.00	9:30	10:30	6:30	7:00
Edinburg	\$ 599.74	\$ 66.64	10:00	11:00	6:00	7:00
Gallatin	\$ 744.23	\$ 50.00	9:30	10:40	6:00	7:00
Galt			10:00	11:00	6:00	7:00
Jameson			9:30	10:30		
Jamesport	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	9:45	10:45	7:00	6:30
Laredo	\$ 496.60		9:30	10:30	6:30	6:00
Lineville	\$ 116.10	\$ 53.70	9:45	10:45	6:00	6:00
M. Valley	\$ 72.00	\$ 50.00	9:30	10:30	6:00	
Mercer	\$ 158.40	\$ 25.00	9:30	10:30	6:30	6:30
Modena	\$ 95.90	\$ 150.00	10:15	9:00	6:00	6:00
Princeton	\$ 382.64	\$ 50.00	9:40	10:40	7:00	6:00
Ravanna	\$ 103.41	\$ 44.32	9:30	10:45		
Rural Dale	\$ 743.66	\$ 75.00	9:45	10:35	7:00	7:00
Salem	\$ 116.07	\$ 25.00	10:00	11:00	6:00	
Shelburne	\$ 612.71	\$ 75.00	10:00	10:55	6:00	6:30
Spickard	\$ 70.00		9:30	10:30		
Tenth St.	\$ 776.88	\$ 129.48	9:30	10:30	6:00	7:00
Trenton FB	\$1,186.30	\$ 118.63	9:30	10:40	6:00	6:00
Union	\$ 178.31	\$ 100.00	10:00	11:00	6:00	6:00
Total	\$6,751.67	\$1,062.77				
Chilli, FBC		\$ 45.00				
MBC		\$ 920.00				
Gilman BC		\$ 200.00				
Zion BC		\$ 25.00				
Milan BC		\$ 72.10				

Join any of these churches in worship

November 2015 NGR Account

Beginning Balance	\$13,514.72
Income	\$12,134.11
Total	\$25,648.83
Expenses	\$11,722.85
Ending Balance	\$13,925.98

Line Items in General Checking

Designated Funds	\$7,365.27
General Fund	\$6,560.71
Checking Balance Total	\$13,925.98

NGR October-November 2015

(Does not include designated funds)

Income	\$20,866.50
Expenses	\$18,710.76
Difference	\$2,155.74

Seminary Checking \$263.21
Seminary Savings \$2,297.01

Benevolent Savings \$781.08
NGR Savings \$436.56

BSU- November- Income to Expense
 Beginning Balance \$2,533.86
 Income \$2,674.87
 Total \$5,208.73
 Expenses \$1,677.92
 Ending Balance \$3,530.81



Edinburg- This has been a very busy month for Edinburg Church. The WOM have been busy getting ready and sending out the shoe boxes for our Christmas ministry. We had our Christmas program with much success and

had 86 in attendance. We have been blessed by God with providing a new minister for our Church; Brother Ron McPhearson will begin leading our church on Dec. 20, along with his wife Amy. As we approach the season of the birth of our Savior, may our hearts and minds be open and full of prayer for the things going on around us. So many are struggling in our world and we are facing difficult times with all the things happening in our country. May you have a blessed and wonderful Christmas and pray for those less fortunate than others. Merry Christmas from Edinburg Baptist Church

Laredo- We will be having an Art of Marriage Seminar in January.

Volunteers Needed!

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



January dates to help with food distribution at Medicine Valley Community Ministry
January 19th- Prepare Boxes at Newtown Baptist Chapel- 9 am to noon

January 21st- Food Distribution

Gallatin- Men's Bible Study is on Tuesday at 7:00 pm. The Pioneer Club meets on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm for the evening meal and Bible study is from 6 to 7:30 pm, along with JOY Youth. Men's Bible Study is on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

Monthly Keenager's Luncheon will be Thursday, January 7.

Women's Wellness Bible Study will begin fall study on Thursday, January 7 at 6:15 pm.

Gallatin First Baptist Church will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, January 11 from 3 to 7 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Myrlene Heldenbrand.

Trenton FBC- We are excited about God's call of Josh Gottman to be Senior Pastor of our church., He and his wife Christy have 4 children and they plan to be on the field here by January 10. We appreciate the prayers of our sister churches during our interim times this past year.

This past month we have promoted prayer and giving for our IMB missionaries through the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

December has been a very busy month. Many activities have been held celebrating the birth of Christ. From Sonshine Preschool Daycare, AWANAS, the youth, the Keenagers and Sunday School classes.

We had a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

On a Church Sign

Thursday night:
Potluck dinner
Prayer and medication
To follow.

Medicine Valley- We have just completed a series of successful rummage sales at Milan to raise funds to assist with the on-going expenses of the food pantry ministry.

While food supplies are readily available to us from the Food Bank and Missouri Baptist Hunger Funds plus donations in kind from churches and individuals there is always a shortage of non-food funds available for van, office and miscellaneous costs.

This has also enabled us to empty out contents of the parsonage at Newtown in preparation to listing it for sale. Again, receipts from sale of the house will be more important to the future of this ministry than the house setting there unoccupied.

On Wednesday, December 17, we had a good group present at our home in Humphreys for viewing of the movie "Last Ounce of Courage". In midweek prayer meeting Wednesday December 22 we viewed another excellent seasonal movie, Thomas Kincaid's, "Christmas Cottage".

On Sunday, December 6, we had our annual "Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner" at the Chapel at Newtown, following the morning services. Attendance was down some this year with 25 in attendance, due to numerous illnesses among our regular church attendees, made up for in part by friends and neighbors in attendance.

We look forward to an exciting year of ministry and services to others and remain grateful for the past and future support that others give to this "Mission in Your Own Backyard".

**Women of Faith
Final Tour
Kansas City, MO
February 12-13**

Princeton- New Bible Class Started in January "Pastor's Discovery Class" open to adults 18 and up, and meets every Sunday at 9:40 in Room #247. This is a fellowship Bible Study in the Gospel of Luke and is in a relaxed setting, come as you are. Child care provided, Coffee/Pastries, materials free.

First Family recently paid their building debt off. An Ad-hoc committee has been formed to make plans for a special note-burning celebration in 2016. Former members, and church leaders will be invited to share in the celebration, as well as our sister churches in our Association.

First Family made and gave winter head gear and scarves for all our children and youth during Wednesday night TeamKids and first Family Youth meetings.

First Family Lottie Moon Christmas goal is \$3,000. Our children have been busy collecting change during our Worship times and have a friendly contest girls vs boys who can raise the most money. The giving is a built in part of our worship experience. We are well on our way of reaching our Christmas offering of \$3,000 for International Missions.

We have a new website: fbcprinceton.org check out and see what is going on at the First Family.

DID YOU KNOW?

For those that use Amazon if you type in the web address of smile.amazon.com, a percentage will go to the International Mission Board? On the line where it requests your charity, type in International Mission Board and it will bring up some choices which include the IMB in Richmond, VA. Click on it and .05 will go to IMB.

smile.amazon.com



BSU @ NCMC Campus

The fall semester is over and Christina and I experienced many God things and many challenging things. It was a semester packed full of unique adventures. We were able to connect with new students for the first time and challenge student hearts we have known for awhile. We had conversations with students who were interested in exploring concepts of Jesus and others who didn't really care for anything spiritual. What a challenge it has been.

On December 9, I was privileged to assist Karla McCollum, international student director, take 19 international students to Kansas City for one last visit of our American city before 5 of them flew out of KCI heading to their homes for the holidays. During the trip Karla and I discussed what the culture of NCMC campus was and ideas of how to reach the students and provide the students with a positive experience during their academic pursuits here at NCMC. In the course of this conversation, God revealed to me why our numbers in ministry have been different from past years. This totally resolved a puzzle we have been valiantly trying to solve, and opened up a whole new ministry challenge Christina and I will have to seek God as how to facilitate. The fact: over the last 3 years, technology has evolved in such a way that it has drastically changed how we will be able to do ministry in reaching present day college students. WHY? Because, ONLINE degree programs has risen by at least 60%. NCMC student population hasn't dropped, but the physically on-campus presence has. Our on-campus population for students attending classes in a physical classroom this past semester for any given day was about 150-175 students, as compared to 300+ students attending classes 3 years ago. This presents the question, "How do we reach and connect with students we may never physically see?" What a challenge! One of the solutions is developing a Facebook presence among the NCMC student culture and providing chatrooms open to student discussions on topics current to our students. This is a whole new arena. Because when you begin hosting chatrooms and blogs, the entire ministry changes from face to face to chatting with students all over the world. Partner with us in prayer, that God will give us unique and effective ways that we can continue to minister to these students. This generation of millennium students far exceed the population of past generations. They are the largest voting population in the US and they are the generation that is setting the ethos of our culture today. "How do we minister to LGBT culture? How do we engage an Islamic beliefs student in a civil conversation where honest exchange of ideas may happen? How do we influence the students on campus to engage in open dialogue to consider things of Jesus?" All of these are critical issues, where answers must be found in order to reach hearts of students for Jesus, and see student lives transformed.

Evidence proves God has given us workable solutions in past years. Currently we have 2 alumni students serving overseas in missionary efforts, 1 alumni student preparing to serve overseas in the spring, and 9 alumni students serving in the local church setting, ministering to people. Over the past 10 years of the BSU ministry here, we have had 29 students serve in 38 positions of missionary service. That is a legacy that only God can be praised for. My prayer and I hope you as partners will pray is that God will continue to be in charge of everything we attempt to do in order that student lives will be changed, and Jesus will be lifted up.

Shalom,

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

WMU Association Meeting



We opened our meeting with prayer requests and several should be mentioned: Virginia and John Crumpacker are going to Haiti in January to help build; Bev Martin's grandson with medical problems, Disaster Relief in Oklahoma, and new Pastors in the area.

Lottie Moon is the focus for December. She is credited with starting the funding for International Missions in the Baptist Church.

Doris Pilcher Gave the devotion for the group.

The project for the month was putting together 40+ Cups of Appreciation that were delivered to the Trenton Courthouse as a witness that we love those around us and especially those that give daily to serve their county.

January 19th Meeting will be at 11:30.

Happy and blessed New Year to all.

2 Cor. 1:3 What a wonderful God we have—

Shelly Sims

WMU Director

Missouri State Evangelism Conference

"Desperate for JESUS"

February 4-5, 2016

Crossway Baptist Church, Springfield

"Desperate for Jesus," the 2016 State Evangelism-Discipleship Conference, is for Missouri Baptists, particularly pastors, church staff, evangelism church leaders, Directors of Missions, and spouses.

- Join God on His mission despite uncertain circumstances.
- Be certain of your own "Macedonia" call.
- Lead your church with new zeal for making disciple-makers.
- Churches are encouraged to participate in 21 Days of spiritual preparation conducted Jan. 14-Feb. 3 to prepare for personal revival. Those who register prior to Friday January 1, 2015, will be given a free guide.

Living Proof with Beth Moore

Wednesdays beginning January 6
Trinity Broadcasting Network
(check your local listings)

Join Beth Moore every Wednesday for a new TV series, "Living Proof with Beth Moore," on the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN). This will be an incredible time of Bible study you won't want to miss, so mark your calendar or set your DVR!

Pursuit 2016

*A Missions Experience for Teen Girls
Grades 7-12*

January 22-24
FBC, Camdenton

\$35- Pre-registration
(Includes Saturday evening meal)
Deadline: January 14, 2016

\$40- additions/registrations at door

For more information call Teri Broeker at
MBC at 217-779-3396
mobaptist.org/wmu